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THE

Pottery Gazette

THE ORGAN

OF THE

China, Glass, Earthenware, Majolica, and Tile Trades.

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All announcements for this Heading for February issue must reach us by January 29th.

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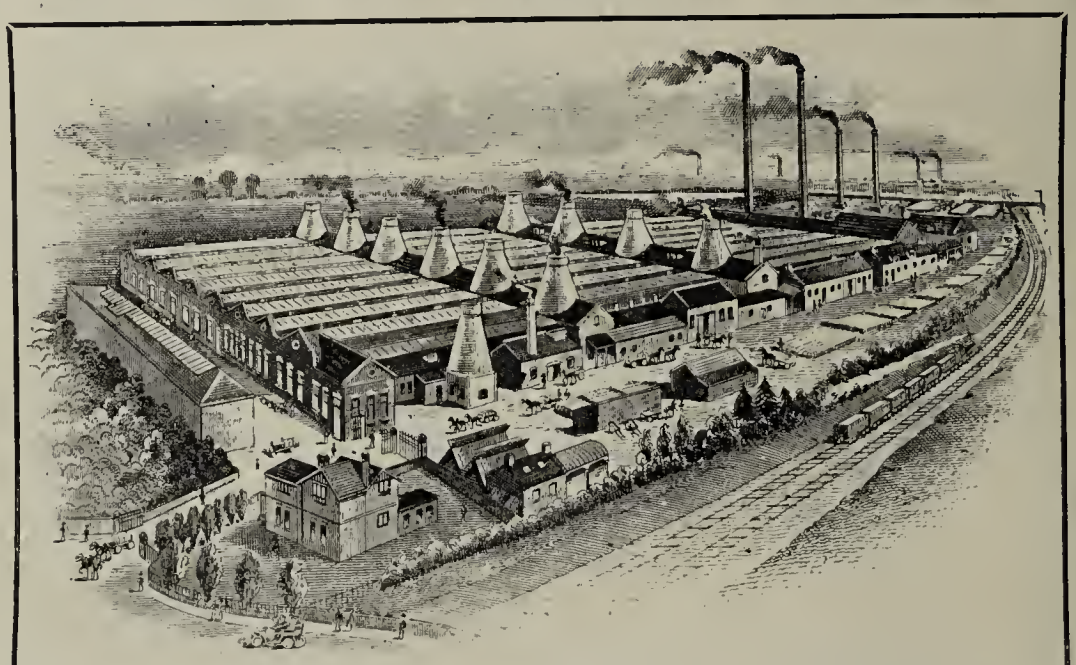
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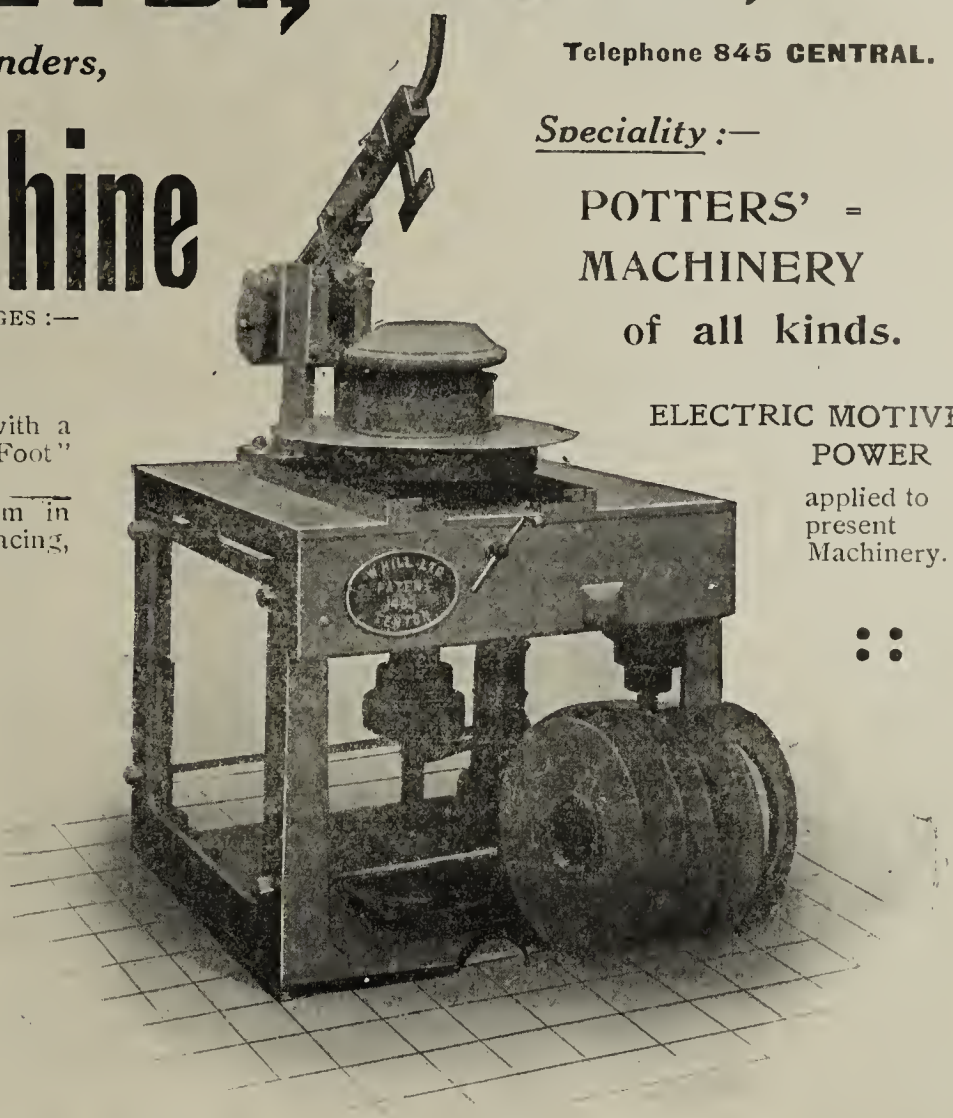
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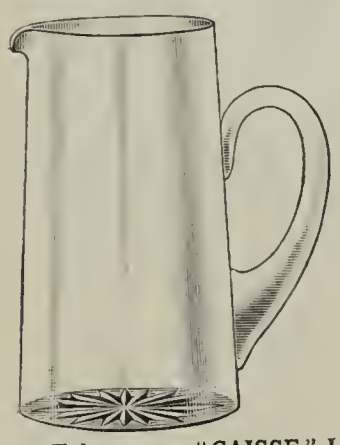


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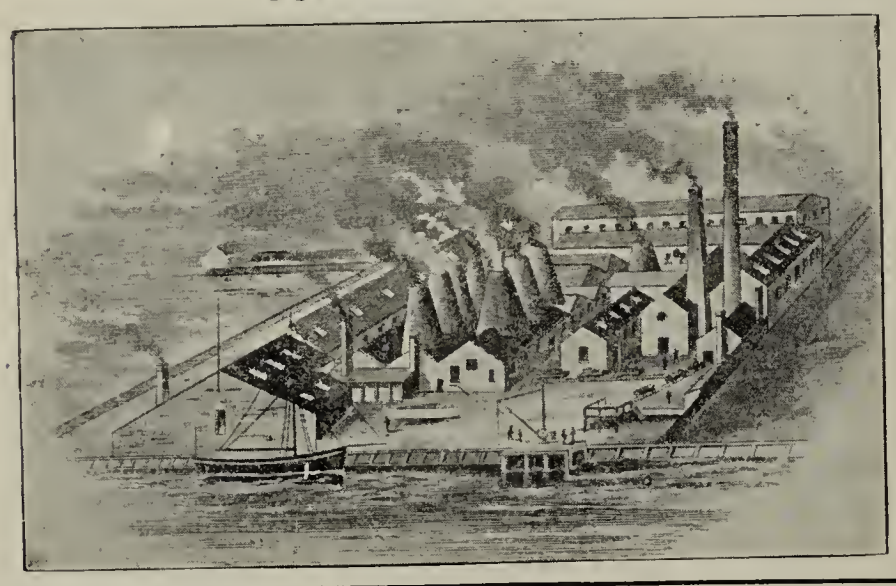
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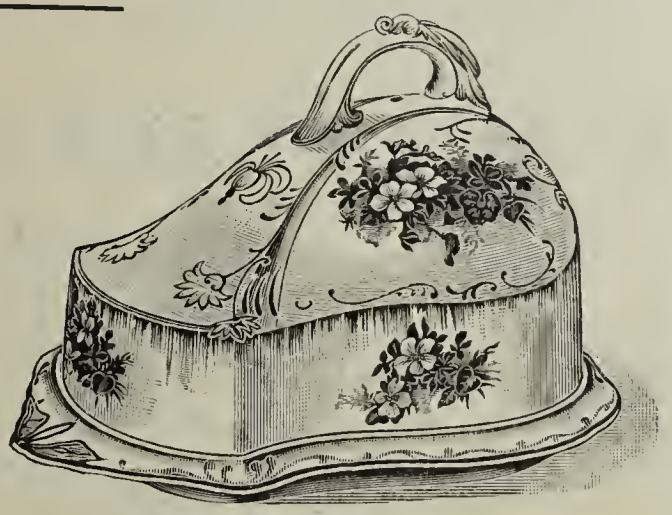
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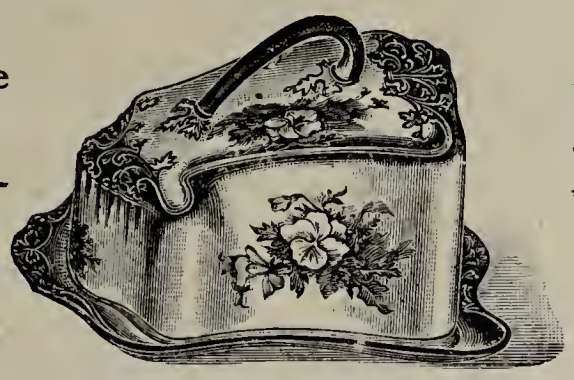
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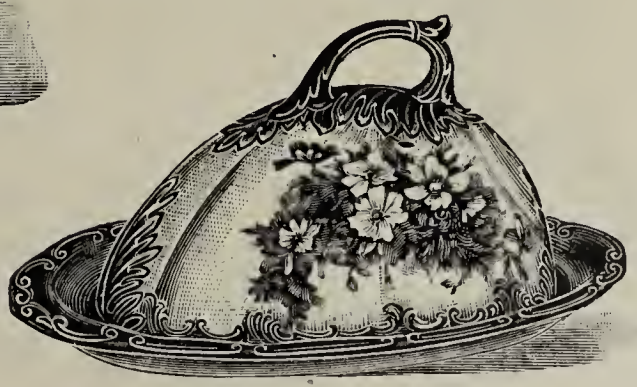


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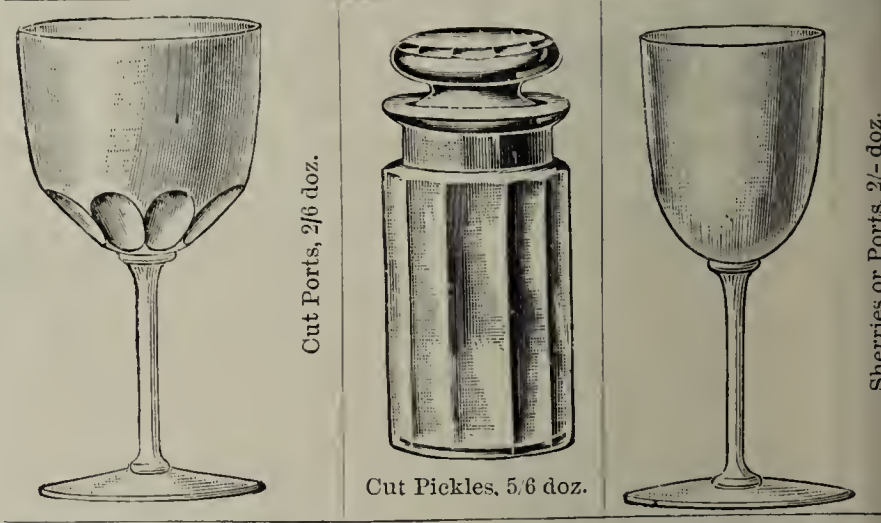
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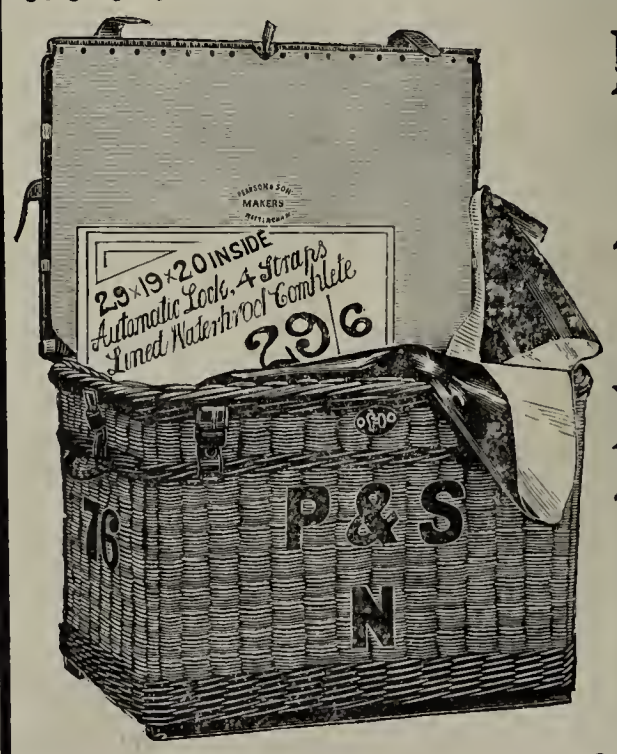
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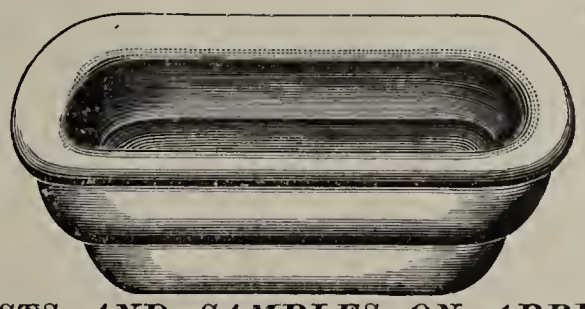
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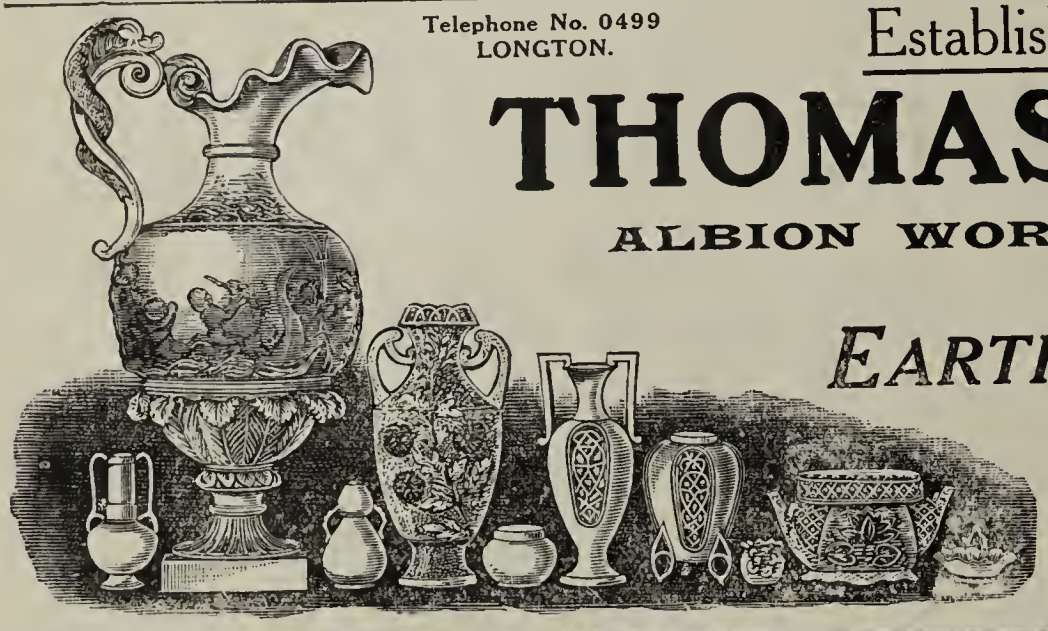


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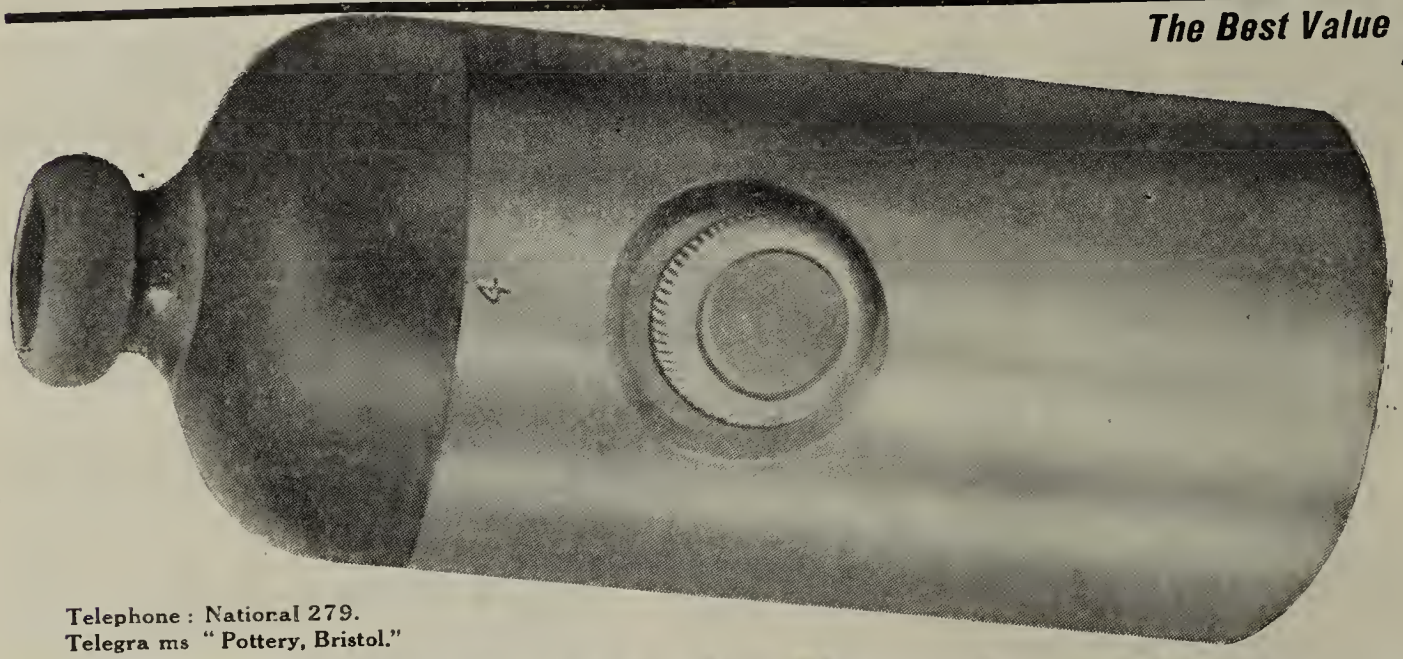
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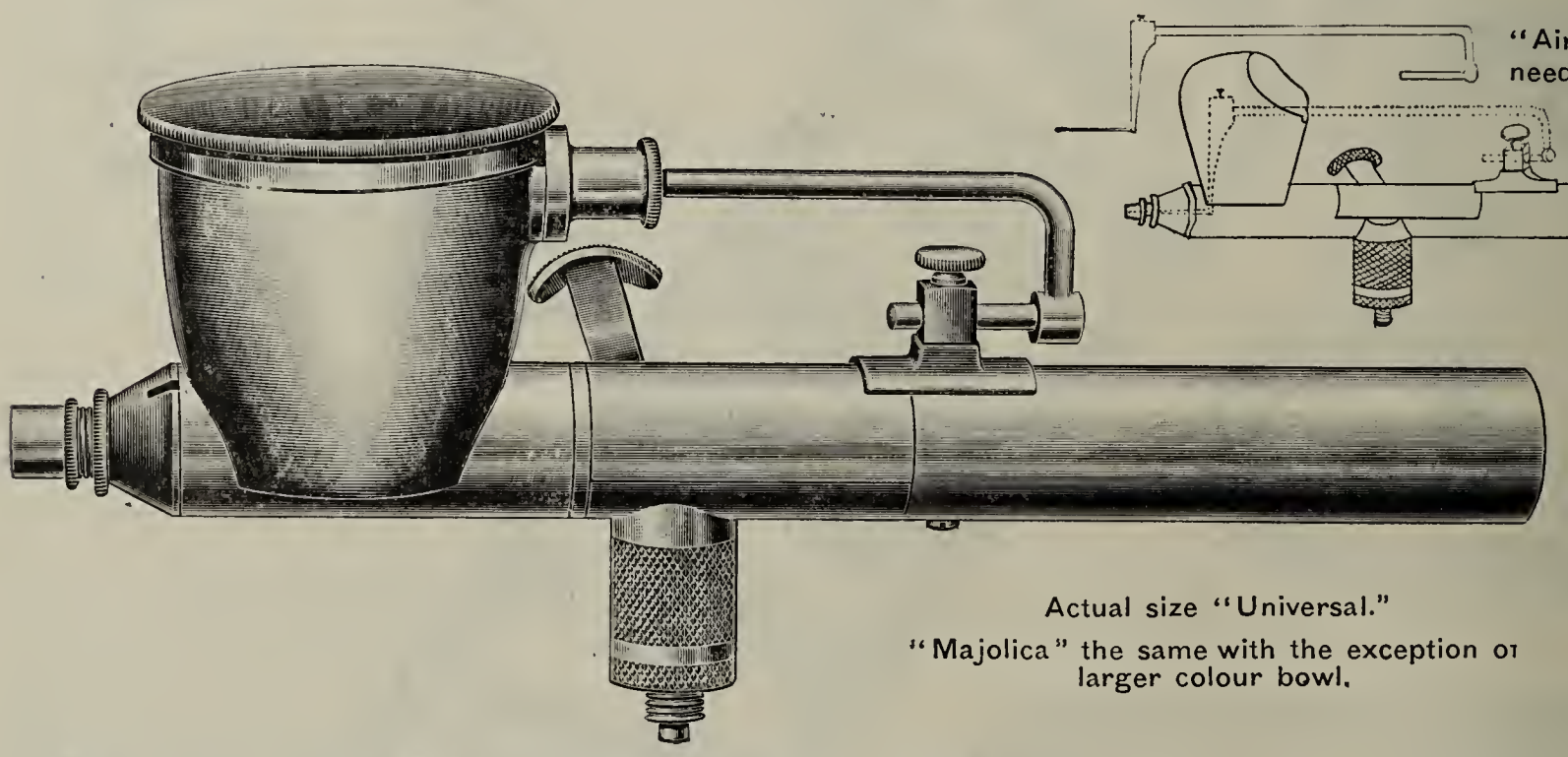
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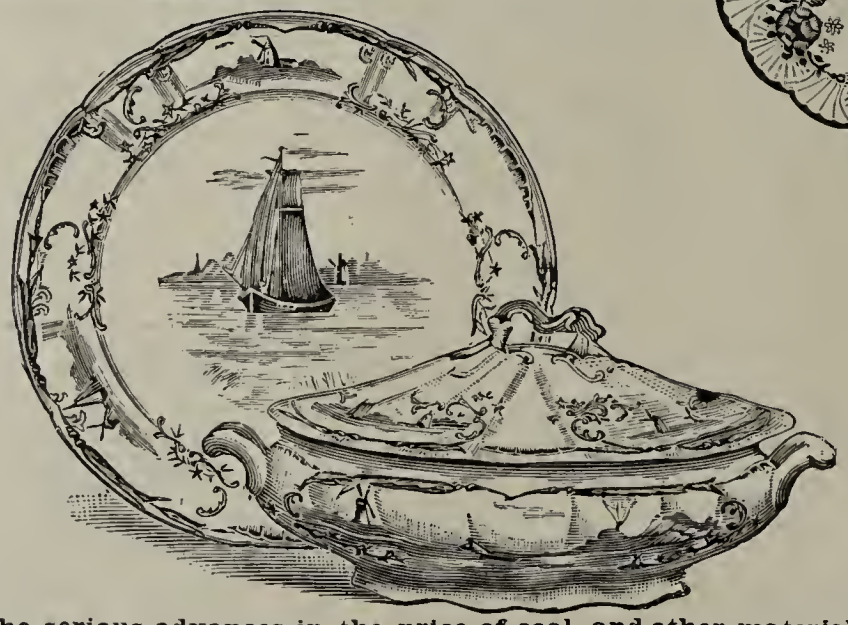


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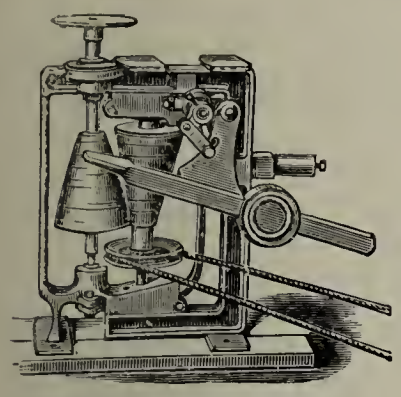




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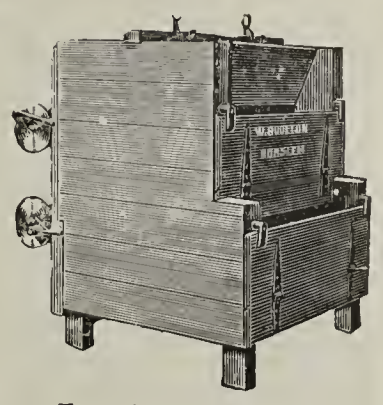
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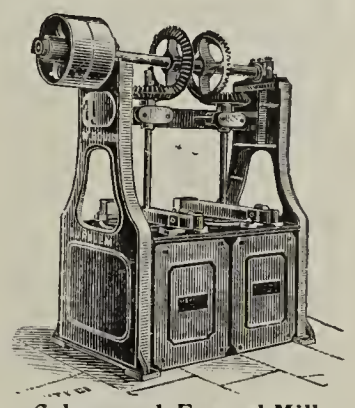


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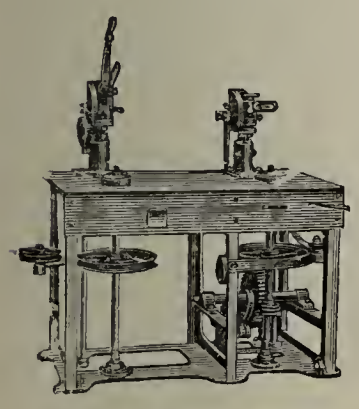
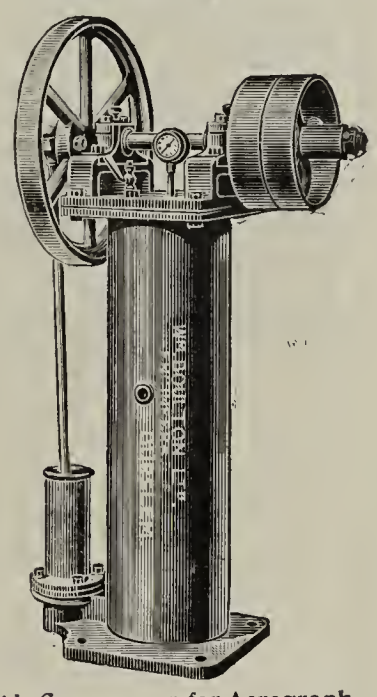
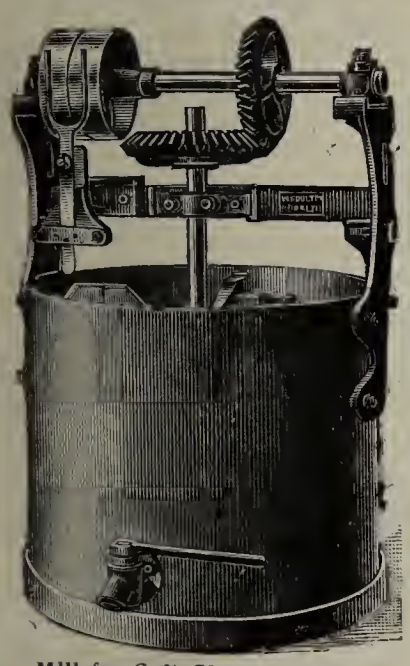


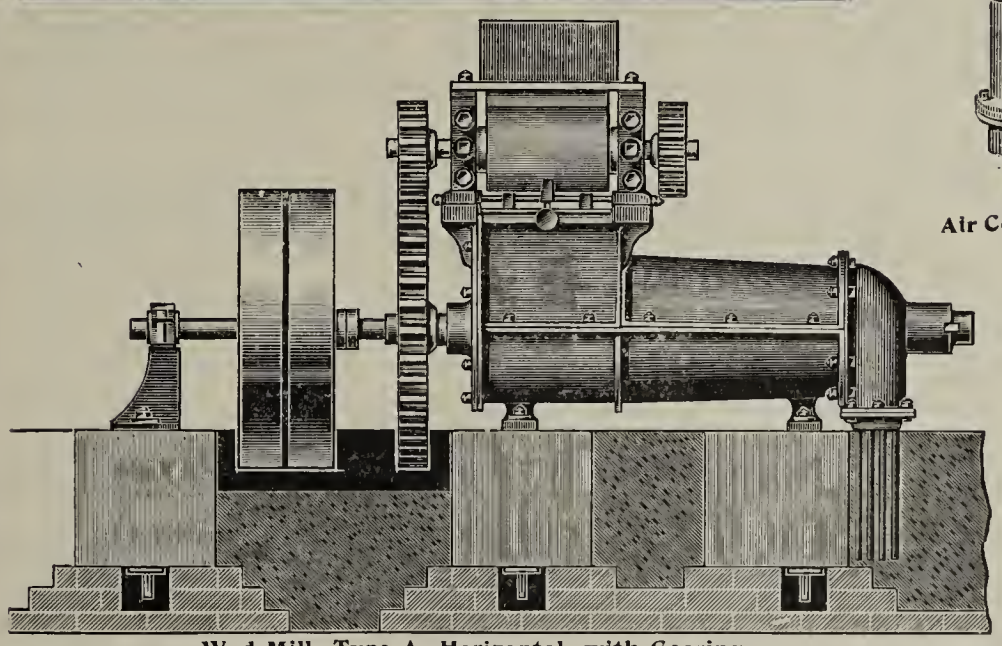
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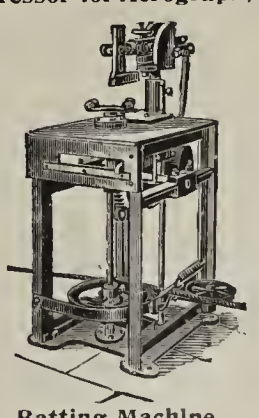
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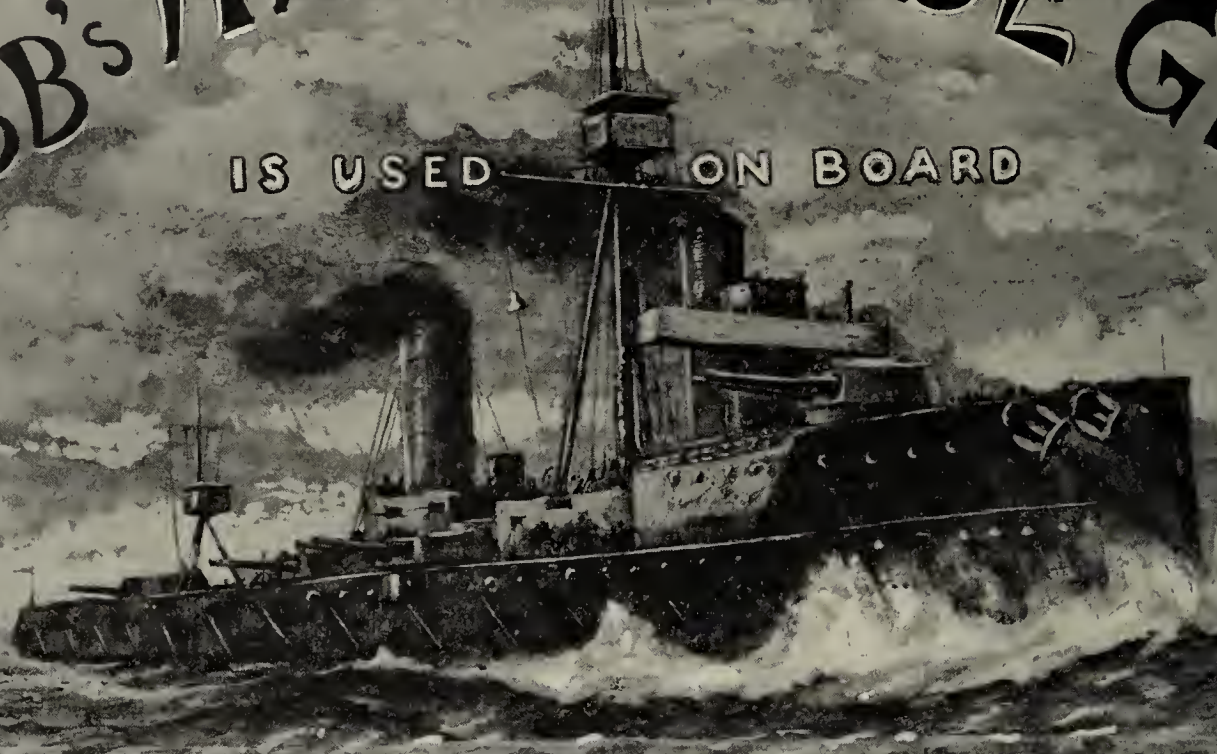
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Editorial Notes.

THE FACTORY INSPECTORSHIP.

ALTHOUGH an inspector of factories has to take the supervision of all industries carried on in his district, the inspector for North Staffordshire must of necessity have a more intimate acquaintance with the pottery trades than with any others, from the fact that they are so extensive and so complicated. While manufacturers in our industries are unanimous in congratulating Mr. J. H. Walmsley on his promotion to a higher position in another district, they are equally unanimous in their expressions of regret at his departure from a field of usefulness in which he made himself proficient and respected. There is much to be said in favour of an inspector who can secure the goodwill and the esteem of the people he has to "inspect." Mr. Walmsley has done this, and is popular alike with the manufacturers and the workers. In the course of his duty to the Home Office he has had frequently to call both to account. It has been his duty to enforce the Special Rules, and though individuals may perhaps occasionally have considered some of those rules irksome, Mr. Walmsley has not been held responsible for them. Some of the regulations made for protecting the health and preserving the lives of pottery workers have been objected to by the workers themselves, but Mr. Walmsley has always been most patient in his efforts to secure observance of them. The retiring inspector has made friends on all sides. He has (as they say in cricket) "qualified" for North Staffordshire, and we half suspect that he experiences as much regret in leaving the district as the district feels in losing him. He married in the Potteries, and has been associated in many local movements, so that he has other connections to sever besides that with the pottery trades. As representing those trades we join the manufacturers and the workers in wishing he may be as successful in his new sphere as he has been in the one he leaves. Our next duty, and our pleasure, is to welcome Mr. S. Shuter, of Plymouth, who succeeds Mr. Walmsley as Inspector in the Potteries District. Although we have not the pleasure of personal acquaintance with Mr. Shuter, we adhere to the good British custom to "Welcome the coming, speed the going guest," and can assure him that he will find the members of the trades we represent—manufacturers and workpeople—always willing to carry out his instructions.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE annual meeting of the members and friends of the Pottery and Glass Trades Benevolent Institution will be held during the last week in January or the first week in February. Due notice will be given of the time and place. It is hoped that the President, R. P. Copeland, Esq., will take the chair. The Institution is now actively fulfilling the objects for which it was founded in 1881, but its more useful work is necessarily limited to the amount of its income. Some members seem to be under a little misapprehension as to the funds of the Institution, and it has been hinted that with the £5,700 invested, it should extend its usefulness by electing more annuitants. The rules of the Institution provide that in order to ensure the stability of the Institution, all donations and bequests

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shall be invested, and that the interest arising from such investments, together with the annual subscriptions, shall, after the payment of the necessary working expenses, form the Relief Fund for the benefit of members and the widows of members. As the subscriptions of members constitute more than two-thirds of the income of the Institution, the board of management earnestly appeal to members to use their utmost endeavours to obtain more subscribers. If the usefulness of the Institution is to be maintained, it is imperatively necessary that the membership be increased. It is this necessity which impels the board to draw attention to a matter that they would rather have left others to speak of. There are now nine members and nineteen widows of members receiving annuities, and during the past year, and in previous years, temporary relief has been granted to many members who have needed it. In this way the amount disbursed has been considerably in excess of the amount available for distribution. This excess has only been met by the efforts of the board of management in promoting concerts and entertainments for the benefit of the Institution. In this way they have realised £2,100 since the foundation of the Institution. This sum includes the profits on concerts held during 1907.) It is to be remembered that this is an uncertain income. The constitution of the board of management may change, and other members may not approve of these methods of increasing the funds. Even the present members of the board may find themselves unable to devote so much time to the promotion of concerts, &c. In either event the amount available for relief would be curtailed. The subscriptions of members form practically an assured income, and it is therefore hoped that all who have the interests of the Institution at heart will endeavour to secure more subscribing members.

THE AUSTRALIAN TARIFF.

WE find no fault with the Commonwealth House of Representatives for protecting their own manufacturers by taxing the importation of foreign made goods. But after the eloquent proffers of concessions to British manufacturers in preference to those of foreign countries, we certainly expected a little more generosity than has been shown towards us. Perhaps the maintenance of some, and the raising of other, duties on British products would not have been criticised so severely if Mr. Deakin in his speeches when in this country had not led us to expect something different. We are glad the Australian Government has removed the tax on magazines containing advertisements in excess of one-fifth of their printed matter. It may not be generally known that while that tax was imposed (only a short period) importers used to tear out at the custom-house as many pages of a publication as would bring the proportion of advertisements within the limit allowed. If that absurd tax had been retained it would have been an all-round injustice—to the advertisers, the publishers, and to Australian readers. The latter want to read (amongst other home news) about what is being made and sold in the mother country. The penalising of trade advertisements would be detrimental to the interests of the colonials themselves. The suggestion to discriminate between the advertisements of goods made in the colony and those not produced in the colony, was absurdly impracticable. Admitting the policy of protecting Australian manufactures, Australians are entitled to know where to obtain such goods as are not made there. Advertisers may be interested in knowing they can now obtain that information through British trade journals. But the irony of it all is that this is called a "concession" to the mother country.

CANALS AND WATERWAYS.

THE hope of improved facilities for the transit of raw materials and manufactured goods to and from the Potteries has been revived by the official announcement that the Royal Commission on Canals and Waterways have recently received the sanction of the Treasury for an inquiry into the probable cost of improving the canals and waterways of the Midlands, and of connecting them with the Thames and the Humber. It was at first concluded that the appointment of the Commission was an official method of shelving the question indefinitely. The matter, however, now assumes a practical aspect, and the fact that much money has already been spent in prosecuting the inquiry, and that a further expenditure is authorised, indicates that if the results likely to follow are found to be commensurate with the outlay, the Government are disposed to take action in the matter in the interests of trade. The firm of Sir John Wolfe Barry & Partners have been instructed to undertake an investigation on behalf of the Commission, and there is no doubt now that practical results may be expected. We do not gather that the first inquiry by the eminent engineers will necessarily include communication with the Potteries, but any system of waterways connecting the Midlands with the Thames and the Humber must, in the natural course of events, be speedily connected with the Potteries. The improvement of the Regent's Canal in connection with the route to the Thames, if accomplished, must necessarily and almost immediately, lead to the improvement of other waterways which could give our manufacturers what they have wanted for years, an alternative means of transit for their goods. The improvements will include not only locks suitable for the navigation of sea-going barges, but for multiples of smaller canal boats. In their competition with foreign manufactures, the manufacturers of the Potteries are heavily handicapped by the cost of transit.

A FOOLISH SCARE.

THE mischievous effects of the irresponsible and ill-advised agitation against the use of lead in pottery manufacture are now manifesting themselves to the embarrasment of dealers in pottery. Several have complained to us that some customers are so scared that they are afraid to eat or drink from ware that is not leadless glazed, and they are asking how they can meet the difficulty. We append a few general remarks which we hope will assist retail pottery dealers to allay the groundless fears of the public. We suggest that dealers might have the following printed as a small circular for distribution among their customers, or on a large card for hanging in windows and showrooms :—

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Many persons are under the impression that there is danger of lead poisoning in using cups and saucers and other pottery in the glaze of which lead has been used. This is an absolutely false assumption. There cannot possibly be the least danger of lead poisoning in eating or drinking out of, or off, any pottery that has been lead glazed. Lead is one of the chemical constituents of the glaze while it is in a fluid state. After the glaze is applied the ware is fired at an intense heat, so that the clay, the glaze and any applied colour become one hard, insoluble, and inseparable mass. It is not possible to recover the lead even by chemical process, so there is not the most remote possibility of the lead injuring the user.

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Correspondence.

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FROM NEW ZEALAND.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—We are anxious to secure the representation of a first-class house of pottery and tile manufacturers, and any catalogues that you may be able to send we would gladly receive. IMPORTERS (506).

New Zealand, Nov. 1.

[Any catalogues from British firms sent to us, with postage, will be forwarded to the writers of the above.—EDS. P.G.]

FROM AUSTRALIA.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—After carefully going through the September number of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, we should like to be put on to the manufacturers of the scheme goods mentioned by the Yankee in one of the articles. Also we should be much obliged to you if you would ask some of the smaller people in the Pottery district to send us along some catalogues and particulars, also refer us to some makers of cheap wares, both in earthen and china and glass ware. The trouble we have out here is that the larger potteries are represented, and we warehousemen get the same designs; it therefore means cutting the prices to get business, whereas, if we could open up business with the smaller people we would have something fresh, and different to other firms.—Yours, &c.,

IMPORTERS, ADELAIDE [495].

[The address of the above correspondent may be obtained by British firms on application to us.—EDS. P.G.]

A JOURNALIST IN THE POTTERIES.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Mr. Foster Fraser has surpassed himself in the article which you quoted in your December number! Let him henceforth change his surname to "Phraser," for he seems to take delight in the making of startling phrases, without regard to grammar or to accuracy. Ruskin charged Whistler with "flinging a paint-pot in the face of the British public." Mr. Fraser violently flings the contents of an ink-pot or a fountain-pen, charged with high-flown adjectives without apparent regard to their applicability to the subject under notice. As for his style, one specimen will suffice to apply to him the word "slipshod" with which he so readily stigmatises the inhabitants of the Potteries. He says:—"Factory Acts! Blessed are they and obedience much insisted on by a zealous army of prying inspectors." By what laws of grammar or syntax, poetry or prose, is that wonderful sentence governed? Dismal are the depths of unmitigated journalese to which Mr. Fraser is dragged by his straining after the picturesque-at-any-price ideal on which his work is modelled. We read that he "bumped up against a tragic fact"; the oven fire has "the heat of Gehenna" (how these journalists do travel! Has Mr. Fraser had a commission to write up the infernal regions for another Sunday paper, since he seems so well acquainted with their temperature?) What is "a mesh of electric tram cars?" or a "tin-can electric car"? What, oh what, is a "pagan gaze"? It is sad to think that such hysterical ravings should ever be printed. The article lacks accuracy even more than style. Can Mr. Phraser substantiate his remarks on the duration of life in the Potteries by a reference to the vital statistics of the district? or his charge of unthriftiness by the books of the provident societies and insurance companies? or his label "Nonconformist" by an enumeration of the relative attendance at the Episcopal and other places of worship? In an article in the POTTERY GAZETTE some years ago, the title of which, "Pottering in the Potteries," Mr. Fraser, no doubt unconsciously, borrows, you give a far more accurate sketch of the local conditions. "I am no orator, as Brutus is"—I am no fervid and practised writer as Mr. Foster Fraser is, but I know the Potteries out and out, and through and through, and can state from my own knowledge that they are cleaner than many other manufacturing towns, and that the standards of health, personal comfort, and of morality are much above the average. Straggling as they do in a narrow, irregular line over a row of hills, their streets are ventilated by strong and invigorating breezes, while, from the higher ground, extensive and pleasant views may be obtained, for nowhere in the six towns is one far from the open country—green fields and wooded slopes as fair as any in the British Isles. The air has been compared to that of Buxton—with a dash of the underground railway atmosphere, too, I grant, but the smoke is undoubtedly germicidal and therefore healthy. The people are handsome and robust and full of jollity and mirth—there, as in so many other details Mr. Fraser is absolutely wide of the mark. Of course, no one pretends that the Potteries is an earthly Paradise, but it certainly is not the hell-on-earth it is often represented to be. The district is much like other manufacturing districts and the people like other factory workers—neither men nor women in factories are more likely to "grow into plaster saints" than Mr. Kipling's "single men in barracks." But there is much that is attractive in the pottery towns and plenty of sturdy and kindly humanity in the Pottery workers. We who know them best know their virtues as well as their faults; and we protest against their being so often made the subject of amazing inaccuracies and verbal gymnastics of irresponible journalists of the "Phraser" type.—Yours, &c.,

December 20, 1907. COMMERCIAL.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. L.—The subject is not a suitable one to be discussed in our columns.

Provincial Dealer will find all the information he asks for in our "Diary."

Creditor.—The officers at the County Court will tell you what steps to take.

R. M. C.—The manufacturer you name died several years ago. We do not know of anyone of that name in business as a manufacturer now.

W. J. C.—We have sent you draft of an advertisement, a form of circular for distribution and particulars for your window cards. We hope they will be useful to you.

Salesman.—We do not give opinions on legal questions as a rule, but we do not mind saying the course you suggest would be illegal and render you liable to punishment.

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Glassware and Crockery to the value of £2,814 were imported into the Fiji Islands during the last fiscal year. The value has increased by £100.

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TRUE LUSTRED POTTERY.

ON December 9, Mr. William Burton, director of the Pilkington Pottery at Clifton Junction, Manchester, delivered an address to the members of the Northern Art Workers Guild in connection with the Manchester School of Art. Mr. Burton's subject was "True Lustred Pottery Decoration."

For some years past, said Mr. Burton, we have been doing something to carry forward the old processes of lustred pottery. In so doing we had learned many things about the methods of the old potters who used that form of decoration centuries ago. We had learned what they did and why they did it, and how they got the effects—beautiful, subtle, and strong, and very different from many of the things that have been used since. Lustred pottery possessed one prominent feature in common, and that was a shining metallic quality of surface which marked it off from every other kind of pottery decoration, though this quality was more or less manifest in all the decorations of this class produced during the last thousand years. The so-called copper and silver lustres of English pottery were introduced a little more than a century ago. Here the metallic quality was developed to the utmost, for pottery covered all over with such lustres as these recalled at once the characteristic appearance of vessels shaped in metal. There could be no doubt that the English potters of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century thought they had discovered a delightfully simple method of making their pottery look like metal and resembling vessels made in gold or silver. They endeavoured to imitate the popular Sheffield silver plate that day. Unconsciously, they seemed to have been following the example of the first inventors of the lustre decoration, for there was no doubt that the potters of Egypt. Syria, and Persia, who made the first "lustres," also hailed their invention as a brilliant discovery that enabled them to make pottery like gold. It was interesting to recall how soon the newly discovered metal platinum was brought into use for lustred pottery. Just as it was found that gold chloride solution would furnish a coat of shining gold, one of the first industrial uses of platinum was its application in a similar way to produce a shining deposit of platinum on crockery, which was known by the common name of silver lustre because of its resemblance to that metal in appearance. Wedgwood was one of the potters who made extensive use of these gold and silver lustres. If we examine examples of the fine lustres of the Persian, Spanish, or Italian potters we should find that the decoration, however strong and metallic it might be in certain lights, was softened and beautified by a wonderful play of iridescent colour, so that it assumed something of the changing quality of the inside of a pearl shell. The only form of pottery decoration which ought to be .called lustre was that which exhibited besides the metallic sheen this play of iridescent colour, and in Mr. Burton's opinion it would be better if our so-called English lustres made with a basis of gold or platinum were described as "plated" or "metallised" pottery, so as to avoid the confusion of treating these not very artistic products as if they belonged to the same category as the splendid lustres of old time. Mr. Burton described the process of true lustre, and said that after it had reached a high pitch of excellence in Spain and in Italy it fell into almost complete disuse in Europe, and had only been revived since about 1860. Where the method was originally invented was by no means certain. He could only say that it was probably invented by Egyptian, Syrian, or Persian potters working for the Arabs, and that it was extensively adopted by the Spanish potters, and especially by the Moorish potters of the south and east of the Peninsula, and afterwards conveyed to Italy.

Certain interesting effects, Mr. Burton said, had been brought to light in their works at Clifton Junction, Manchester. A great deal had been said as to certain glazes being much better for the lustreing process than others. They had found it possible to produce excellent lustres on glazes of every type—leadless glazes, lead glazes, and glazes with or without oxide of tin. The value of the lustre process depended entirely on the artistic use of it. Having reduced the scientific and mechanical sides of the process to something like order and method, they endeavoured to produce a new English pottery as artistic and beautiful as that of the Middle Ages. To this end they had gathered together a school of young English artists, all of whom had had some training in various art schools of the country under the control of the Board of Education. Every piece of lustre pottery they produced was unique, for either the designs were original conceptions or adaptations of the painters themselves. In cases where they had been fortunate enough to obtain designs from distinguished decorative artists like Mr. Walter Crane no two pieces were reproduced in the same way. Examples of the work done at the Clifton Junction Pottery were on view at the School of Art. On the motion of Mr. H. Cadness, Mr. Burton was thanked for his address.

THE CASE OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

EMPLOYERS of labour have means of ascertaining why there are so many able-bodied men without employment. Now we have a member of the Government, who does not happen to be an employer, arriving at the same conclusion. Dr. Macnamara is an educationalist, and an observant one, and yet the opinions he expressed when distributing prizes at the Trades Training School agree with that of the majority of the employers of labour. There is the startling fact that at any time the majority of the unemployed are unskilled labourers. There is almost a unanimous opinion among employers that the solution of the unemployed difficulty is to be found in the improvement of school methods, and above all in the introduction of manual training during the last years at school. There are so many men unemployed because so few boys are systematically trained to skilled employment. When boys leave school now, they are just in the condition for learning all the intricacies of a skilled trade if they are put to it at once. Modern exigencies will not admit of a return to the old-fashioned system of apprenticeship. If they would, that would reduce the numbers of the unemployed in the near future. But boys had different habits formerly, and apprentices had very little pocket money. Apprentices do not get much pocket money now, and that is why so many parents refuse to apprentice their sons. They want them to commence earning ten shillings a week as office boy or messenger, and expect them to bring half of it home. They learn nothing, and when they get older they are sent away and other "boys" taken in their place. There are trades in this country in which work could be found for men trained to do it, and yet it often happens that such trained men are not available. What is wanted is the development of the trade school system; the revival of some system of apprenticeship; the removal of trade union restrictions as to the number of apprentices employed; and a number of scholarships for industry. Something would be gained if every boy was taught at least the rudiments of a craft, and with the prospects of the scholarships no doubt many industrious ones would be encouraged to perfect themselves in it. Modern life seems to suggest that if the apprentice could be assured a little money during his period of service, the objections to it would be overcome. There are some youths who would cheerfully work for the sake of learning—but not many.

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Manufacturers of

BURLEIGH WARE

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NEW ZEALAND—28, FORT STREET, AUCKLAND.

AUSTRALIA—51, PALING'S BUILDINGS, SYDNEY.

Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

"Paragon China" has made a reputation for itself. Not only discriminating dealers, but the public—who can tell good ware when they see it—are asking for this make. It is the name given to the productions of the Star China Co., Atlas Works, Longton. The new London showrooms are at 11, Charterhouse-street, Holborn-circus, E.C., and the company have at that address a finer show of samples of their goods than we have ever seen in London before. Not only numerically is the display a good one, but in beauty of form and daintiness of ornamentation "Paragon" china justifies its name. The ware has created a demand for itself by its merits, and it is now one of the leading stock lines with dealers doing a medium-class trade. This is the trade to which "Paragon" china appeals perhaps more than to any other, but the company are making specialities of higher grades, so that the very best retail houses will find many lines that they can stock with advantage. The Star China Co.'s goods are not expensive; even the higher-class productions are not dear, considering the quality of the china and the excellence of the ornamentation. The company are not neglecting the medium-class lines upon which their reputation has practically been built up, but they are certainly producing many more high-class sets than formerly. I was shown some dessert plates exquisitely decorated and gilt. The hand-painted ornamentation with birds in panels, and with views of castles and landscapes painted by experts, are highly artistic; many of the dessert plates could very well do duty as plaques. The samples shown include tea, breakfast, and dessert services, sweets, and fancy goods in many new shapes and patterns—all good forms neatly decorated. We illustrate four pieces—the "Jewel" shape tea and breakfast, the "Bute" shape tea, and a medium-size coffee. The plain surfaces admit of many styles of decoration. There is a good choice in coloured borders; apple-green, dark green, and mazarine-blue are all very pleasing. Some pretty printed border patterns are shown in various colours. The company supply very good lines in trinket sets and afternoon tea sets. Those who appreciate really good china with artistic decorations will find the light and well-finished "Paragon" china answer all their requirements. Fancy dealers will find a pleasing assortment of "bijou" pieces in "Paragon" china, and several original shapes amongst them.



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

"PARAGON CHINA."

James Sadler & Sons, Ltd., Wellington Works, Newport-street, Burslem, are manufacturers of jet, rockingham, samian, walnut, and ivory bodies, plain and decorated. The company are well-known makers of teapots. They, of course, make other goods as well, but Sadler's teapots are recognised lines. They always have a good selection on show at the rooms of their London representative, Mr. W. Asprey, 5, Hatton-garden, E.C., but they have recently added three new shapes—the "Stanley," the "Royal," and the "Queen"—in ivory body variously decorated. The "Wellington" and "Regent" shapes are established favourites, and supplied in several sizes. Jugs and covered jugs are supplied in all the decorations to match the teapots. In the better class of ornaments there are some pretty floral decorations and gilt. Several of their shapes are also supplied in mottled ware. In some cases samian mottled and walnut teapots have light bands with floral decorations. Altogether, the variety of teapots shown is a good one.

Mr. Henry M. Cooke, manufacturer, 48, Albert-road, Aston, Birmingham, is represented in London by Mr. Wm. Asprey, 5, Hatton-garden, Holborn-circus, E.C. Mr. Cooke is a manufacturer of many things that glass and china dealers are often called upon to supply, but which some do not remember, on the spur of the moment, where to get them. Mr. Cooke manufactures and supplies pepper tops, mustard covers, labels for spirit decanters, sugar crushers, mounted corks, cayenne, salt, and mustard spoons, bone spoons, neat-looking egg-timers in wood and metal cases, and a score of other little household requisites that are very appropriately described as "miscellaneous" articles. Cruet frames are special lines with Mr. Cooke, and he supplies them in polished and japanned wood, papier maché, and iron. He has an immense assortment of cut-glass cruet bottles. Matchings of cruet-bottles—peppers, mustards, vinegars, and oils—are, perhaps, more frequently asked for than any other matchings. If ever you want to oblige a customer with a bottle to replace a broken one in a cruet frame, you need not bother to find out the maker. Send the broken one (and if possible one of the other sound pieces) to Mr. Cooke, and he will send it you. Most likely he has the exact thing in stock; if not, and it is by a good maker, he will recognise it at once, and will send to him for it. But if it happens that Mr. Cooke has not a bottle like it and does not know who made it, he will not waste a fortnight in trying to find the maker, but will make one like it himself. He is a very useful man to know, and when in the city, dealers should call at Mr. Asprey's showrooms and look at his samples.

The British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Anchor-road, Longton, manufacturers of domestic earthenware, have appointed Joseph Lockett & Sons, 55, Hatton-garden, London, E.C., their representatives for London and the South Coast. The samples of the company are now on show at Lockett & Sons' spacious and well-lighted rooms The specialities are toilet ware, dinner ware, and sets of jugs. The range of patterns in toilet ware is a wide one, including many well-known shapes and some quite new. The company have been making considerable improvement in their shapes and styles, and we understand they are now

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engaged on several important and interesting new lines. They are producing a number of quite new schemes of ornamentation especially to meet the tastes and wishes of dealers on the ground covered by Lockett & Sons. They will be appreciated in other directions as well, no doubt, but they will answer that particular purpose. There will be a light, bright tone about the ornamentations that will commend itself to persons of neat, quiet tastes. We give an illustration of two of these lighter schemes of decoration on well-known shapes The "Ribbon" pattern toilet ware is supplied in several neat, light colours. It looks well in pink and also in light blue. The other ewer and basin in the illustration is a nicely modelled set with slight embossments and decorated with dainty little roses on white ground. The company have long been noted for their excellent coloured and shaded effects.



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

THE BRITISH ANCHOR POTTERY COMPANY, LIMITED.



(SPRINGER & CO.) TRINKET SET, EMPIRE SHAPE.

These they are greatly improving and increasing in number. As in other decoration, the new shaded ornamentations are light and tasteful. There are some good lines in dinner ware. The dinner sets on show now include an abundance of good shapes, with printed and enamelled and gilt decorations. "Queen's White" dinner ware is given a very prominent position in the new show rooms. It is supplied en suite, plain white, printed, or printed and gilt. The company will still supply the styles of decoration that have stood them in good stead in other directions, but they will produce a number of the lighter types, as I have indicated. The samples of toilet ware, when arranged in their entirety in Lockett & Sons' rooms, will present an admirable variety to select from.

Springer & Co., china manufacturers, Elbogen, Bohemia, are well known in this country, having been represented here for the last fifteen or sixteen years by Messrs. Dixon & Co., 35, St. Bride-street, Ludgate-circus, E.C. Messrs. Springer are manufacturers of practically all kinds of china goods, useful and ornamental, and there is a very large selection of samples in the London show-rooms. Messrs. Dixon have them judiciously arranged; not only are they well placed for inspection by customers, they are also displayed in a manner calculated to present the best effect. Florid and pronounced ornamentations are not arranged so near quiet and subdued schemes as to destroy the soft effects of the latter. Retail dealers should take a lesson from show-rooms like these, and study the relative positions of different decorations. For instance, Springers are well known for their extensive range of white china. For the present season there are shown some very pretty new designs in white open work and rustic ware. There is a really tasteful display of very artistic and of useful goods in white, but they are shown together at one end of the large room, uninfluenced by the brilliant floral and landscape decorations on other goods. A window full of these white goods occasionally would be a good attraction. They are inexpensive, and a few pieces ticketed in a window would arrest attention. In other parts of the room there are samples of the firm's extensive range of decorated useful and fancy lines, including tea sets, dessert sets, cabarets, fruit and sweet dishes, salads, and a large assortment of miscellaneous pieces. The company are very strong in trinket sets, of which many samples are shown. There is great variety in form and in decorations. Some

of the trays are excellent examples of modelling. We give an illustration of one of these. The "Empire" shape has several new features which will be recognised in the form of the tray and the classical shape of the tall pieces. This pretty set is typical of a very large number of neat and tasteful decorations on new forms. The range of trinket sets shown includes several new shapes in trays and a multiplicity of neat decorations. Springers are noted for their cheap vases on artistic lines; these are after the styles of the highest class of porcelain, but are supplied to sell as sixpenny and one shilling lines. I questioned the fairness to British manufacturers of art pottery to produce these cheap approximations to their styles, but Mr. Dixon said, "These goods meet a demand which British manufacturers cannot supply—at any rate they do not. Those (pointing to some samples) can be sold retail for 1s. each; the English manufacturers' price would be 10s. 6d. each. If our goods were withdrawn it would not increase the sale of British goods by one single piece. The people who buy these pretty, yet cheap, ornamentations for their homes would not pay the price for Worcester vases, and those who want a Worcester vase would not be content with a shilling one like that." On another floor of their premises Messrs. Dixon & Co. are showing an extensive range of the "Royal Poland China," which has acquired a good reputation in this country. The special features of this ware are the exceptionally fine modelling of dainty shapes



ROYAL POLAND CHINA.

in thin china and the pleasing satin groundlaid effects. There are samples of several dainty shapes in afternoon tea sets, salads, fruit, and sweet dishes. We give an illustration of an afternoon tea set. The pieces are nicely modelled with feet, and have neat, conventional ornamentations. The form (square feet and square handles) is often seen in silver ware. Vases in Royal Poland china are shown with a range of bird decorations which, we understand, was very popular last season. Amongst many other special lines handled by Messrs. Dixon & Co., there is a fine selection of Bavarian china, with very fine body, and a good display of china figures (single and in groups) candelabra clock sets, table centres, &c., in Dresden style, both glazed and in biscuit. The question of "show-days" does not trouble Messrs. Dixon, as their rooms are open every day till 7 p.m.

William Varcoe & Sons, of Stoke-on-Trent, are china clay and china stone producers and merchants, and have been established since 1830, but far earlier records exist to show that one of the largest china manufacturers in the Potteries district obtained his china clay from a great-grandfather of the existing three partners. The name Varcoe, indeed, has been connected with china clay since the clay was first discovered in Cornwall, over 100 years ago. The grandfather of the present members of the firm was one of the two founders (William and Robert Varcoe) of the Goonvean China Clay Works, which is now one of the largest in Cornwall, and he was the first pioneer to leave that county to sell clay in the North of England and Scotland. The difficulty of travelling was so great in those days that the selling office was transferred to the Staffordshire Potteries, and carried on by his son, William Varcoe, and since this gentleman's death in 1901 the business has very much increased, the firm doing a large business in Staffordshire and other parts of the world. The china clays they have for disposal are well known for their good colour, uniformity, plasticity, and strength, being suitable for all branches of ceramic art, and are used by most of the leading firms of the present day. William Varcoe & Sons have also recently taken an important step in securing the working rights of large felspar deposits in Norway.

Mr. John A. Edwards, the agent in the Potteries for Ambrosius, Knauer & Co., of Kirchhain, N.L., Germany, manufacturers of ceramic transfers, has, within the past few months, removed his offices from Longton to Hanley, where he now occupies the premises 1, Old Hall-street (opposite the Hanley Rectory), till recently tenanted by Mr. W. H. Shaw, the secretary of the North Staffordshire Traders' Association. His new offices are much more central than the old ones, and customers will find them more convenient in every respect. Mr. Edwards has a spacious show room arranged in such a manner that the visitor can see for himself, in a few moments, the many excellent styles of decoration the Kirchhain firm produces, whether for application to toilet, dinner, and tea ware, or jugs and vases. Besides the hundreds of new designs exhibited in the show room, an infinite variety of other transfers is to be seen in the pattern-books. All of the transfers are high-class in character, natural in colouring, effective in the arrangement of the particular subject concerned, and reasonable as to price. The latest design is a series depicting various kinds of birds and flowers, which call forth instant admiration by their general attractiveness. A range of transfers representative of nursery-rhyme subjects, and another "line" comprising studies of animal life, are intended for application to table ware and other articles used by the little folk, who will certainly be greatly pleased with the ornamentation. Some of the transfers depict classical subjects, one noteworthy one, representative of "The Dawn," showing the rosy fingered goddess Aurora setting out in her chariot accompanied by the Sun—a little cherub carrying a flaming torch—and various other attendants, the whole making an effective group. Then there are transfers representing landscape views, hunting scenes, piscatorial subjects, historical incidents, reproductions of well-known paintings, and all kinds of nature studies. Something will be found at the show room of Mr. Edwards to suit all tastes. Mr. Edwards also represents Mr. John Bailey, colour manufacturer, of Longton.

Earthenware jugs (common), called "porrones," "alcarrazas" and "cantaros," used as kitchen utensils, are dutiable at $1 04 ct. per 100 kilogs., on importation into Cuba, according to a recent tariff decision.

The U.S. China Clay Market.—In a recent issue "China, Glass, and Lamps" reported that a steady demand prevails for china clay of all descriptions, and values are well held on the basis of $11 to $17·50 per ton for English, and $8 to $9 for domestic, as to grade and quantity. On Jan. 1 (our contemporary continued) an advance of $1 per ton will be made in the price of imported clay. This is due to the fact that railroad and steamship rates, as well as the cost of casks, will be increased at that time. The American demand during the current year has been greater than the supply.

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THE PORTLAND VASE AND GLASS CAMEOS.

AT a meeting of the Brierley Hill Literary Society, held recently, Dr. Taylor in the chair, the following paper by Mr. Owen Gibbons, C.C., of Wordsley, on "The Portland Vase: Its History, and its Effect on Cameo work in the District," was read. Mr. Gibbons, unfortunately, was not able to be present, and his paper was therefore read as follows, by Mr. J. T. Fereday, who himself has a deservedly high reputation as a cameo worker:—

To do justice to the subject before us I should have to make very great demands on your patience. That is, if I gave you in any way a full recount of the various processes used in the making of the vase, and the development of the processes, as well as the various opinions regarding its subject and history.



FIG. I.—THE EMPEROR AUGUSTUS.

This profile bust in sardonyx is one of the most ambitious of the ancient portraits found among the cameos. It is now in the British Museum (No. 1,560, Catalogue of Gems). The head was originally bound with a simple tænia, but a diadem of mediæval work in gold and gems has been added. This diadem was restored at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

Instead of this, I propose to keep my remarks as simple as possible, so that the matter can readily be understood and discussed.

Chemically, there is a very great likeness between pottery and glass. The same materials and colouring oxides are used in the manufacture of both, alike they are tried in the fire, yet there is a great difference in their history. Pottery seems to have an origin with every condition of life on the earth. Wherever the human family formed a community there they made pottery—prehistoric, savage, or cultured. On the other hand, glass, apparently, has but one origin, and the Egyptian glass is the earliest we know. From that source glass making spread the world over, but its progress was slow.

The Grecians appeared to have used little glass, but the Romans delighted in glass, using it for every conceivable purpose to which it could be put. The great centres of glass making after the Roman were Arabia, Venice, Germany, and France.

I shall leave, as I said, the materials of which glass is made, the furnaces and tools used, out of this subject. Nor shall I describe, generally, the art of glass making.

Living, as you do, in a glass-making district, most of you have seen this delightful art, and have watched the skilful fashioning of the vessels, whilst you have at the same time noted the changing play of light and colour from the glaring furnace on the anxious faces of the makers.

I have noted colour effects in the glass houses fit for Titian's pencil, and subtle tones of dark and light which would rejoice a Rembrandt.

Now, having said so much about the material of which the Portland Vase is made we will just consider what there is peculiar about it as a piece of glass ware, and to do this I will describe the vase as a piece of high art in glass cameo.

CAMEOS.

A cameo is understood to be a gem or other carving in relief in which the figure is engraved on a layer of light colour and the background is formed of a dark layer below it. Many precious stones have natural layers of white or light colour and dark transparent layers alternately. Onyx and sardonyx are most frequently used for gem cameo work.

A very ordinary class of cameo is done on shells, the common conch shell being used; the shell is naturally divided into two layers, white above and dark brown below, the work is done as in the gems, by cutting through the white layer, at the same time carving it, and showing the dark brown background.

From the earliest times in its history, glass has been used as a material for imitating gems, being much cheaper and much easier worked.

As a layer of opaque glass could readily be flashed on to a dark transparent glass, and as the engraving was done with greater facility, the material, being softer, we can well understand that in Rome, where glass making had reached a high pitch, and when luxury was prevalent, the art of glass cameo engraving was practised to a large extent.

In various museums fragments of very large vases and flat panels, assumed to be table tops, are to be seen some of these are in the highest style of antique art; these are in cameo, and the grounds are of various colours, mostly tints of blue.

Though I am not going to describe glass making, yet it is well to understand the construction of a common vase. The usual method for cameo is to make a bubble of opaque white glass; this is coated with transparent blue or other colour, and that again with white glass. The whole is now blown and fashioned as may be desired.

The vase being made of three layers, the outer white one is cut or etched away where the dark ground is to be, so showing the transparent blue, which is enriched by the white coating inside; the remaining white is now carved into the required forms by steel tools. Sometimes there are only two coatings, as in the Portland vase, and sometimes more, as taste or fancy may suggest.

That glass engraving was simply an imitation of gem engraving is, I think, obvious. The earliest engraved gems we know were Egyptian, and probably that wonderful country was the birthplace of that art, as it was of many others. The Egyptians were used to working the hardest stones; the engraved granite obelisk was a common element

in their architecture, and it is known that the diamond-pointed drill and diamond-toothed saw were in common use. We may be fairly sure then, that gems were cut with a diamond drill and finished with a diamond-pointed scraper. For softer stones and glass a wheel may have been used.

In the best times of Grecian art the gem cutting was superb, and the same may be said of the Roman. Not only was the design, if required, of the most minute character, for rings and seals, but, on the other hand, for plaques; this work was sometimes of immense size. Of the latter, the two most famous examples are the Great Agate in the National Library, Paris, and the Augustus Cameo in the Vienna Collection. The former measures 13 inches by 11 inches, and is cut in five colour layers; the latter is 9 inches by 8 inches. Both are works of the very highest artistic excellence.

A very fine specimen of this large gem cameo is to be seen in the Gem Room of the British Museum, No. 1,560; it is a beautifully modelled head of the Emperor Augustus. We have seen that glass cameo was a development of gem engraving, and it is probable that engravers would at first work on either material if required.



FIG. 2.



FIG. 3.

These four views illustrate, in sequence, the whole of the ornamentation round the Portland Vase.



FIG. 4.



FIG. 5.

The Portland Vase.

Mr. A. H. Smith, of the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, in his catalogue of gems says, speaking of the Portland vase :—"As regards the date to which the vase must be assigned, it is probable that it belongs to the first century of the Roman Empire, or possibly to the close of the republic. The manufacture of glass and the cutting of cameos cannot be proved to have been practised at Rome before the period mentioned But the specimens found at Pompeii prove that this technique had reached its full development before A.D 69."

There have been many attempts to explain the story represented on the Portland vase, but none have proved satisfactory. Like the story of the "willow pattern plate," doubtless the motive is love.

The subject is, however, treated with such grandeur and severity that it is lifted into an ideal realm, far above ordinary mortal love. Gods and heroes are no doubt represented here, celestial and chaste as the white clouds which float around Mount Olympus. Here in this lovely vase we have the deep blue of the Grecian heavens, and the snow-white figures which our imagination often sees seated or reclining in the white clouds of a summer sky. I need not tell you that it represents scenes in the story of Peleus and Thetis or any other ancient *fable*, what we, in fact, admire is the *truth* it contains in perfection of form, lofty idea, and beauty.

At the time this vase was made Rome was a great glass-making centre with numerous furnaces. It is pretty certain that besides ordinary business factories and artistic studios where glass was made and sold, many of the wealthy men in Rome had their own workshops.

At about the time the Portland vase would be engraved, the first minister of the empire under cruel Nero was the philosopher Seneca, who taught the highest morality, virtue, and abstinence ; in his teaching he treated the Roman mythology as a peg on which to hang this teaching, as Julian did later. Love was taught as an abstract virtue, and man was supposed to be able to perfect himself. Yet Seneca was one of the richest men in Rome. It is possible that under such conditions—for there were many rich men who followed Seneca in his way of thinking, and living —the Portland vase was designed and executed.

At this time the Christian religion was fast making headway and overturning the pagan. Those of you who wish to think you can read that the sculptor of this work was a Christian should note the overturned altar by the side of the female who holds an inverted torch. (Fig. 3.) Nor is it absurd to suppose that the early Christians were partial to art ; we see in the Catacombs at Rome much artistic work done by them, and in their tombs a small patin of glass, or small bowl, is often found, especially a few years later.

As I have stated, many private gentlemen in Rome had their own workshops, where the highest class carving, metal-work, and mosaic was done. Artists were invited from all parts of the world ; but much of the work was done by slaves who were trained for the purpose. This was especially the case with engravers, so that it is by no means improbable that the artist who engraved our vase was a slave.

We may go back nearly two thousand years, and live for a minute or so as Romans. I will walk with you through a Roman palace ; as we enter the great portico we note the black and white slaves, some richly dressed, in attendance. I next point out to you the great halls, rich with vitreous walls and polished mosaic floors of the most marvellous designs. We pass through corridors of sumptuous carving in various coloured marbles and at last reach the great pleasure grounds, rich in plane trees, olives, and large fig trees. Roses are blooming in profusion, and the vines are trailing over the trellis-work, or running wild amidst the elms.

If you will mount with me on the steps of this little temple, we can see over the great city of seven hills ; the "hub" in truth, of the great Roman Empire. Through the glowing mist we see temple after temple, and street after street of columned palaces.

Turning from all this grandeur, we see, by the side of the largest fig tree, a low building ; entering by the open door, we see, seated on a low bench, a man with an intellectual Grecian countenance, the light from the window illuminating the artist and his work. He is copying a branch of fig tree which is growing through the window. We note the simple tools on the table—a small bowl of some liquid, a drill, and a few scrapers, and around are wax models and papers. In his hands, completed, except for a few touches, is the vase, the subject of this paper.

Slave as the artist may have been, he was a free man when following his art, and we can but believe that his freedom would be awarded to him by his master on the completion of this noble work.

Under conditions somewhat such as I have sketched the Portland vase was executed. So highly was it valued that the vase was used to contain the ashes of the owner, or those of some dear friend ; but this was many years after the time at which it was made ; possibly being preserved for two hundred years in one family, or it may have passed through many hands by sale before it was used for this purpose.

It was enclosed in a sarcophagus, beautifully sculptured,* with figures of a man and a woman on the cover, reclining. It was buried two and a half miles from Rome. in a fine tomb. Doubtless many friends would visit the tomb for years and then it was forgotten.

Time passed on. The Roman Empire was divided into Eastern and Western, the whole pagan religion disappeared, and was replaced by Christian or Mahomedan. Great Rome itself was almost destroyed under the inroads of the Goths. The deep winter of the dark ages descended on Europe, the arts were forgotten, or neglected, and many years passed before the spring came with a new vigour and awoke the world again to a love of art and beauty.

Art, however, blossomed again, like the rose in Italy. Rome became, as before, the centre which drew artists from all parts of the world. The great art development of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries aroused a love of the antique. Cellini mentions the fact that our term "grotesque" came from the remains found in grottoes, and we know that the Raphael Arabesques were suggested by the paintings found in the Baths of Titus.

Collections of antiques were formed by noblemen, and large payments were made for fine specimens. The celebrated Cupid by Michael Angelo was buried, and then dug up and sold as an antique, so we can understand with what industry prospecting for such treasures was carried on.

We do not know the exact date when the Portland vase was discovered, but it was at the end of the sixteenth century, or the beginning of the seventeenth. It was found in a tomb under the Moule del Grano, intact, in the sarcophagus* I have before described, a cast of which is in the British Museum. It became the property of the great Barberini family—from which it got its first name—and was preserved in their palace in Rome as their greatest treasure. At the time of its discovery the glass factories in Venice were producing their finest work, yet it is curious that, so far as we know, no attempt to copy this vase was made.

Some even thought that it was a natural gem engraved by the ancients, and this absurd idea is not surprising, for

* For description and illustration of this sarcophagus see THE POTTERY GAZETTE for May last, page 590.

at the same date it was thought that the vases so plentifully turned up by the plough, in some parts of Italy, were the natural productions of the soil.

After remaining in the Barberini collection for over a century and a half the vase was purchased by Sir William Hamilton, who sold it to the Duchess of Portland in 1785.

From the Portland family the vase is named; although it did not long remain a private treasure, but was given to the British Museum by the Duke of Portland in 1810.

Sir William Hamilton's rich collection of gems was made use of by our great potter Wedgwood for reproduction in the famous jaspar ware of which he was the inventor. Flaxman, the sculptor, most imbued with the true classic spirit of our age was employed by him in this work, and no doubt Wedgwood found his services of great use when he brought out his celebrated copy of the Portland vase.

Here, let me say that all true art is reproductive; it creates a desire of emulation as well as of admiration.

Wedgwood felt this, but at the same time he must have known that neither his jasper nor his basalt ware could give the translucency of the original. It was, in fact, fairly well understood by him that at least the body of the vase was glass. The general idea was that the figures were cut in some white paste and then fused to the body of the glass.

Even as late as 1839 the writer of an article in "The Penny Magazine" says, speaking of the beautiful head under the foot of the vase: "It appears to have been fixed on the blue glass after it was cold by a cement, whereas the other parts have been apparently run into the groundwork whilst in a state of fusion."

Wedgwood's idea was altogether different from that of the original artist; whose desire was to make one perfect object. Wedgwood aimed at making many from one set of moulds, and to sell them. The process used was just that of the old Flemish makers of stoneware, as seen on the old "Toby Jugs" the figures were pressed in plaster or metal moulds, and then applied to the dark body of the vase in the wet clay state; after the ware was fired, it was finished on an engraver's wheel by gem cutters. Wedgwood produced about fifty of these vases, varying in merit, before the moulds were broken up.

The way of working in clay, however, which would have been nearer to the antique in translucency and in giving the individuality of the artist, would have been pâte-sur-pâte, in which Solon has done such lovely work.

If I had thought of giving you a complete account of the manufacture of the Portland vase I should have felt it necessary to describe clay and its various modes of working; but it is fortunate for you that I have not to do this.

As I have said, the vase was deposited in the British Museum. In 1845 it was wantonly broken into hundreds of fragments; these were collected and so carefully joined together that it is now almost impossible to perceive a flaw.

Whatever doubt there may have been as to the material of the vase being glass was removed, as a careful examination of its structure was then possible. The foot of the vase was not replaced, but is exhibited separately.

The vase is to be seen in the Gem Room, and specia permission must be obtained at the door to see this costly collection. Many gem cameos can here be seen and compared with the work on the vase.

An instructive illustrated catalogue was to be obtained some years since, but it is now out of print. This is the description in the catalogue:—"No. 2,312. This celebrated vase is in the form of an amphora, about ten inches high. The material is glass of an intensely deep blue, which is decorated with a series of figures in relief, composed of glass of an opaque white. These carved works in glass of which few specimens survive, were known to the ancients as *toreumata vitri*."

Though the Portland vase is the finest example of cameo glass which has come down to us, yet there are at least two other perfect ones, besides fragments in various collections.

I have had the pleasure of walking through the streets of Pompeii, where old Roman luxury can be so well seen. Here, in 1839, in the Street of Tombs was found the vase which is now known as the Naples vase. Though not so fine a piece of glass carving as our Portland vase, yet it is a most charming object, revealing in its subjects the love of the Romans for the "simple life." Here we see the spirit of Virgil's Eclogues and Georgics; boys treading grapes and playing on musical instruments amidst garlands and vines, whilst below is a border of sheep and goats, and although the shepherd boy is absent, yet we see his dinner bag hanging on the branch of a tree. This vase is preserved in the Royal Museum at Naples. (The antiquities here preserved are marvellous; the idea one obtains from a personal inspection of them is of wonder at their beauty and perfection.)

We now come nearer home, for the remaining history of the Portland vase is connected with the Stourbridge glass-making district. This is of interest to me, personally, as I have known nearly all the men who either actually did the work, or who helped forward the first reproduction of the vase, in its original material, glass.

These artists and workmen bridged over, as it were, the long centuries between our time and the far-away Roman, and made themselves a fellowship with those long-forgotten glass workers.

Doubtless the idea of glass cameo had been in the minds of the glassworkers of this district for some time, and some, possibly, may have thought of emulating the Portland vase; but the late Mr. John Northwood * must be given the honour of conquering the difficulties of the actual engraving.

One great difficulty that had to be overcome was the chemical composition of the two layers of glass. These must always exactly contract and expand together from heat to cold, otherwise cracks would form on the surface; besides this, the outer white glass must have the necessary and just translucency, for the coating must not be absolutely opaque. Wedgwood, in his clay work, had these same difficulties, and the added one of drying to overcome.

It is clear, then, that there was a very great amount of hard work to be done before the vase was in Mr. Northwood's hands.

I have before described shortly the making of a cameo glass vase. I will now go over it in more detail and begin with the blowing and "making." Here the wonderful skill and dexterity of the glass blower deserves special attention; working as he does with the simplest of tools, and relying on his judgment only, he produces shapes of the greatest elegance and truth of form.

The white glass and the dark coloured glass must be melted at the same time; then, when the glass is ready, a thick bubble is formed of the coloured glass, at the same time a cup of opaque white glass is made by another workman, the bubble is placed in the cup of opaque white glass, which now becomes a casing to the coloured glass, they are reheated, and then blown and fashioned to the design of the artist.

During the various changes of shape in the making, the relative thickness of white and dark glass remain the same. The vase being now annealed is ready for the artist. Before he can begin work, however, he has to remove in

*An account of the reproduction of the Portland vase in glass by Mr. Philip Pargeter and Mr. John Northwood, was given in THE POTTERY GAZETTE for August, pp. 938, 939.

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some way or other the fire polish, which forms a bright hard skin on the surface of the glass ; this may either be done by grinding on the wheel, or by etching the surface away with hydrofluoric acid. In either case the surface assumes the appearance of white marble.

The design being now drawn on the vase the artist sets to work to cut out the parts of his design which are to show the dark transparent ground, leaving the parts which are to be in relief in bold square masses ; at the present time this is almost always done by stopping out the whites with varnish, and biting the exposed parts away with acid. In some cases, however, the ground is cut away with the wheel ; and there is little doubt but that the antique work was roughed out in this way, if not entirely finished.

The artist now, by grinding, or by a succession of bitings, shapes his figures roughly into form. And now for the actual modelling ; by a deft management of steel tools of various shapes he cuts and scrapes the surface into the ideal which he has designed, and perhaps modelled, before the vase was made. Here it may be mentioned that a new name for this work is "Sculptured Glass" ; it has been given to distinguish high-class work from the common market cameo of the shops, which is often only a white paste painted on the glass. Expressive, however, as the new name is, of the artistic qualities of cameo, it yet fails to give the colour ; and perhaps a better name would be "Sculptured Cameo Glass." Although we have now seen our vase carved delicately and tastefully, we have not yet done with all the qualities which cameo may have. The work from the tool gives the ground, and, in fact, all the vase a dead marble-like surface which is very nice in itself, but we may, as taste decides, leave it so, or we can polish both figures and ground ; or, best of all, we may leave the figures and ornament with the granular surface and polish the ground, which not only gives beauty by contrast of surface, but the polishing gives its full depth and transparency to the ground.

Cameo glass must always be a difficult, and, to a great extent, costly production, being almost entirely hand work. The greatest care is necessary, not only because no alteration can be made, but also because of the fragile nature of the material; a single false touch ruining the work of months.

Before Mr. John Northwood commenced his copy of the Portland vase, he had engraved a very beautiful vase in crystal glass with a large border from the Panthenic Frieze. Sir Benjamin Stone bought this, and it is now in the Birmingham Museum, so that he was thoroughly experienced in deep engraving.

The late Mr. Philip Pargeter, who was advancing every kind of glass art at the Red House Works, Wordsley, in 1875, was of great service to Mr. John Northwood in his endeavour to equal the antique workmen.

It was at the Red House that the difficulties of manufacture were overcome. The actual making of the copy of the Portland vase was done by the late Mr. Daniel Hancox, his blower being Mr. Joseph Worrell. The engraving took Mr. Northwood some three years, and it was done at his etching works in Wordsley.

As I have pointed out, one of the difficulties in glass making is to produce a glass for cameo in which the expansion and contraction of the coatings is equal.

Mr. Northwood, unfortunately, found this in his case, for as the vase reached the polishing stage it was one morning found to be fractured. So that, as in the case of the original, clever joining has had to be resorted to. The vase is now in the possession of Mr. Philip J. Pargeter, of the Heath, Stourbridge. I should like to say of Mr. Northwood, that I ever found him to be ready to help in any scheme for the advancement of art, either by his own personal advice or by his purse.

Development of Cameo Glass Cutting.

After completing his copy of the Portland vase, and exhibiting it at the Paris Exhibition in 1878, Mr. Northwood did many original works in the same material ; notably the Pegasus vase for Messrs. Webb & Sons, of the Dennis Works.* This vase is noteworthy, because important parts of the work are here actually carved in the round in the opaque glass. Mr. Tom Hill, I believe, was the maker of this vase.

Another copy of the vase was afterwards made by Mr. Richardson, who had before often stimulated Mr. Northwood to emulate the Portland vase. Mr. Richardson did so much for the glass trade that he was known as the father of it.

No other copies, I believe, have ever been made but these two. Mr. Richardson did some beautiful original vases. Much excellent work in glass cameo has been executed at the Dennis Works by well-known cameo workers, who have produced vases of large size and beautiful design.

The use of the art schools of this country has at times been questioned, but Mr. John Northwood and most of the others I have mentioned received their art education at the local art schools.

About the year 1889 Messrs. Frederick Carder and William Northwood took high honours in the national competition at South Kensington, the first receiving a silver medal for a small vase, and then a gold medal for a large vase of the "Muses," and the latter a bronze medal for a beautiful plaque. Since then much good work in cameo design has been done by the art students of the various local schools.

Mr. John Northwood, Jun., has been for some years past working on a lovely plaque, as a labour of love—Aphrodite—but sad to say he had the misfortune, when nearing completion, to break his work into fragments.† This is what may well be called one of the tragedies of glass cameo.

Mr. Silvers Williams-Thomas, of the firm of Messrs. Stevens & Williams (with whom Mr. John Northwood was for some years connected), speaking to art students, said that he saw no reason why the art of cameo glass should not be carried further than is done at the present time. He suggested that a richer effect could be obtained if a thicker white casing were used ; for then high-relief figures could be carved over the low-relief background. I made a sketch of this suggestion which you will find among the photographs of cameo from various houses in the district. I wish to mention Messrs. Stuart & Sons, too, as having helped forward and advanced the art of the district.

There are a number of artistic sides to glass manufacture and decoration, but cameo undoubtedly is the art in which it is possible to reach the very highest artistic excellence in glass.

It is surprising, when one remembers how lately the art has been re-invented, that there has not been more interest taken in the matter by our great artists. One can but think what splendid work would be done if such classic geniuses as Alma-Tadema, R.A., E. J. Poynter R.A., and others, were to show their interest in this revival of an antique art ; for in doing this they would call the attention of the moneyed amateurs and connoisseurs who alone can stimulate the growth of the highest artistic work.

It may be said, with truth, that no more noble ornament can be conceived in a room than a fine, well-designed, and artistically executed cameo vase ; beautiful in form, in colour, and in detail, and at the same time having a gem-like quality which is truly precious.

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* An illustration and descriptive account of the vase was given in The Pottery Gazette for August last, p. 939.

† An illustration of this plaque, and an account of the accident to it, were given in The Pottery Gazette for June last, p. 693.

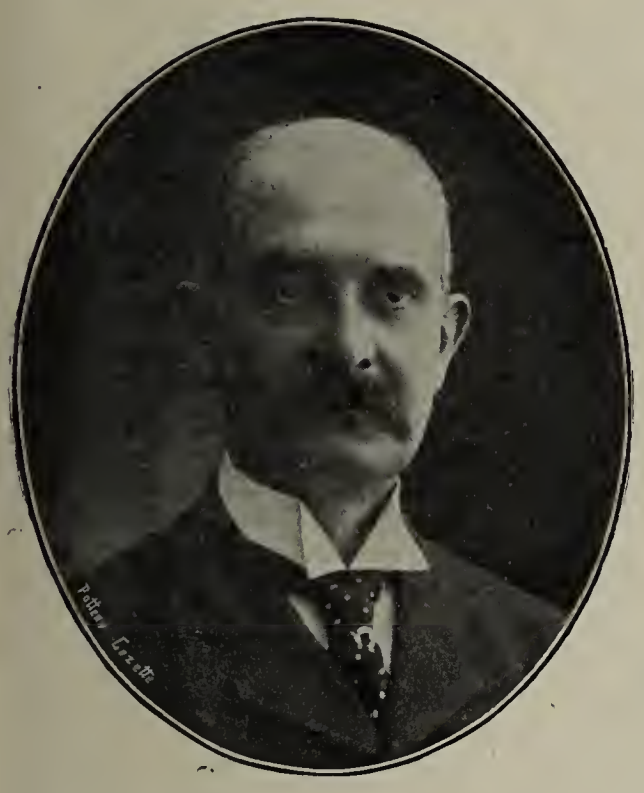
The aim, so far, has been to rival the Portland vase, yet we must not think that because it is the finest antique glass cameo left us, that it was by any means the best that was produced in antique times. It must be remembered that fragments of what appear to be vases of large size, and with details of great beauty, sculptured in cameo, have been found, and when we also consider the almost fabulous prices which are mentioned in history as being given for single objects of this art, we feel that high as the Portland vase is in style and execution if we could see some of the larger works of the same age we should indeed be astonished.

Workers in cameo have every inducement for continued effort so far, they have had a great measure of success, and they have almost entirely overcome the technical difficulties of the manufacture. Art education is advancing in this country, as it is in America and our colonies, and the art loving public of the near future will surely appreciate true cameo in its classic renaissance.

FAMILIAR FACES IN THE POTTERY TRADES.

MR. R. W. YOUNG.

WITHIN the past few days the "ambassadors of commerce" of the Potteries have selected as their new president—president, that is to say, of the North Staffordshire branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association—a gentleman who is universally respected in the potting trade, in the person of Mr. Robert Williams Young, one of the controllers of the extensive firm of Messrs. J. and G. Meakin, of the Eastwood and Eagle Potteries, Hanley. Of course, the vast majority of the commercial travellers of the district are associated with the staple trade, and when the office of president recently fell vacant through the regretted retirement of Mr. John Newton, of Burslem, the members expressed a general wish that his successor should be a gentleman connected with one of the principal firms engaged in the potting industry. In choosing Mr. Young the members have honoured themselves, and, at the same time, have given an opportunity to one of the keenest business gentlemen the trade possesses, of showing, by his acceptance of the presidency, his good-will towards a large and deserving body of men, upon whose labours the welfare of the trade to no small extent depends. Mr. Young is a Staffordshire man by adoption, but not by birth. He was born in the Metropolis on April 5, 1852. His father was the deputy chairman of Inland Revenue, and Mr. Young himself commenced his commercial career by becoming associated with an American banking business. He forged the first link of his connection with North Staffordshire when, in September, 1881, he married Miss Annie Frances Meakin, daughter of the late Mr. George Meakin. A few years afterwards Mr. James Meakin died, and Mr. George Meakin finding the task of conducting a rapidly developing business single handed to be rather a heavy one, induced Mr. Young to give up his profession and to enter the potting trade. Twenty-two years ago, therefore, Mr. Young came to the Potteries, and since then he has taken a leading part in the great extensions the firm has made. Though having no knowledge, when first he came to North Staffordshire, of the manufacturing side of the trade, he was well acquainted with the general merchanting business, and was familiar with the conditions under which the British export trade in pottery was conducted. His commercial experience was of great value to the firm in establishing themselves in the American and Colonial markets which are to-day the firm's special concern. When he first joined the business, Messrs. Meakin only conducted one manufactory—the Eagle Pottery—but about the time of the death of Mr. Charles Meakin, who owned the Eastwood Pottery, the latter works was also taken over. Since then the whole place has been practically rebuilt, and whereas, twenty years ago, the firm made nothing but white ware, to-day they make every variety of decorated ware. It can be safely asserted that Messrs. Meakin, at the present time, are among the largest firms of pottery manufacturers in North Staffordshire.



MR. R. W. YOUNG.
(Photo. by Hobart & Co., Wolverhampton)

For a period of ten years, Mr. Young was the President of the Staffordshire Potteries Manufacturers' Association. He held that position during a most troublous time, for it was during his chairmanship that the critics of the trade commenced their anti-lead campaign, and special rules of a stringent character were introduced. In his official capacity, Mr. Young was called upon to take an active part in the lead poisoning controversy, and in the defence of the manufacturers against the attacks made upon them. When he retired four or five years ago, the Association found it no easy task to select a successor with the same keen insight and broad grasp of business matters as Mr. Young possessed, but an excellent successor was eventually chosen in Mr. J. C. Bailey, of Doultons, Ltd., who still guides the affairs of the Association. Mr. Young was a member of the old Arbitration Board, which it is now proposed to revive, and it is interesting to note that the proposal to resuscitate this authority has his cordial support, because, as he points out, the Board provides a way of settling all disputes between masters and men without any recourse to a stoppage of work. Like his brother-in-law, Mr. Geo. Elliot Meakin, Mr. Young lives at Stafford, and comes up from his residence, "The Hough," to the Potteries every day. Among the commercial travellers he will be quite "at home," for he has himself travelled a great deal on the Continent and in America, in the interests of the firm.

The Exports of Austria-Hungary, during the first nine months of last year included 57,423 metric tons of earthenware, valued at £923,583 (including 120,869 kilos of porcelain, valued at £688,500); 110,244,100 kilos of china clay, valued at £160,791; and 48,087 metric tons of hollow glassware, valued at £1,142,833.

The Glass-Maker's Son.—Beau Nash's father was a partner in a glass business at Swansea. The Duchess of Marlborough once twitted the famous dandy with the obscurity of his birth. "Madam," replied Nash, "I seldom mention my father in company, not because I have any reason to be ashamed of him, but because he has some reason to be ashamed of me."

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SUGGESTIONS FOR A CANADIAN CLAY-WORKING SCHOOL.*

(*Concluded from page* 1425, *Vol.* xxxii.)

THE function of the clayworker's school is now fairly before us. If the status of clay manufacture is to be improved and put where it belongs, it can only be done by a bringing into the industry men who more fully and clearly understand these sciences, and the way in which these sciences control clayworking operations. And the only way to get such men is to train them for their future work. They are not to be had in any considerable number, either in the industry or out of it. Hence, to increase the supply we must make it for ourselves.

Practical men have learned much about clays and clay-working, but they have so far chiefly learned in spite of obstacles, and without the aid of scientific training. The function of the school is to show the "Why" as well as the "How" of clay manufacture. Anyone can learn to do it then in a given way, and so long as conditions are made the same, can get fairly good results. But the untrained clay-worker cannot, with safety, apply the experience gained in one place in another, because he cannot allow for the effect of to help the clay industry ?

The question may be asked—Why do we not bring into the clay industries young engineers and young chemists who have studied in the existing schools of technology ? They all study the same list of sciences given above. If a knowledge of these sciences is all that is needed, why not bring them in to help the clay industry ?

This is a pertinent question. Without doubt, such a step could be taken with great benefit. If there were no better way, this plan should be carried out. But the present connection between clay-working, chemistry and engineering, as these subjects are usually taught, is not very clearly discernible. Scientists do not deny the connection, but they have not the necessary familiarity with the industry to enable them to draw illustrations from it, or to attempt to explain its problems. Comparatively few men have originality and power to think deeply into new fields. Hence, a chemist must, as a rule, be helped in applying his chemistry to any new industry, whether it be mining, metallurgy, weaving, or dyeing, or clay-working. Especially is this true in the beginning of each young chemist's work. He applies chemical reasoning with confidence to industrial work, only when he has been shown their very close and vital relation.

There is no question, then, but that training in what the clay industries have done and are doing is just as necessary to the success of a clayworker's school as a special training in mining is necessary in a mining school. There is, however, some diversity of ideas among clay-workers as to what kind of a school is needed. In brief, there are three types in existence—the Trade School, the Art School, and the Technical School. Each has its advantages and its limitations.

In Lauban, Germany, and Svedala, Sweden, they have the best advantage of high-grade trade schools for brickmakers. They operate but a limited part of the year—the winter, when the industry is most inactive. They are supported partly by the municipality, partly by the government bureau of education, partly by the fees of the pupils. They use a considerable part of the time of the pupils in actual brickmaking operations. At Svedala, at least, they make and sell bricks, having a skeleton force of regular hands to run the plant, which force is filled in with scholars from day to day, each man working at different positions in rotation. They study part of each day and work a part. The brick plant comprises as many kinds of machines and as many kinds of kilns as can conveniently be used, so that the men may practise on all methods. The period of school is short—a few months in the winter for one year, or at most two seasons.

The output of the trade school is designed to be good mechanics and artisans. Its maximum product would scarcely exceed the foreman grade, and the training is not designed to make superintendents and masters.

There are a number of schools, both in Germany and other foreign countries, as well as in America, where a high-grade training is given in pottery work, especially the modelling, mould-making, drawing, painting and designing ; but also including instruction in the glazing, firing and a limited amount of theoretical work in mathematics, chemistry, and physics. The typical school of this sort is at Bunzlau, Germany, and is under the able direction of Mr. Pukall, a most accomplished ceramic chemist.

The produce of this class of schools at their best is the superintendent of a pottery plant, but they are much more likely to land men in positions as artists or department foremen. There is no engineering training as such, in their courses, and while they make highly competent men in shops and potteries, men of great personal activity in doing things themselves, they cannot in the nature of the case lead to positions of great technical and financial responsibility.

This type of school in clay-working treats the subject as indicated in the earlier portion of this paper—i.e., as a branch of chemical engineering. It devotes not more than 25 to 35 per cent. of its time to specifically clay-working subjects—the other 65 or 75 per cent. is devoted to a good stiff drill in sound engineering—to mathematics, physics, chemistry, drafting, surveying, designing, mechanics, geology and similar hard mental labour. Schools with such solid courses of study exist at the Ohio State University, and the University of Illinois, and schools with general cultural subjects, largely replacing engineering, exist at the New York and New Jersey State Schools of Clay-working and Ceramics at Alfred, N.Y., and New Brunswick, N.J., respectively. In England, the training given at Victoria Institute, Tunstall, is also of this grade, being deficient in engineering phases. In Germany, the Technische Hoche-Schule at Coethen, is more akin to the work of the best American schools than the English school is, and gives strong sound engineering training so far as it goes.

And here let me tender my advice—advice born of experience in this work and actuated by a strong desire to see the movement for ceramic education succeed and become more vigorous as the years go on.

My recommendation is—start your school on the highest possible plane—do not be led by any short-sighted policy, or by the hope of quicker returns, into establishing a school of any less grade than a thorough four-year engineering course. Furthermore, do not make the mistake of establishing your school under the auspices of any but the strongest and best equipped institutions. You have technical and engineering schools in Canada worthy of a place among the best that the world affords. In these schools you can find young men preparing for civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering, for mining and metallurgy, and for architecture. In the profession which you represent, the profession which as the forests dwindle is destined to supply the construction materials for the world—which even now in its infancy, so to speak, produces a valuation surpassed only slightly by that of the utilitarian metals (exclusive of silver and gold)—is your profession to be satisfied with a less rigorous or less fundamental training than that given to the miner of iron or the melter of lead ?

* An Address by Prof. Edward Orton, delivered before the Convention of the Canadian Clay Products' Manufacturers, at Toronto.

And again, let me advise that you select for the director of such a school a clay-worker. Do not select anyone who represents the school side only—a university man whose life has been spent in the school-room and library. Go out into the industry and find some man who has a good technical education—who has acquired a good sound knowledge of at least one clay industry—who is on his feet in this speciality, and who knows what clay-workers are doing, thinking, and needing. Such a man will, if he have the spirit of a teacher, soon repair the gaps in his own knowledge and adjust himself to the duties of a professional chair. He is infinitely more likely to succeed than any scholar who has grown up in the atmosphere of the university. No one but a clay-worker can instil the clay-worker's spirit into young men.

These reasons all gather strength and conviction when one has familiarity with the results which four years of hard drilling yield to the average raw youth received by us. And this brings me to the point—What may we properly expect from a graduate of a four-year technical course ?

There are perhaps some radical, or at least some frequent misconceptions on this topic. I find employers, as a rule, have a foggy and often erroneous idea of what a young graduate from a technical school should be called upon to do.

Schools are for two purposes—First, to impart knowledge ; second, to train the judgment. The first they can accomplish much better than the second. The mind of the student is so fully occupied with grasping the new truths that are put before him, and practising himself in their use, that in the very nature of the case he cannot progress far in the process of ripening his judgment.

The feature of responsibility, the most powerful factor in maturing the judgment, is necessarily largely absent from college exercises. The student is thus likely to emerge from his training period with much knowledge stored away in his head, but with an unformed judgment. He is not an engineer merely because he carries the university degree. He becomes an engineer only when he unites knowledge and judgment. Practice, experience, and responsibility are necessary to convert the raw young collegian into a sound and dependable engineer. The school receives its crude material as pig-iron. It makes it into steel. But experience is the smith that forges this steel and tempers it to meet the duties which are awaiting it.

I sound this note of warning that you, as clay-workers, may not expect the impossible from your young graduates. The boys may know a good many things that you do not—they probably will—at least they ought to. But it does not for a moment follow that their judgment can replace yours in the plant. It may, after a time, if the boy continues studious, works hard and develops his judgment by continual use. But the green college graduate is not very much different, so far as his usefulness or power in your business is concerned, from any other young greenhorn. The chief difference is in the quality of the raw material—one is steel now, waiting for the tempering, while the other is still pig-iron, and likely to remain as such.

Besides this whole question of what the school can do for you, there is another—closely related, but still distinct. Assuming that you are by this time converted to the idea that technical education is needed by the clay industry—in your own factory for instance. Assuming that you also agree with me that you want your young clay-workers to have only the best kind of an education that can be given them, and that your school must be of the most thorough type. Assuming that you have been thoroughly disillusionised as to what to expect from the product of the school when it first comes into your factory, and that you now see that you must really assume in some degree, the position of teacher to him instead of his being a teacher to you, and that what he becomes in your business really depends largely on the tact and skill with which you use him and develop him. Assuming that all these things are understood and agreed upon, there is still one other important thing to consider.

If you Canadian clay-workers are going to set up a successful technical school for your industry, you must first realise that it is not wholly a question of what the school can do for you, but also a question of what you can do for it. If the school succeeds, it will only be by mutual co-operation of clay-workers and teachers. The school will need your constant help and support in two ways. First, in placing its graduates in places where they can at once begin to acquire the experience which alone is able to ripen their judgment and make them useful. This entails a sacrifice upon your part. You may not particularly need a young man, but it should be your pleasure to make a chance for him if you can. Even for the short three months of the summer vacation, they need the chance to do work and see work done. It will not often be profitable for you to use them for a short-time engagement, but that is not the question. The question is what the boy needs. You must all of you adopt as a principle, the practice of helping your ceramic engineers to get their feet on the ground by contact with actualities—whether you personally expect to realise anything from their services later or not. You must expect to "cast your bread upon the waters," and have faith that it will be richly returned to you "after many days." If you approach this matter in the broad spirit of optimism and altruism actuated by a sincere desire to make the clay industries of Canada the best in the world, and can sufficiently submerge for the time your own petty personal interests for the broader, bigger, higher interests of your profession as a whole, then you will find a way easily enough to take these young colts fresh from the stock farms and teach them their paces in the great speedway of life.

Besides this, there is another requirement—that you show yourselves willing to aid the teachers in your technical schools in securing their data, to help them in determining the principles and laws of your business to show them the troubles which beset the industry. How can the teacher know these things, except as you help him to see them. He cannot be an expert in all branches of the clay industry. He should be in one. But the expert knowledge which he needs to give the boys has not found its way into books as yet. Physics and chemistry he can teach. There have been scholars devoting their lives to those subjects for the last 200 years. But in clay-working there is no ancient literature to consult, except on the historic, or artistic side. Scientists have, as a rule, passed it by. There are only a few who are devoting their lives to solving its problems.

Further, the better knowledge of all engineering and scientific industries comes from the industries themselves. The investigator, working alone in his laboratory, is not able to reproduce the conditions which surround the work in the factory or the kiln. His conclusions are unsafe until they have been carefully tested in practice.

Therefore, I assert that only by intimate and constant contact with plants working under regular trade conditions can the chemical engineer of the clay industry, reach the truth about the problems of the clay industry and give guidance as to their solution.

And here comes in to interfere and hold back, that miserable relic of barbarism—Trade Secrecy. Do we find rival firms discussing ways and means of improving the known defects of their wares ? By no means. They talk about the weather, or the races, or anything else. Will one brick-maker willingly let another know what his fuel costs per thousand ? Not if he can help it. Potters carry their glaze and body mixtures in their little memorandum books,

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securely in their inside vest pockets, apparently unconscious that each of them is making pretty much the same thing as his neighbour, and that his recipe cannot fluctuate outside of rather narrow limits, or the ware would be bad. And so the game goes endlessly on. Each one of us goes limping and halting through life, making poor ware and little money, because forsooth, he fears some one else may possibly profit more than he by the adoption of publicity.

If you undertake to establish a technical school, you ought, each and every one of you, to mentally obligate yourselves to give to that school, or to its professors and directors, every bit of data which you yourselves have or which they can show you how to find out. If these conditions can be brought about—the professors working hard to give the boys the facts and to develop their reasoning power, and you co-operating with the professors to prepare data—then you Canadian clay-workers will in truth soon lead the world.

Any body of men who set themselves with enthusiasm to co-operate towards such noble and high-minded ends become irresistible in their progress. There has been less of this kind of co-operation in clay manufacture, perhaps, than in most other industries. The strides of the iron and steel industries in the United States which have astounded the world in the last quarter of a century are easily explained when we consult the literature of the American Institute of Mining Engineers to see how completely they have forgotten about trade secrecy.

And now, in conclusion, let me recapitulate the points of this talk :

1st. Clay-working has been shown to have a strictly scientific basis, in which engineering methods and chemical principles are of equal importance.

2nd. It opens itself to the assistance of school methods and laboratory investigation, as well as the other mineral industries, mining and metallurgy, which have long since received recognition in the curricula of engineering schools.

3rd. It is not now using the aids of science in any large degree for the personnel of the present superintendents and owners of clay plants, includes relatively few technically educated men, and practically none who have had the training of a ceramic school.

4th. Ceramic schools of high grade have been established elsewhere, and have been in successful operation for ten years or more, and their graduates have won brilliant success in many industries, and have shown their power to grasp and overcome the difficulties which they meet.

5th. The ceramic graduate is not able, as he leaves school, to stand alone, and needs kind and encouraging treatment until he begins to acquire the poise which comes of experience.

6th. If given this kind of treatment, a year or two makes him a useful and often an invaluable man—one whose horizon is wider and whose grasp is stronger than the product of any other kind of training.

7th. The establishment of a technical school for clay-workers in Canada, especially if brought about by the influence of this body, should commit you, one and all, to a broad policy of publicity and the free interchange of data.

8th. If, in order to make this school a success, you adopt this policy, you will soon find that the value of the school has become secondary to the broader advantages of freer intercourse and a more helpful spirit between manufacturers. In short, you Canadian clay-workers will find that in embracing the cause of science and education, you have entertained an angel unawares.

If people travelled as fast on the railroad as they expect to travel in advertising, it would take about 20 minutes to cross the Continent.

THE GAS FIRING OF POTTERY ON THE CONTINENT.

AT an open meeting of the English Ceramic Society at Tunstall, on December 14, Dr. R. L. Seligman, who has made a special study of firing by gas, delivered an interesting address on the subject. Mr. M. L. Solon, president of the Society, was in the chair, and in introducing Dr. Seligman as a high authority on the question, said gas firing was sure to be adopted here some time. Dr. Seligman, in opening, said he had no wish to teach them anything, he had come to learn from them. His chief object was to ask them a question. He wanted to know why it was that gas firing had made such little headway in Staffordshire, and other parts of England where ceramic work had found its centres. He wanted to know what was the mystic power which allowed the "direct fire" to rise phœnix-like from its own ashes, and defying all theory, defying even the practical results obtained in other countries but their own, to retain its sway over so many of their industries. He wanted them, if they could, to persuade him that this sway was not rather a tyranny, and that their art was not bowing its neck beneath a galling yoke where it should be resting on the willing shoulders of a trusted servant.

He proposed to run rapidly over some of the main features of gas firing as compared with direct firing, and then to describe some of the gas-fired kilns and ovens which had been successfully applied to their art elsewhere. In considering the utilisation of gas fuel, the most interesting point was the reduction of fuel consumption. The manipulation of a gas-jet was so much simpler than the correct stoking of a direct fire that much greater accuracy could be demanded of the fireman. Secondly, the regular rise and fall of temperature in the oven and the freedom of the flames from ash and dust entailed a great diminution in the breakage. The loss of saggers, for instance, might be reduced 50 per cent. by the adoption of gas-firing. No great economy, however, could be attained by the introduction of gaseous firing unless steps could be taken to recover the heat lost in the escaping products of combustion. This might amount to close on 60 per cent. of the fuel supplied to the kiln. If, however, instead of using this waste heat for heating the air, it was employed for "smoking" and heating up the ware which was about to be fired, a further reduction in fuel consumption might be attained. In addition, it was possible by the adoption of gas firing to utilise the heat left in the ware when the fires were drawn. This was effected by passing the air required for combustion over the cooling ware. By the adoption of this device the fuel consumption might be reduced by almost 66 per cent. and the efficiency raised to over 60 per cent. Such results as these were actually attained by the furnaces in use on the Continent. They could get firebricks on the Continent which would stand up where no English firebricks he knew would stand, and these were always fired by gas, but he thought in Germany they were more careful in the manipulation of the clay—they had not such good clay as they had here in England to start with—but they studied their mixes. In fact, they put not so much gas into the bricks as brains. He thought if they put more knowledge into the clay in England they would get better results probably than they could get anywhere on the Continent.

In seconding a vote of thanks to the Doctor, Mr. W. Jackson did not think Dr. Seligman had mentioned any furnace in Germany used for firing earthenware, but Dr. Seligman said he had referred to the Mendheim furnace, which was used for this purpose. Mr. A. F. Wenger said the Mendheim furnace was used at several works on the Continent for earthenware. It had been used for biscuit and glost for many years by one firm he knew. The vote was heartily accorded, and acknowledged by Dr. Seligman.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

J. Hone & Son have opened a glass and china business at 49, New-road, Woolwich, S.E.

Mr. J. Fonseca, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 249, Old Kent-road, S.E.

Marsh & Co., furnishers, have opened a new china and glass department at 380, Edgware-road, W.

Mr. C. Binns, glass and china dealer, has relinquished the business at 597, Lea Bridge-road, Leyton, E.

Haddock & Co., china and glass dealers, have acquired the premises 100, Upper Grange-road, Bermondsey, S.E.

W. & A. Barrington, china and glass merchants, have opened new premises at 106, Wood-street, Walthamstow.

Hunt & Mills, china and glass merchants, have relinquished the business at 138, Holland Park-avenue, Notting Hill, W.

Thos. Webb & Sons, Australian merchants, have removed their London offices from 117, Holborn, E.C., to 39, Hatton-garden, E.C.

Mr. H. Rawlings, china and glass merchant, has recently opened premises at 2, Portman-market, Church-street, Marylebone, W.

Mrs. M. E. Bale, of the China Depôt, High-street, Bideford, died on December 2 at the advanced age of 93 years. Mrs. Bale had one of the oldest established businesses in the West of England.

Mr. Hyman Abraham Abrahams, formerly of the firm of Hyman A. Abrahams & Sons, fancy goods importers, Houndsditch, who died on November 6, aged seventy-three, left estate valued at £68,283.

Present from the Potteries.—The Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows being on a visit to the Potteries on Dec. 7, was presented, on behalf of the district with a handsome Minton tea service as a souvenir of his visit.

The Patents and Designs Act.—At the instance of their central association the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country will consider at their forthcoming meetings the best means of applying the provisions of the Patents and Designs Act, 1907.

A Graceful Recognition.—Dr. J. W. Mellor, Mr. Bernard Moore, Mr. Wm. Burton and Mr. J. Rawdon Smith, have been elected honorary members of the English China Manufacturers Association in recognition of their valuable services in the interests of the china industry.

Art Students at Play.—The art students of the Potteries held the first of what is hoped will be a series of fancy dress balls at the School of Art, Hanley, on December 20. Several former students of the school, who are now studying at the Royal College of Art, London, were present.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—Two china, glass and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during the month of November last. The figure was the same as in the corresponding month of last year. The record for 1907 so far is much worse than that of 1906.

Cauldon, Limited (Brown-Westhead, Moore & Co.), Stoke-on-Trent, have removed to their new show-rooms, 34, Holborn-viaduct, E.C., where they are making a good display of samples of all their principal lines. Their rooms overlook Holborn-circus and the end of Holborn-viaduct.

The "Tonindustrie-Kalendar, 1908," the Christmas gift of the "Tonindustrie-Zeitung" of Berlin, is issued in three parts: an artistically got up diary for 1908, a directory of the German pottery and allied trades, and a small hand-book of technical notes and tables. Altogether it forms a serviceable compendium of trade information.

Smokeless Potteries.—At a meeting of the Town Council at Hanley on Dec. 10, Mr. Alderman O'Keefe, in moving the minutes of the Sanitary Committee, referred to the great progress made in the gas fires of the potting ovens in the district, and declared there was no doubt now that they were within reasonable distance of a smokeless Potteries.

Johnson & Rae, Ltd.—Registered capital, £3,000 in £1 shares. Objects: To take over (1) business of costumiers, furriers, and drapers, carried on at 122, Bold-street, Liverpool, as Johnson & Rae, and (2) business of china and glass merchant carried on at 60, Renshaw-street, Liverpool, as Johnson. Registered office, 122, Bold-street, Liverpool.

Hygienic Syphon Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £30,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with J. G. Henrich, F. Lorang and W. Matt, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in syphons, bottles, jars and receptacles for mineral waters and other liquids, gases, &c. Registered office, 11, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

In Memoriam.—Two stained glass windows have been placed in Wordsley Parish Church by Messrs. W. H. & H. G. Richardson to the memory of their sister, the late Miss Martha Haden Richardson. The subjects are "The Light of the World" and the "Rock of Ages." The work has been most creditably executed by Mr. Evans, of West Bromwich.

Griffiths' Patent Bottle Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £200, in £1 shares. Objects: To acquire from Major-General C. J. Griffiths, of 11, Sinclair-road, Kensington, and turn to account the benefit of certain existing inventions relating to improvements in the stoppering of bottles to prevent fraudulent refilling, and to adopt an agreement with the said vendor.

L. C. C. Contracts Terminated.—The stores committee of the L.C.C. has advised the termination of the contracts for earthenware slants, vases, and glass bottles, made with Kirkhams, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; E. Breffit & Co., Ltd., 83, Upper Thames-street, E.C., and Finney Bros., St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell, E.C. The reason given is "To revise specification."

Dunn Bennett & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £11,000, in £10 shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at the Royal Victoria Pottery, Burslem, by Thomas W. Bennett as Dunn Bennett & Co., and to carry on the business of manufacturers and decorators of and dealers in china, porcelain, earthenware, stoneware, terra cotta, parian, marble, and other goods, &c. Registered office, Royal Victoria Pottery, Liverpool-road, Burslem, Staffs.

Accident at Glass Works.—On December 9 a very unusual accident occurred at Messrs. Cannington & Shaw's glass bottle works, St. Helens. A large pot, round which a number of men and boys were working, burst, and the molten metal set the place on fire. Several workmen had the greatest difficulty in escaping in time, but fortunately no lives were lost. Some 150 men and boys are thrown idle by the accident, and the loss and damage are estimated at about £300.

Bullers, Ltd.—The report for the year ended July 31, 1907, states that, after paying directors' fees and managing directors' salaries, there is a profit of £22,661, which, with £1,085 brought forward, makes £23,747. The interest on the preference shares, £7,500, and dividends of 7½ per cent. on the ordinary shares, £11,250, have been paid, leaving a balance of £4,997. The directors propose to pay a further 2½ per cent. on the ordinary shares, making 10 per cent. in all, and to carry forward the balance, £1,247.

Company Liens Registered.—Trerice China Clay Company, Ltd., St. Austell, Cornwall.—Lien registered for

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£100 5 per cent. debenture, part of £2,500; amount previously issued, £2,100; charged on assets, business, and goodwill.——Cauldon (Brown-Westhead, Moore & Co.), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—Lien registered for £1,200 5 per cent. debentures, part of £40,000; amount previously issued, £30,000; charged on assets, copyhold lands, and effects.——Deal Potteries, Ltd.—A debenture, to secure £100, charged on the company's property, present and future, has been registered.

The Dorset Clay Industry.—Lady Baker, of Ranston, is engaged in compiling a list of all the clay pits and brickyards in Dorset in order to have the clays analysed with the object of tabulating their various tints and capacities. Her ladyship has set on foot a movement for the encouragement of modelling among the Dorset peasantry, in order to counteract the attractions of the towns. She thinks that more general use might be made of the many beautifully tinted clays of the county for ecclesiastical and other work, in which the peasantry might be profitably employed in their spare time.

Flaxman's Grave.—Mr. Algernon Ashton, writing from St. John's Wood, says:—"Happening to be passing the old, long since disused burial grounds of St. Pancras and St. Giles last Friday afternoon, I thought I would go and have a look at the grave of John Flaxman, and see in what sort of a condition it was, remembering that some sixteen years ago I caused the resting place of England's greatest sculptor to be restored. Imagine my dismay to find Flaxman's tomb in a far worse state than it ever was before! Not a word of the long inscription could be deciphered, and the neglect of the whole family burial place was simply awful. What can the descendants of the illustrious John Flaxman be thinking about?"

Tariff Reform and the Glass Trade.—At the end of November, at the Holland-street Ragged School, Ancoats, a political meeting was held, at which Mr. J. Saxon Mills gave an address on the decay of the glass trade and its remedy. He said that there had been a great reduction of employment in the glass trade nationally. The importation of glass had gone up from £995,000 worth in 1871 to £2,085,000 worth in 1890, and to £3,500,000 in 1902 6. The exports from Great Britain for 1902-6 was only £1,119,000 worth, and this was mainly to the Colonies. The reason the German manufacturer was able to put on the British markets glass articles more cheaply than the home manufacturer was that the German, being secure in his own market, could produce on a much bigger scale.

Artistic Pottery is admired and appreciated by the devotees of all the arts. The North Staffordshire District Choral Society were inspired by this knowledge in their choice of a present for Sir Charles Santley. The society decided to present the veteran singer with a practical token of the respect and admiration entertained for him in the Potteries, and during his recent visit to Hanley they presented him with a pair of Wedgwood vases in blue jasper. In thanking them for their beautiful present, Sir Charles made the pleasing statement that ever since he could remember he had felt a great admiration for Wedgwood ware, and as soon as he saw the vases he recognised Flaxman's work. He had a good knowledge of that famous sculptor's work and had a collection of his productions at his own home.

"Richardson Hall," Wordsley.—It will be remembered that Mr. William Haden Richardson, of the City Glass Works, Glasgow, purchased what was formerly the Drill Hall at Wordsley. After extensive alterations and renovations Mr. Richardson presented the building as a public hall, in memory of his sister Miss Martha Haden Richardson, who was such a benefactress to the neighbourhood. The hall was formally opened on Monday, December 16, by a large gathering of the residents, and a high-class concert. Mr. W. H. Stuart presided. A richly illuminated address of thanks to the donor had been prepared, and in the absence of Mr. W. H. Richardson it was received on his behalf by his nephew, Mr. Benjamin Richardson, who suitably returned thanks in his uncle's name. General appreciation is expressed throughout the district at Mr. Richardson's munificent gift.

The Buyers' Provident Association.—The members held their second annual Bohemian concert at the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, last month. Mr. W. W. Wood, buyer in the china and glass department of Messrs. Whiteley, Ltd., and the president of the Association, was in the chair. The concert was in every sense a success. The band of H.M. Grenadiers and a number of well-known artists appeared. In acknowledging a vote of thanks accorded to him, the Chairman referred to the great value of the Association and paid a tribute to the work of the committee—Mr. J. W. Medlicott, Mr. W. Skilton, and Mr. A. J. Prickett, secretary—who were responsible for the arrangements for the concert. A handsome amount has been contributed to the funds by the concert. Information respecting the Association may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. Algernon J. Prickett, at the offices, 6, Thavies Inn, Holborn-circus, E.C.

The Late Lord Kelvin.—Mr. George Woodall, the eminent glass cameo engraver at the Dennis Works of Messrs. Thomas Webb & Son, Ltd., Stourbridge, was favoured by the late Lord Kelvin with several sittings for the purpose of a portrait he was executing in cameo glass. The plaque now hangs in the rooms of the Royal Society at Burlington House, having been purchased by a party of American scientists and presented by them to the Society. The gentlemen saw the plaque when making an inspection of the Dennis Glass Works, and having heard that Lord Kelvin had expressed a wish that the portrait might find its way to one of the societies with which he was connected, they gracefully gave effect to it. The plaque is a perfect specimen of artistic glass work, and Mr. Woodall is to be congratulated on his continued success in the art he loves so well. More than this, the subject of the work, Lord Kelvin himself, expressed his satisfaction with it as a likeness.

Young & Hodgson, Limited, 60, Shoe-lane, London, E.C.—Messrs. Sanderson & Young, of Red Lion-square, Holborn, W.C., have dissolved partnership, and the business in Red Lion-square is now discontinued. Mr. Young, who has acquired the stock, business, and goodwill of the late firm, has joined Mr. F. Hodgson, the well-known manufacturers' agent, and they have promoted a private limited liability company for the purpose of carrying on together the respective businesses hitherto conducted by them separately. They will occupy the show-rooms and warehouses used for Mr. Hodgson's agencies, and have taken an extensive warehouse and additional show-room adjoining, in Shoe-lane. They will, from this date, trade there under the style of Young & Hodgson, Limited, as manufacturers' agents and importers of glass, china, earthenware, and fancy goods. The representative and factoring businesses will be carried on exactly as heretofore, but at one address and under one firm name.

Tariff Reform and Home Industries.—Speaking at Dartford, Kent, on Dec. 4., Mr. George Wyndham, M.P., urged that Tariff Reform was the starting point for all measures of social reform—the provision of adequate national defence and for compassing the unity of the Empire. In support of this he advanced four arguments. The first was that under our existing fiscal system we could not get enough money for national defence and for social reform. The second was that our existing fiscal system was absolutely useless for the purpose of negotiating with foreign powers, and getting fair terms for our goods in

other markets. The third argument was that our fiscal system was useless for accepting the favours which our Colonies had offered to us, and which his Majesty's present advisers refused. The fourth argument was that we must safeguard our home industries. The present fiscal system seemed actually to invite a tax upon our home industries. We needed in this country employment for labour and security for capital. We had no lack of labour or of capital, but labour was here placed under unfair and unfavourable conditions.

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops' Acts, during November was 65, and there was 1 death due to the same cause in the month. In addition to the above, 18 cases of lead poisoning, including 2 deaths, were reported among house painters and plumbers. During the 11 months ending November, 1907, the total number of cases of lead, poisoning was 520, as compared with 577 in the corresponding period of 1906. The total number of deaths in the same months was 24 in 1907, compared with 31 in 1906. In addition there were 158 cases of lead poisoning (including 34 deaths) among house painters and plumbers in the first 11 months of 1907, compared with 163 cases and 32 deaths in the same period of 1906. There were 9 cases of lead poisoning in connection with china and earthenware and 1 death in November last. During the 11 completed months of 1907 there were 95 reported cases from our trades, compared with 98 reported cases in the same 11 months of 1906. There were 9 deaths in the china and earthenware trades in the 11 months of 1907 as compared with 3 deaths in the same period of 1906.

Presentation.—The employees of Price, Powell & Co., of the Stoneware Potteries, Bristol, together with their wives, numbering about 130 in all, were entertained on December 7 at Chivers' Restaurant, and the opportunity was taken to present Mr. and Mrs. J. Harold Price with wedding gifts, consisting of a tea and coffee service, autograph book, and illuminated address from the employees, and a bouquet from their wives. Mr. Alfred N. Price presided, supported by Mr. S. Newell Price, Mr. Arthur N. Price, Dr. Leonard, and other members of the family. When the tables had been cleared, the Chairman said a few words of greeting and reminiscences. Mr. Harry French (representative), in suitable terms, presented the address on behalf of the employees, and was supported by Messrs. Arthur Ray, Frederick Parsons, and J. Woodrow, foremen of the various departments. In acknowledging the presentation, Mr. Price, who was heartily received, said he hardly knew how to thank them for all that had been so admirably expressed by those who had spoken on their behalf. Both he and his wife had received many and costly presents, but if all that had been said was really meant, he would value that presentation more than anything else he had ever received.

Drinking in Factories.—Even those who are not total abstainers are agreed that much evil may arise from systematic drinking in factories and workshops. We have no reason to think that the practice finds much favour in Potteries or glass houses, It certainly is not so prevalent as it was, even amongst glass blowers, who come in contact with intense heat. There was a meeting of manufacturers and others in Birmingham recently with the object of organising a movement for the suppression of drinking clubs in factories. A committee, appointed to investigate the matter, reported that clubs do exist in many factories, for the purpose of getting drink introduced on the premises surreptitiously. The report suggested that employers might arrest the evil by prohibitive rules strictly enforced. The Rector of Birmingham affirmed that girls and women are invited, encouraged, and in some cases coerced to join these clubs. He speaks of weekly subscriptions to them being collected by some one in authority at the factory. This is very sad, and ought to be prevented by the principals. But we do not know of any such practice at potteries, and we hope none exists. We are sure no manufacturers or managers with whom we are acquainted would tolerate such an evil.

The Kaiser at Waring's.—The German Emperor paid us a pretty compliment when, at the conclusion of his "rest cure" in this country, he said "he thought he would almost rather be an English country gentleman than German Emperor." The last day he spent in London was quite a busy one. He went shopping, lunched with some friends, called on others, visited picture galleries, and gave a dinner party. In the course of the day he visited several shops unrecognised by the public, and spent an hour and a half at Waring & Gillow's fine premises in Oxford-street, going through all the departments. Accompanied by Mr. S. J. Waring, managing director, several of the directors, and Mr. Penman, the buyer of the department, His Majesty made a tour of the magnificent porcelain and glass galleries, and expressed his admiration of many of the pieces displayed. It was probably a surprise for him to see some pieces from his own Imperial china factory at Cadinen. It may not be generally known that the Emperor has a china manufactory of his own, and that he takes a very active interest in the management of it. Furthermore, there is a smart shop in one of the leading thoroughfares of Berlin in which the beautiful products of the factory at Cadinen are offered for sale. The name over the shop front is "Hohenzollern." In the course of the visit Messrs. Waring's would discover that their visitor was not a novice in china or glass.

The "Keramic" Musical Society.—On Tuesday evening, December 17, this society gave a concert in the hall of the Doulton Institute, High-street, Lambeth. Decorating the wall there was an exhibition of pictures by the artists, with here and there a piece of embroidery, the work of leisure hours. The subjects included scenes from far and near :—Venice, Bruges, Holland, Cornwall, Germany, and the Home Counties, contributed by such well-known artists as the Misses Barlow, Simmance, Thompson, Gillman, Smallfield, and Francis. Messrs. Pearce, Rowe, Simeon, Dickenson, J. M. Carr, N. S. Carr, F. Davis, Callahan, Goodall, and others. This was the twentieth annual exhibition of holiday sketches by the artists of the Lambeth Art Pottery. These having been examined, the audience enjoyed one of the best concerts ever given by the society, now in its fourteenth year. Mr. H. A. Idle has succeeded Mr. A. B. Cheesman as hon. secretary. Mr. W. Gandy has been honorary conductor throughout, and for the last four or five years Miss B. Whiting has given her valuable services as accompanist. The programme was an ambitious one, the first part mainly orchestral. The second part was, on the other hand, vocal, the choral section giving with great effect several part songs. Pleasing vocal solos were given by Miss Dorothy A. Gandy. Among the audience were Mr. and Mrs. H. Lewis Doulton, Mr. Ronald D. Doulton, Commander and Mrs. Buckland, Mrs. and Miss Hooper, Mr. Eric Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. Orrok M. Doulton, and Dr. Parkin. The last named, at the close of the concert, proposed a vote of thanks to the performers, and very gracefully expressed his appreciation of the efforts made at the Lambeth Pottery to preserve the "artistic atmosphere" that was so dear to the late Sir Henry Doulton, and so valuable and essential in such an industry as that of the Doulton Works.

Proposed Central Pottery School.—At the meeting of the County Education Committee at Stafford on December 21, the following appeared in the minutes of the sub-committee which were then confirmed :—Pursuant to

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minute 1,032 (October, 1907), the resolution of the Joint Advisory Committees recommending the establishment of a Central Pottery school was further considered, and it was resolved: "That, subject to satisfactory provision being made by the clerk of the County Council, under which, in the event of the Federation of the Potteries, the cost shall not ultimately fall on the county, the Education Committee be recommended to make a grant of £200 for the erection of a temporary pottery school on the site near Stoke station, on condition that the remainder of the cost (probably about £250), be provided from private sources." Mr. F. H. Wedgwood in speaking on the subject said, for many years there had been talk of a college in North Staffordshire. It had been before them in various phases, and he had been a consistent supporter of the movement. He spoke because he was the only master potter on the Education Committee, and also because he was interested in secondary education. He spoke in terms of high praise of Dr. Mellor's work. He would be glad if those who had any doubt as to the value of Dr. Mellor's work, and the need for some central building in which to carry on that work, would spare the time to visit North Staffordshire, go round with Dr. Mellor, and see what was being done. They would at once see that they were at present, more pupils than could be housed in the existing accommodation, and also realise that Dr. Mellor was really making history in potting by doing work which had never been done before, and would feel that some expenditure on a central room was absolutely necessary. After comments from other members the minute was approved unanimously.

L.C.C. Glass Contracts.—(Special report.)—At the meeting of the L.C.C. on Dec. 10, the provisional acceptance by the Stores Committee of tenders for the supply of glass ware was brought up for confirmation. Mr. Sanders moved that the item be referred back, in order that the Committee might inquire whether the glass was of British or foreign manufacture, and as to the conditions of labour in the places of manufacture. He mentioned that the cost of the glassware which it was proposed to purchase was £800. It was stated in committee that probably 90 per cent. of the glassware was of British manufacture, but he thought the Council should have more definite information. Mr. Gosling, who seconded, said that no trades unionist could vote for glass being bought which was made in Germany, so bad were the conditions under which it was manufactured. He remarked that the resolution on this subject passed recently by the Council was being ignored by the Stores Committee. Mr. Isidore Salmon, in support of the Stores Committee, said a proposal was made at the last meeting of the Committee to include in existing contracts a provision that glass supplied should be of British manufacture, but that could not legally be done, and the Chairman was quite within his rights in ruling the motion out of order. In the case of the supplies to which Mr. Sanders' resolution referred, tenders were invited a month before the Council passed its resolution. Mr. Salmon went on to state that the table glass would cost 40 per cent. more if tenders were restricted to British firms. Mr. W. E. Mullins said he had spent some months in Germany, and had seen the German glass worker in his home and at his work. Their condition was most miserable. He would consider himself a traitor to the cause of mankind if he did not support the reference back. The motion to refer the tenders for glassware back to the Committee was caried by 44 votes to 15, but an amendment to refer the whole report back to the Committee, in order that similar inquiries might be made as to the origin of other stores, was defeated.

Transfer Printing on Pottery.—Speaking at the annual meeting of the Library Assistants' Association, Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme, of the Patent Office Library, said that he had received a prospectus of a work on "Transfer Printing on Pottery," an invention of great commerical value to this country, generally attributed to Sadler, of Liverpool. But that work, he believed, would show that the invention belonged to Thomas Laurenson, an engraver, whose work, "The Mysteries of Nature and Art," was advertised in a Liverpool newspaper in 1757. No copy of this work was now available. The Liverpool bibliographers were sceptical as to its existence, but there was evidence that a copy was in private hands a few years ago. William Evans' "Art and History of the Pottery Business" was a poorly printed 12mo. (Shelton, 1846), but it was of sufficient importance to bring over some German experts to prove its publication. In this, he believed, they failed. Subsequently a correct account of the work was found in the bibliography of Staffordshire by Rupert Simms, whose name he mentioned with the respect due to one who had turned out work of lasting value under great personal disadvantages. This work, like Laurenson's, was a reprint from a local paper. Evans' work is mainly a collection of receipts from the private notebooks of manufacturers. About twenty years ago or more there were at least three editions of a Book of Ceramic Receipts printed at Hanley, one of which was written in French, presumably for greater security. These were privately hawked about the Potteries at prices ranging from £20 per copy to a more modest figure. There was no trace of any of these works in the British Museum catalogues. From ceramics to glass was a short step. The facts relating to the introduction of glass making from France into this country were first put together by the late Mr. H. S. Grazebrook in his genealogical account of three Huguenot families, published at Stourbridge in 1877. The work was indispensable to a student of English glass making. Again, speaking from a fairly intimate knowledge of the subject, he had often heard it regretted that no catalogue had been compiled of the remains of English mediæval and renaissance stained glass in our churches and cathedrals. But on paying a visit to Mr. Palmer he was shown a single proof copy of such a work compiled by the South Kensington authorities some thirty years ago. A copy has now been made, and he hoped that its publication would be undertaken by some competent archæologist.

A Bristol Glass Vase.—A correspondent ("Nauticus",) writing to a Bristol paper in comment upon a reference to "a fancy opalescent glass bowl of Nailsea make," says:—"There were several very clever glass operatives in our midst before and after 1790, in the employ of different firms. I will mention two or three—Messrs. Stephen Cave & Co., Redcliff Back; Messrs. Elton, Miles & Co., Cheese-lane, St. Philip's; and Messrs. Lucas, Chance, Homer & Coathupe, whose offices and showrooms were in Nicholas street, their works being at Nailsea. At many residences throughout the district specimens of these makes are by no means scarce, but some of local manufacture and cut, and engraved by Mr. William Clarke, glass engraver, living in Temple-street in those days, are rare [Pieces are extant which indicate (though not always with certainty) that glass was made and inscribed at Bristol some time previous to 1790. Mr. Percy Bate has a wine glass inscribed "De Negotie, Anno 1772." The inscription is said to refer to the liberation of the slave Somerset. This is believed to have been made in Bristol Mrs. Rees Price, the well-known connoisseur, has a tall glass sweet-meat in form like, and capable of being used as, a champagne glass. The twisted stem has a double blue thread that runs outside the white network in the stem. This is considered to be Bristol make of a very early date.—EDS. P.G.]

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (BRITISH PRODUCTS) FOR NOVEMBER, 1907.

	Quantities. Month ended November.		Quantities. Eleven Months ended November.		Value. Month ended November.		Value. Eleven Months ended November.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
To Germany .....cwts.	9,138	10,278	65,100	94,917	£6,990	£8,970	£70,656	£82,422
„ France ..... „	3,437	3,338	54,964	49,331	6,138	6,737	55,479	61,165
„ United States of America ..... „	39,002	35,695	438,645	473,425	51,760	49,187	530,243	571,840
„ Brazil ..... „	26,047	18,232	156,439	187,990	11,134	12,862	108 683	140,425
„ Argentine Republic ..... „	48,847	29,104	404,451	318,409	19,855	12,791	166,067	159,261
„ British South Africa ..... „	11,749	7,660	190,221	106,794	8,020	7,542	104,305	78,135
„ British East Indies..... „	21,528	25,528	266,230	278,134	13,052	16,605	146,201	152,650
„ Australia ..... „	26,767	17,101	175,534	197,542	22,633	15,944	167,261	223,529
„ New Zealand ..... „	6,143	8,545	67,723	80,476	8,346	11,075	91,627	114,744
„ Canada ..... „	44,187	35,218	299,287	311,718	29,515	31,109	230.054	278,688
„ Other Countries ..... „	97,301	87,686	876,353	949,188	53,177	61,878	513,407	580,928
Made up as follows:								
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian .. „	2,324	1,931	22,950	19,707	20,537	22,870	160,003	179,490
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles).. „	124,688	136,776	1,217,468	1,455,048	157,125	171,714	1,524,371	1,821,283
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	146	380	1,078	2,474	232	582	2,039	3,084
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	192,819	126,138	1,602,350	1,432,191	34,532	23,031	302,098	269,626
Other Sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	14,169	13,160	151,101	138,504	18,194	16,503	195,472	170,304
Glass.								
To British South Africa.....value £	—	—	—	—	8,704	6,367	83,000	60,960
„ Other Countries ..... „	—	—	—	—	108,694	114,319	1,095,914	1,233,714
Made up as follows:								
Plate Glass .....cwts.	13,551	16,265	129,684	141,148	20,236	27,274	190,137	232,876
Flint Glass ..... „	5,790	5,706	57,735	65,953	18,706	19,599	190,160	200,496
Glass Bottles .....gross	76,522	66,472	701,056	788,083	46,108	42,867	447,581	511,641
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	41,832	36,458	411,737	431,572	32,348	30,946	351,036	349,661

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR NOVEMBER.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian..cwts.	4,301	5,934	46,893	50,796	£21,651	£26,356	£224,833	£244,209
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles).. „	44,318	33,465	309,764	314,115	74,578	71,086	592,234	621,327
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	45	18	6,936	201	93	79	2,467	626
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	29,442	4,896	57,317	73,077	3,347	858	11,061	13,821
Other sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	1,789	1,299	20,766	22,504	3,530	2,278	31,977	29,888
Window and German Sheet Glass „	123,212	120,972	1,267,294	1,178,442	69,119	68,371	711,938	665,948
Plate Glass ..... „	30,160	27,660	364,478	374,051	36,875	34,329	475,870	460,837
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	74,375	71,506	767,061	725,606	110,985	105,688	1,199,924	1,074 256
Glass Bottles.....gross	116,712	127,674	1,336,521	1,340,105	51,716	52,837	562,058	560,402
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	2,116	1,15	38,554	12,125	3,408	1,364	60,412	15,178

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE) FOR NOVEMBER.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ...cwts.	2,950	1,968	17,877	17,714	£12,332	£8,893	£76,608	£84,425
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles) „	1,086	491	7,564	13,684	2,567	988	16,135	28,793
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	1	17	40	32	10	28	174	70
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	—	—	427	570	—	—	910	176
Other sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	6	—	81	127	9	—	400	252
Window and German Sheet Glass „	2,566	534	14,562	7,659	1,135	335	7,431	3,590
Plate Glass ..... „	44	222	3,975	4,251	63	307	5,729	4,851
Flint, plain, cut or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	601	401	14,494	6,250	1,428	1,312	29,662	14,620
Glass Bottles .....gross	4,620	6,068	29,774	53,141	1,917	3,448	16,762	29,930
Glass Manufactures of other sorts ..cwts.	520	761	6,053	7,158	1,682	2,236	15,586	17,827

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EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, October 30 to November 27, 1907. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1906. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to November 27, 1907. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1906. Packages.
To Boston	656	527	6,107	6,5·1
,, New York	725	843	7,076	6,370
,, Baltimore	1,531	1,327	18,368	13,443
,, Philadelphia	149	52	2,240	1,032
,, New Orleans	552	612	6,822	4,346
,, Newport News	68	32	1,827	1,156
,, San Francisco	44	65	556	1,483
,, Portland, Me.	645	537	5,770	1,388
,, Galveston	229	35	2,067	1,377
,, Portland, Or.	—	142	109	968
,, Inland Points	40	202	924	9,879
Total	4,639	4,374	51,866	48,013

POTTERY PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

STATISTICS of the clay-working industries of the United States, published by the U.S. Geological Survey, and received in London during December, furnish the followin particulars :—The pottery industry, which ten or twelve years ago was only of minor importance, reached in the year 1906 a stage in its history which may be regarded as one of considerable magnitude, the value of its products reaching $31,440,884. The industry has reached a distinctive position, not only in the commercial world, but in the artistic world as well. This position has been won only by the earnest desire and effort on the part of the potters of the United States to improve their products. It is safe to say that some of our potters are now turning out ware the equal in every way of that imported, and it is hoped that it will be only a question of a little time when the United States will be producing large quantities of pottery equal to the best European product, and when the lovers of fine pottery will not find it necessary to go abroad to satisfy their demands. At present the domestic production is nearly three-fourths of the consumption, and it is steadily gaining. The demand for fine pottery is increasing at such a rate, however, that imports are almost keeping pace with domestic production, the former increasing at the present time at the rate of 10·48 per cent. and the latter at the rate of 12·62 per cent. per annum. The total value of the pottery products rose from $27,918,894 in 1905 to $31,440,884 in 1906, a gain of $3,521,990, or 12·62 per cent. The gain in 1905 over 1904 was £2,760,624, or 10·97 per cent. While this gain in the value of the pottery products should be very satisfactory to the potters of the country, the evident improvement in the quality of the ware is of much greater moment and gives promise of a still greater development in the future.

In collecting the figures for 1906 the schedule of inquiry was so changed as to combine the production of yellow and Rockingham ware with that of stoneware, since there was only one State in 1905 in which there were sufficient producers reported to permit the publication of State totals for any of these ware without disclosing individual returns. C. C. ware was combined with white granite, semi-porcelain, &c., for the same reason, and bone china, delft, and belleek were combined with china. In all of these instances the products were so nearly related in body that it was thought that they could be combined without sacrificing the accuracy of the information furnished. As in former years, pottery products, except earthenware and stoneware, are reported from but few States. White ware, or what is known as "general ware," is produced in but 9 states, sanitary ware in but 7 states, and porcelain electrical supplies in but 9; red earthenware was reported from 31 states. The total value of this product in 1906 was $909,262, as compared with $780,637 in 1905, a gain of $128,625, or 16·48 per cent. It constituted 2 89 per cent. of the value of pottery product in 1906 and 2·80 in 1905. Stoneware and yellow and Rockingham ware were reported from 30 states. The total value of these products in 1906 was $4,193,884, and $3,969,016 in 1905, a gain of $224,868, or 5·67 per cent. These wares were 13·34 per cent. of the pottery products in 1906 and 14.21 per cent. in 1905. C. C. ware, white granite, semi-porcelain, and semi-vitreous ware were reported for 1906 to the value of $14,15?,503 as compared with $13,196,614 in 1905, a gain in 1906 of £955,889, or 7·24 per cent. The wares represented by this column, which are the general household wares, compose the bulk of what is known as pottery. These products made up 45·01 per cent. of the total clay products in 1906, and 47·26 per cent. in 1905. China, including bone china, delft, and belleek ware increased in value from $1,558,730 in 1905 to $1,787,776 in 1906, a gain of £229,046 or 14·69 per cent. These products are reported from 4 states. They constituted 5·69 per cent. of the pottery products in 1906, and 5·58 per cent. in 1905. Sanitary ware was reported from 7 states in 1906, and the product increased in value from $4,597,145 in 1905 to $5,098,310 in 1906, a gain of $501,165, or 10·9 per cent. The porcelain electrical supply branch of pottery appears to have been in a flourishing condition. The products increased in value from $2,253,061 in 1905 to $2,838,284 in 1906, a gain of $585,223, or 25·97 per cent. This product was reported from 7 states in 1905 and 9 states in 1906, and composed 9·03 per cent. of the pottery total in 1906 and 8·07 per cent. of the total in 1905.

The number of firms reporting pottery sales increased from 533 in 1905 to 540 in 1906, notwithstanding the numerous combinations and idle plants. The value of the white ware, exclusive of sanitary ware and porcelain electrical supplies was $15,940,279, as compared with $14,755,344 in 1905, a gain of $1,184,935, or 8·03 per cent. The gain of this ware in 1905 over 1904 was $977,400, or 7·09 per cent. These products composed 50·70 per cent. of the pottery products in 1906 and 52·85 in 1905, while if sanitary ware be added, most of which is made with a high-grade body, the total value of high grade ware in 1906 would be £21,038,589, or 66·91 per cent of all pottery products. The pottery imports into the United States in 1906 were valued at $13,231,102, and the production at $31,440,884, a total of $44,671,986. After deducting the exports, domestic, $1,118,450, and foreign, $41.151, there appears to have been a net consumption of $43,512,385, of which the domestic production was 72·26 per cent., the highest percentage reached except in 1902. In 1905, the domestic production was 71·81 per cent. of the consumption, and it was 70·66 per cent. in 1904. In 1902, however, it was 72·91 per cent., which is the highest point reached since the Bureau began publishing pottery statistics.

DELFT WARE.

(COMMUNICATED.)

AT the end of November the North Staffordshire Field Club commenced its series of winter meetings in the Municipal Buildings, Newcastle. Mr. W. D. Spanton, F.R.C.S., the president, was in the chair, and there was a large number of members and friends present. In the spring of the year the members paid a visit to Belgium and Holland, and Mr. J. H. Beckett read a paper descriptive of that visit. Sketches, photographs and specimens of Delft ware were exhibited in the room, the greater part contributed by the sketching and photographic sections of the Club. Mr. A. F. Wenger and Mr. Beckett's paper included notes by several of the members. These are ultimately printed and published in the Transactions of the Club, but we are allowed to give the following

NOTES ON DELFT WARE

by Mr. A. F. Wenger:—The town of Delft, according to guide books, is stated as having been at one time celebrated for its beer brewing and pottery. Both these, however, are now industries of the past, as of the 30 potteries which existed there in the eighteenth century, the last one was closed in 1850. The celebrated pottery products of this town were exported to all parts of the world since the fourteenth century, at which time, while Burslem and Penkhull were making a common brown article of the Thoft style, Delft was turning out most admirable artistic articles, decorated from the inspiration of the designs of the Chinese porcelain, of which the Dutch were large importers. A visit to the Rhyrk's Museum at Amsterdam would give to those interested an idea of how advanced were the potters of Delft four centuries before the English made a mark with their productions. The pottery of Delft was made with a calcareous clay found in the neighbourhood of Maastricht, and covered with an opaque tin and lead glaze (the tin coming from Cornwall), and was decorated over the glaze in blue, with cobalt ores of more or less purity, manganese and iron, and fired at the same time as the glaze. This ware was called "Plateelbakkerij." When these articles were further decorated with enamel colours at a second fire, especially with red and gold in imitation of the Chinese porcelain, they were called "Porselynbakkerij" ware, which gave the impression that porcelain had been made in Delft. The decline of Delft came about through the production by the English potters of a more resistant, cheaper and whiter pottery made with white clays and flint, and a cheaper glaze not containing tin—as compared with the calcareous porous body of the Delft ware—which found a ready sale on the Continent. This class or method of potting was subsequently produced also in Holland, at Maastricht, in the year 1850, by the help of a very capable potter named Abbington, who introduced the English clays of Devonshire and the china clays of Cornwall. In 1875, Messrs. Thoft and Labouchere, of Delft, thought to revive the artistical productions of the past, and with tradition and the help of some of the artists then still living they started a small pottery on the lines of the past, and produced articles similar to those formerly manufactured, and created a new departure in fine productions, which, while being similar, were finer in execution. They adopted the English method of potting with English clays and transparent glazes, and the decoration of the ware under the glaze and covered with a transparent glaze, instead of the old Delft style which was opaque glass with the decoration over the glaze. We were shown a cabinet containing numerous pieces of old Delft ware, and mixed amongst them were some specimens recently copied from the old ware which could not be distinguished from the genuine old Delft. The specimens here shown by various members will give you a good idea of this firm's productions, and the exceptional perfection obtained by painting under the glaze, which have obtained the highest awards at most exhibitions. You will notice also pieces of Rosenberg shell china made in the same way as in Staffordshire, decorated under the glaze, which by their characteristic original shapes and careful workmanship show that the Dutch are still skilful potters. The two carved oak benches here exhibited came from the old Dutch castle of "Heeswijk," near Hertogenbosch, of Baron de Borgaert, which was recently dismantled, and are fine specimens of Dutch design.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A BOHEMIAN concert, organised by the Board of Management, was given in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday evening, November 28. We regret that there was not time to include an account of it in our issue for December. The concert was an excellent one in every respect, a number of very capable artists taking part in it. There was, however, one disappointment. Miss Margaret Cooper, the popular vocalist, was unable to keep her promise to take part in the concert as she had been commanded to sing before their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales the same evening. The hall was well filled, and in addition to a very enjoyable concert, the gathering formed itself into a sort of social re-union. Everybody seemed to know everybody else, and, as far as the crowded hall would admit, members of the trades fraternised with each other in cheerful, homely fashion. Quite apart from benefiting the funds of the Institution, these Bohemian concerts serve a most useful purpose in bringing the different sections of the trade together, and in breaking through that isolation which, we are sorry to say, the members of our trades seem so often to observe. [In their excursions, their athletic and sporting competitions, their annual dinners, and, above all, in their conventions, the pottery and glass men in the United States set an example to us here. They manage to get an amount of pleasurable enjoyment, as well as useful mutual help, out of their personal comminglings that we on this side know nothing of.] Observations made during this concert show clearly that, given favourable opportunities, that isolation would soon be obliterated. The concert was highly successful as a concert, but we cannot pretend to speak critically of it in that light. If we attempt to mention the artists who gave satisfaction to the audience we shall simply enumerate the five-and-twenty "turns." We must, however, refer to the assistance given by members of the trades to make the concert a success and thus to benefit the Institution. Harrod's Stores, Ltd., lent the grand piano, Wm. Whiteley, Ltd., provided the beautiful floral decorations, and Fullers, Ltd., supplied boxes of their celebrated confections, the proceeds of the sale of which were given to the funds of the Institution. Mr. John Porter, one of the well-known London representatives, very cleverly gave a humorous musical sketch. Mr. Porter is evidently an experienced entertainer. He gave an amusing poem on "Diabolo," to the satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Porter also officiated with efficiency as stage manager, and praise is due to him for the pleasing "swing" with which the programme was gone through—there was not a single "wait" from start to finish. Mr. Algernon J. Prickett, the acting manager and secretary to the Institution, was energetic and ubiquitous. Upon him has devolved the principal work in organising the concert, and he was indefatigable in his efforts to make everyone happy, right up to the close of the evening. We understand the funds of the Institution will benefit to the extent of about £80.

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Empire Notes.

Postage to Canada.—When opening a new post office at Boston, on December 12, Mr. Sidney Buxton, Postmaster-General, said the reduced postage to Canada for newspapers and magazines had been attended with remarkable success.

Glass Manufactures to the value of £4,617 were imported into British Guiana from the United Kingdom during the fiscal year 1906-7. This shows a good increase, while the value of the imports from the United States (£538) has fallen off considerably.

Straits Settlements Imports.—Earthenware, including crockery, from the United Kingdom rose $71,000; but the imports from the Continent increased by over that amount, Holland and Belgium showing important advances. Glassware imports from the United Kingdom fell off by $10,000, but those from the Continent advanced $35,000.

Earthenware, china and graniteware to the following values were imported into Canada during the five months ending August, 1907:—Great Britain, $567,291; United States, $111,575; Germany, $144,137; other countries, $142,040; total, $965,043. All these values are steadily increasing except that of the imports from the U.S.A.

The New Australian Tariff.—The following are among the tariff decisions which come into force during December:—Ceramic transfers for pottery, 5 per cent. general tariff, free United Kingdom tariff; china, parian, and porcelain ware, ad valorem 25 per cent. general, 20 per cent. preferential tariff. Item 242, passed as it stands; scientific apparatus, porcelain, viz., crucibles, tubes, pressure filters, and evaporating dishes for laboratory use, free. Earthenware, brownware, and stoneware, n.e.i., ad val. 25 per cent. general, 20 per cent. preferential tariff. Roofing tiles, flooring tiles, tiles n.e.i. of all materials and mosaic flooring, ad val. 30 per cent. general, 25 per cent. preferential tariff. Earthenware, spurs, stilts, and thimbles, free. Glass, viz., bent, bevelled, heraldic, sand-blasted, enamelled, embossed, etched, silvered or brilliant, cut; corners cut, bevelled, or engraved; panes, prisms, and all glass framed with metal, ad val. 30 per cent. general, 25 per cent. preferential tariff. Glass, polished and patent plate n.e.i. per 100 superficial feet 11s. general tariff, 10s. preferential tariff. Glass, sheet per 100 superficial feet, 2s. 3d. general tariff, 2s. preferential tariff. Polished and patent plate not exceeding 25 superficial feet, free. Glass cells for primary and secondary electric batteries, 5 per cent. general tariff, free United Kingdom tariff. Glassware, n.e.i., including smelling and perfume bottles, glass stoppers, and fruit-jar caps: also glass bottle marbles ad val. 25 per cent. general tariff, 20 per cent. United Kingdom tariff. Glass, viz., lenses n.e.i., locket, brooch, and watch glasses, free, was passed. (a) Bottles, n.e.i., flasks and jars empty, 35 per cent. general tariff, 25 per cent. preferential; (b) bottles up to and including 5 drams of fluid capacity free. Bottles, n.e.i., flasks and jars filled (a) bottles up to and including a capacity of 5 fluid drams free; (b) bottles of over 5 drams and not exceeding 10 oz. fluid capacity, per dozen 1½d. general tariff, 1d. preferential; (c) bottles of over 10 oz. and not exceeding 20 oz. fluid capacity, per dozen 2d. general tariff, 1½d. preferential; (d) bottles of over 20 oz. fluid capacity, per dozen 2½d. general tariff, 2d. preferential.

Russian Pottery and Glass Co.s' Reports.—The D. V. Bolotikoi Glass and Chemical Factories Co. made a profit of £1,651 in its ninth (1906) working year, and will pay a dividend of 2·66 per cent. The Dsevulsk and Lange Ceramic Co., of Radom and Kharkoff, made a profit of £5,672 in its eighth (1906) working year.

BRISTOL PORCELAIN.

(By a Member of our Staff.)

THE sale of a Bristol teapot on the 13th of last month for £441 has caused something like a flutter amongst dealers, and a sensation among connoisseurs. It has, at the same time, revived public interest in the products of the Bristol factory. All lovers of china—and especially of old china—are familiar with the high prices frequently obtained for pieces of Chinese and Sèvres porcelain. It will be remembered that in the Cockshut sale last year a Sèvres teapot was sold for £367 10s., but few persons were prepared to find that Bristol porcelain had acquired such a fancy value. After all, rarity more than quality governs the money value of old china. This is recognised by connoisseurs, and receives frequent confirmation by dealers at Christie's and other art salerooms—the sale we refer to is an instance. It is difficult to account for the high price paid for this particular teapot, seeing that so recently as 1904 a complete Bristol tea service was sold for £162 15s. It is most likely it can be accounted for, though whether the secret will ever be made public is doubtful. The same teapot was sold at Sotheby's in 1871 for £190. When it was offered at Christie's last month, the first bid was 50 guineas, and in a few moments a spirited competition between Mr. Wills and Mr. Harding resulted in the purchase of the lot by the latter.

Immediately after the sale I waited upon Mr. Harding, the well-known dealer in antiquities of King-street, St. James, and asked if he would allow us to take a photograph of his purchase, that we might give an illustration of it in our Gazette. Mr. Harding was very courteous, but firmly declined. He added that he had several other offers to publish an illustration of the teapot, but had decided not to allow any illustration to be given of it. He showed me two very excellent photographs of the two sides of the pot, but I could not prevail on him to lend me one of them. The pot and cover are 6½ in. high. It has a globular-shaped body, with rustic handles and spout and flattened dome cover, with flowers in biscuit porcelain. It has polychrome decoration—a full-length figure on each side. On one side a figure of "Liberty," holding a spear, surmounted by a Phrygian cap and a shield bearing the Gorgon's head; on the other side there is a figure of "Plenty," with a cornucopia—supporting a pedestal on which Hymen is standing with a flaming torch. The figures are white medallions on a bright ground of canary yellow. It is an allegorical subject, the conception of which is apparently more praiseworthy than the execution. There is a shield on the pedestal bearing the arms of Burke impaling Nugent, with emblematical figures and devices, and the date Nov. 3, 1774, in Roman numerals. The borders are of trellis design in brown, on canary ground, with scroll framework in gold.

The piece is known as the "Burke" teapot, and it history is briefly this:—Richard Champion founded the Bristol pottery in 1773. In 1774 Edmund Burke was nominated as member of Parliament for Bristol, and a sharp contest followed, the result being that Burke was elected. He became acquainted with Champion during the contest. While staying in Bristol, Burke was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Smith of that town, and as a memento of the courtesy he had received from them and of his electoral campaign, he commissioned Champion to make a handsome tea service as a present for Mrs. Smith. That service is now historical, but I cannot refer to it further than to say many pieces of it found their way into Mr. Trapnell's collection. It then occurred to Champion to make another and finer tea service and to present it to Mrs. Burke. The teapot of which I have been speaking belonged to that set—hence its name—the "Burke" teapot.

Legal.

Damages for Misrepresentation.—At the Hanley County Court on December 18, Mr. Henry Fanshaw, of Bryan-street, Hanley, tile manufacturer, sued Mr. George Bennett, of Liverpool-road, Stoke-on-Tent, auctioneer, to recover the sum of £37 damages for misrepresentation by the defendant on the sale of the business of the Decorative Art Tile Company, Hanley; in the alternative, the plaintiff claimed the return of the sum as having been paid to the defendant in error, or for a consideration which had failed. There was a counterclaim by the defendant for the sum of £8 6s. in respect to certain returned goods which he claimed were in the nature of book debts. It appeared that the business was originally a very good one, and many years age a limited company was formed, which was eventually wound up in liquidation. About September the defendant got into communication with the plaintiff, and offered the business as a going concern, including the goodwill, fixtures, utensils, book debts, electric fittings, and stock-in-trade for £200. At the time the offer was made, the defendant handed to the plaintiff certain lists containing items which he told the plaintiff were particulars of the stock-in-trade to be taken over, and he said that those lists contained the particulars of the stock he was selling. This was the crux of the whole case, which was argued at considerable length. In the end his Honour said plaintiff succeeded on the claim to the extent of £34 18s. and also on the counter-claim. Judgment for the plaintiff was entered accordingly.

A Question of Liability.—In the City of London Court, on December 20, Mr. William Stockton, 23, Bartlett's-buildings Holborn, china and glass merchant, sued Mr. S. H. Johnson, of Selsea, to recover the sum of £4 18s., the price of china, glass, and earthenware supplied. Plaintiff said that the defendant had given him his own cheque in payments of accounts from time to time, and he had never known anybody else in the matter except the defendant. The defendant said he gave various orders in his capacity as manager of the business which he conducted for the proprietor, a Mr. Beattie. It was true the proprietor left a good deal to him, and the invoices had been sent to him for various goods, and he had paid cheques on account, in his own name, but the money had always been his employer's. The plaintiff repeated that he had never heard of anybody else in the matter except the defendant. Judge Rentoul, K.C., said that the defendant should have repudiated the invoices as soon as they arrived in his name. He knew that men sometimes overlooked such matters, but if they did they must take the responsibility of it. He could find no trace whatever of Beattie's name in the transaction at all. The defendant added that the worst part of the matter was that the business which he formerly managed was now a failure, and he was afraid he might be held liable for other debts as well. Judge Rentoul said he was very sorry for the defendant if that was so, but he had no option but to find for the plaintiff with costs.

The Potters' Insurance Company, Limited.—Application was made to the Judge of the Hanley County Court on behalf of the company, that their Memorandum of Association might be amended. The application was that the Memorandum should be altered so as to read as follows:—"The objects for which the company is established are: To form a fund or funds out of which the company may make grants to members to enable them to meet and indemnify them against any liability under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, or any act amending the same or any special rules and regulations made under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in respect of compensation to any workman or his dependents arising from lead poisoning or its sequelæ, or from any other disease or process in respect of which the company may resolve to indemnify members, and to indemnify members against proceedings, losses, costs, and damages, claims and demands in respect of such liability." The proposed amendment further provides that the object of the company shall be "to promote and encourage the adoption of precautionary measures of all kinds which may seem to the company calculated to prevent injury or death from lead poisoning and its sequelæ or from other disease or process as aforesaid, and to minimise the danger and mitigate the consequences thereof." The amendment had been rendered necessary in order that the company might insure its members against liability for the payment of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906. There being no opposition, his Honour approved the amendment.

Dispute as to Sale of Glass Works.—At the Lancashire Chancery Court held at Liverpool on December 9, Messrs. Turner & Co. (St. Helens), Ltd., claimed against Joseph Robson Turner and Robert Newman Turner for the specific performance of an agreement made between the defendants and the plaintiff company previously to March 13, 1906, for the sale by the defendants to the plaintiff company of the goodwill and the whole of the property and rights of the firm of Turner & Co., glass merchants, St. Helens (being a partnership formerly carried on by the defendants), and which was subsequently ratified and adopted by the plaintiff company. The plaintiffs also claimed damages in addition to or in lieu of specific performance. The defendants admitted negotiations to sell their business to a company to be promoted, but denied that they entered into the contracts alleged by the plaintiffs or that such agreements were ratified or adopted by the plaintiff company or were capable of being legally ratified so as to bind the company, and counter-claimed for possession of their old works in Claughton-street, St. Helens, from which they claimed they were wrongfully ejected and excluded by the plaintiff company in March, 1906. Mr. E. Radford (for the plaintiffs) explained that the defendants, being desirous of extending their business, negotiated with certain persons and it was agreed they should join in promoting the plaintiff company to acquire and carry on the old business of the defendants at Claughton-street, St. Helens, and the new works. The company was incorporated on March 17, 1906, and entered into possession of both premises. The company completed the purchase of the extension and expended £31,000 in fitting the premises for glass manufacture. The plaintiffs complained that the defendants refused to carry out an agreement to assign to the company their old premises in Claughton-street, St. Helens, or other the ascertained value of the premises. After evidence had been given for the plaintiffs, the case was adjourned to be continued at Manchester the following day. When the proceedings were resumed at Manchester on the 10th there was a suggestion from the Vice-Chancellor that some steps should be made towards a settlement privately. The counsel agreed, and it was eventually announced by Mr. Radford that matters had been settled. They would not state the terms in open court. The Vice-Chancellor said he was glad the parties had settled it. If they had left it to him to decide it might have been disastrous whichever way he decided it. "I am very glad you have had the sense to settle it," concluded the Vice-Chancellor.

Responsibility for Assistant's Carelessness.—Special Report.—In the City of London Court, on December 20, an action of much interest to the trade was disposed of before His Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., The claim was made by Mr. George Lewis Gent, trading as G. L. Gent & Sons, china and glass importers, 4 and 5, Holborn-circus, for the

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sum of £1 13s. 3d., against Messrs. Kerry & Marks, Upton-lane, Forest Gate, under peculiar circumstances. Mr. Letts, plaintiff's solicitor, said the claim was for damages. The plaintiff and defendant had being doing business together for some years, and the defendants had in their employment in January last a young man named Dandy, and from time to time he used to come to the plaintiff's warehouse for the purpose of ordering china goods on behalf of the defendants, and to deliver messages for them. On January 4 Dandy called at the plaintiff's showroom, and walked right up it, standing sideways against a stand of vases. He stood there for some minutes, and when an assistant came out of one of the other rooms to attend to him Dandy turned round sharply and knocked over half-a-dozen vases on the stand nearest to him. Fortunately, only two were broken, and the plaintiff was now claiming the value of the vases smashed. Dandy was the defendant's servant coming to the plaintiff's warehouse on the defendant's business. Mr. Kerry, one of the defendants, said they had nobody by the name of Dandy in their service. Mr. Letts said the mistake was his, the assistant's name was Dore. Mr. Kerry said that was an indication of the way in which the litigation had been brought about. Judge Rentoul said the defendant's position was the same as if they themselves had gone to the plaintiff's warehouse, as the assistant went in their place. What would have been the answer to the claim if Mr. Kerry had knocked over the vases? Mr. Kerry said he would have compromised the matter and arrived at an amicable arrangement. But, as it was, his contention was that it was an accident for which nobody was liable. Judge Rentoul said it might have been Dore's fault, but it was necessary to show negligence on the port of Dore. Mr. Letts said he could easily do that. Dore stood in a place just 2 ft. 6 in. wide. There were shelves with vases and china goods on his right hand, and there was a stand with a lot of vases on his left. With ordinary care Dore ought to have stepped back out of the recess. Instead of that he turned round with a swing and knocked the things off the stand. Judge Rentoul: Supposing a man goes to a Guildhall banquet, and his robe comes round with a swing and knocks down some valuable glasses on each side as he is coming along; or, coming through a passage in, say, one of Whiteley's shops, where there are glasses on each side. One might easily knock them down without anybody being able to say that there was negligence. Mr. Letts replied that the plaintiff's showroom was 38 ft. long. Dore went into the showroom to find the manageress engaged. It would have been perfectly competent for Dore (and indeed that is what he should have done) to have remained where he was in the showroom itself where there was plenty of room for him to stand, without coming into a narrow place where the accident happened. By standing where he did he had caused the damage. In the showroom there was a width of 7 or 8 ft., and if he had remained there he would have been all right. Judge Rentoul said there was a great deal of difficulty in the case, and if it was going to be fought out a great deal of trouble would have to be gone to. The defendants had sent one of their assistants to the plaintiff's warehouse, and as long as the assistant was acting within the scope of his authority, and in a proper way, the employer might be liable for his negligence if the assistant went into a place which he ought not to have done. Supposing, for example, a solicitor's clerk, having business in that court, came in court at ten minutes before the sitting, and there happened to be some valuable glass on his (the judge's) bench, connected with some case that was then on. If the clerk, to gratify his curiosity, went up and examined the glass on the judge's bench and broke some of it then his employer could not be held responsible. If a solicitor's clerk came to court his master was liable for anything he did negligently while he stood in his proper place. The question to be litigated in that case was whether the assistant was acting within the scope of his authority in standing where he did. Mr. Letts argued that it could not be held that Dore was going outside his authority by standing where he did. There were cases in the law books to the effect that if a man instructed his servant to light a fire for the purposes of husbandry and he did it and negligently burnt down his neighbour's barn, the employer was liable for the damage. He urged that Dore was going to the plaintiff's shop on the business of his master's, and that he was negligent and so caused the damage. The passage where the damage occurred led to another showroom, and Dore had a right to be in that passage. Judge Rentoul said supposing it was necessary for a witness to cross from one side of the court to the other and he had to pass a table with glass upon it and he knocked that down, could it be said there was negligence on his part at all? Mr. Letts urged that there could, because the man was doing what he was invited to do. Judge Rentoul said it was pretty clear that Dore had a right to be in the passage where he was. Mr. Letts said that was so, as all customers who wanted to see tea-sets had to come through the passage in the showroom. Judge Rentoul said the plaintiffs would have to make out that Dore had been guilty of negligence. Although it might be true that by exercising extraordinary care he might go through the passage another question to be litigated was whether the passage was too narrow for practical purposes. Mr. Letts retorted that no vases had ever been broken in that passage on any previous occasion by anyone. Mr. Kerry, one of the defendants, said the plaintiffs had told him vases had been broken on the opposite side. There was a tier rising four or five inches. Judge Rentoul said it seemed to him a pity for the parties to be fighting upon such a matter. It was a case for a compromise. Mr. Letts said that when Dore came into plaintiff's showroom and saw the damage, instead of expressing any slight regret, he turned round and exclaimed haughtily, "It might have been worse." On the top of that the defendants had disputed their liability, and the plaintiffs did not feel inclined to compromise the matter. Judge Rentoul pointed out that in the first place the defendants were not responsible for any impudent observations on the part of Dore if Dore was impudent. Of course defendants were liable for Dore's negligence, if negligence was proved up to the hilt. It would be a pretty difficult thing to do, and he thought it would be better if both parties settled the matter. Mr. Gent said he would have done so, but he had been put to a great deal of trouble and expense in the matter, and he did not like the impudence which he had had to put up with. Judge Rentoul said the defendants had evidently taken a wrong view of the law at first. It was very natural to do so. Defendants might have made a mistake in the law in regard to their accountability for their servant. It was a pity for people to be short-tempered about such a thing as it was hard to tell which way judgment would go if the facts were heard out to the end. The burden of proving the case was upon the plaintiffs, and if he (the judge) could not come to a conclusion in favour of one side or the other that would mean he would have to find for the defendant, because the plaintiff had not proved his case. In doubtful cases the defendant must always win. As two sensible business men dealing together, would it not be better to divide the loss and have no bad feeling in the matter, and let them go on dealing as before. Would not that be behaving like good business men in these bad business times? Mr. Kerry: Every endeavour has been made to settle this in an amicable way. The plaintiff even wants me to pay the sale price of the vases instead of the cost price. Judge Rentoul thought that would be so unless

the vases could not possibly be replaced, and in that case glass had a fictitious value. If by chance a man came into a hat shop and sat down on one of the shopkeeper's hats and smashed it, the shopkeeper would not be entitled to recover more than he paid for the hat wholesale. Mr. Kerry said the plaintiffs had made up their minds to have their pound of flesh, and therefore he did not feel inclined to compromise the matter. Judge Rentoul said it would be necessary for plans and measurements to be prepared, and to fight the case out several witnesses would have to be called on each side. In the absence of materials his decision would be a very worthless one, because it would be all guess more than anything else. The case would require a great deal of trouble if he had to arrive at a sure decision. Mr. Kerry said if their assistant Dore had been guilty of any negligence then he would contend there was contributory negligence on the part of the plaintiffs in displaying their goods in such a careless manner. Judge Rentoul replied that shops were very often very full of goods. If it were shown that hundreds of people per day passed the vases in question without an accident happening that would make a strong case for the plaintiff. Had the parties been dealing together for a long time ? Mr. Kerry said he did not do a great deal with the plaintiff because the plaintiff was a factor, and he (defendant) had most of his goods from wholesalers. The difference in the price was very considerable. But they had dealt for some years with the plaintiff, and business relations had always been of a friendly character. Judge Rentoul said he would like to see that continue. Mr. Kerry said he appreciated the spirit in which the Judge had made the suggestion, and he would pay £1 as a compromise. Judge Rentoul said he was very glad that the case had been settled in that amicable manner. Mr. Kerry would pay £1 and so the matter would be put an end to. The parties need have no bad feeling about the matter on either side. The parties then left the court apparently on good terms.

GLASS MANUFACTURE IN IRELAND.

AT a recent meeting of the North-East branch of the National Council, held at 87, Marlborough-street, Dublin, Mr. S. Deakin made some very interesting references to the industries of North-East Dublin, and gave the following account of the glass trade :—The manufacture of fine table glass was carried on from about 1785. Taking up the Dublin Directory for 1801 we find an entry, " Richard Williams & Co., fine flint glass manufacturers, Potter's-alley (off Marlborough-street)." At this time, Irish-made table glass set the standard for quality, practically, to the world, more particularly through the Belfast and Waterford glass, but the two Dublin works are considered of sufficient importance to warrant mention in nearly every contemporary work dealing with Irish manufacture. The only Dublin glass he (Mr. Deakin) had ever seen was made in these same works just before they were finally closed down about 1889, and, although perfectly plain, was very beautiful in quality and lustre. It has not been the case very often that an Irish industry could be said to owe its development to the attention of the English Government ; yet the prosperity of the Irish flint glass industry must, to a great extent, be placed to their credit. Somewhere about 1780, the English Government, being on the look-out for something to tax, bethought them of their flint glass industry, then an important and a flourishing one ; and for some reason best known to themselves the duty was levied, not on the resultant product, but upon certain of the raw materials used. This wiped out a considerable number, and forced the remainder to put on the market everything that passed successfully through the annealing furnace, resulting, of course, in lowered quality. Before 1780, not only had we no export trade, but actually imported nearly all our fine glass ware. In about four years' time, although the sand and other raw materials had to be imported, as well as all the clay forming the crucibles—imported, mark you, from England—in spite of this and the higher wages ruling in Ireland, Irish glass was ten per cent. cheaper.

In 1783-4 Ireland exported 20,736 drinking glasses to America, as well as quantities of other glass ware. Commenting on this, a contemporary writer remarks :—" This, however, may be considered as an effort on the first opening of trade with America, and it may be doubted whether a speculation of so much risk will speedily be repeated to the same extent." Yet we find a steadily increasing trade with the United States up to the time of the Union. In 1798 the two Dublin factories had sufficient orders in hand from New York alone to keep them working for two years. It is interesting to read that the Irish looked to capturing, in addition to the large trade they were then doing, the entire of England's trade, too, and the possibility of the latter country seriously competing does not seem to have been entertained. We were then no less successful in the matter of ordinary glass bottles, and one of the writers quoted says : " In the manufacture of common glass bottles we have no reason to complain either of our execution or the demand. The sand which is employed in this manufacture is had at home. The Dublin bottle houses take theirs from the North Bull." At present, Mr. Deakin thought, it is brought from Belgium. Up to about six years ago there was a bottle house on the North Lotts, but, unfortunately, at present it is closed down. While, however, the industry cannot be said to be in a flourishing condition, there are still five bottle works in Dublin.

THE SOUTH DEVON CHINA CLAY TRADE IN 1907.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

IN the South Devon clay trade, the great feature of 1907 has been the extensive boring and prospecting undertaken by the firms, and also by individuals not openly connected with the clay companies, and carried on outside the present workings. Any developments on this greater clay field likely to increase the output and so augment supplies will be welcome. Operations at the pits, with this object in view, have been numerous. Quite a number of " self-tippers " were purchased, and several new wagon-ways laid down. The electric light, which has proved so successful in every pit in which it has been used, was fixed at one end of the canals, and found most valuable for night loading. The stores at Teignmouth have again been found of great service, and also the fine steam tug that now tows down with ease quite a long string of loaded barges.

Floods have caused trouble, but at least two powerful steam engines have been installed during the year, and an oil engine has done good work. Hand pumping will soon be a thing of the past, and raising by hand is also doomed, for smart new lifting gear is now found on most of the works. Many interesting " moves " have been made by the gangs, but the great move of the year was that of a firm shifting their men and entire plant upwards of six miles from their old workings, and occupying fresh fields and pastures new, at a spot locally known as Dame Betty's Marsh. Improvements at the entrance to the harbour have proceeded slowly but surely. Sailing vessels have been very scarce and freights high.

Trucking has been unsatisfactory, but increased siding

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accommodation is promised, and will be commenced early in the year. Several regretable accidents occurred, but the casuality list on the whole was a light one. A new attempt was made to overcome the hauling difficulty, by running a traction engine and truck. The two steam carts in use, which tip, are excellent for broken clay, on a main road, but the idea was to go one better, and run something capable of carrying ball clay on a clay road. This experiment seems to have been a failure, and the truck returned, the engine still remains locked up in a clay cellar, presumably to the order of the makers.

Another departure by one of the companies was that of inviting, through the medium of the engineering and shipping press, quotations for sinking mining shafts, also prices for carrying twenty to thirty thousand tons of clay to the Mersey. In the former, nothing appears to have been done, but in the latter case it is understood that tonnage has been arranged. The supply of mining timber has equalled the demand. The small copses of "poles," thrown, and sold by auction during the past year, furnished useful supplies so opportunely that larger wood already secured was not thrown. Timber merchants report that contracts for the supply of pit-wood for 1908 have been signed at fairly good prices.

Conditions of labour remain the same, and, although the price of clay has advanced and wages decreased or remained stationary, nothing has arisen to cause friction in the relations between master and man, Christmas gifts and New Year's suppers being the outward and visible sign of this "good understanding." Heaps are small, cellar stocks low and oversold; but the work generally is forward, "heading" well back, and prospects for 1908 are good.

NEW OFFICES FOR THE POTTERS' UNION.

(FROM OUR POTTERIES CORRESPONDENT.)

WE are enabled herewith to give an illustration of official premises which are at present being built for the Male and Female Pottery Workers' Society—better known as the "Potters' Union"—in Old Hall-street Hanley. The need for proper offices has long been felt, and now that almost all the trade societies connected with the potting industry have become amalgamated, the executive of the Union have decided to supply the want. New offices are being erected on a portion of the site of the Old Hall Porcelain Works. They have a frontage to Hill-street of fifty feet, and, in addition to providing a residence fot the Secretary (Councillor J. Lovatt), the premises will comprise a secretary's office, board-room, spacious entrance hall, lavatory accommodation, and a store-room. The front elevation is being carried out in local red pressed bricks with stone dressings, and, as far as possible, the building is being erected with local materials and fittings, the work being conducted, of course, on strictly trade union lines. Our illustration is from a drawing by Mr. Wm. Campbell, of Hanley, the architect.



POTTERY WORKERS' NEW OFFICES AT HANLEY.

Foreign Notes.

U.S. Pottery Imports.—Earthenware, stoneware, and chinaware to the value of $10,315,000 was imported into the United States during the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1907. The value of the import shows a steady increase.

St. Petersburg Tile Exhibition Postponed.—Owing to the regretable death of Ph. V. Bogdanoff-Beresoff, the principal organiser of the proposed tiles, &c., exhibition in St. Petersburg, this event is postponed for a short time, when a committee duly appointed will issue all required information on the subject.

Russian Glass Bottle Trade Agreement.—The Russian Congress of Glass Manufacturers has separated, after dividing the interior market into departments, the monopoly *re* which is strictly reserved to certain firms. Prices have been fixed, and no latitude is to be allowed in respect thereto. It was resolved to present a rigidly solid front in the tenders that will shortly be called for for the supply of glass bottles to the Government for its wine business.

Death of Mr. R. Heape.—The death is announced of Mr. Robert Heape, a native of Burton, who was well known at Longton. He went out to America in 1875, and became manager of the Onondaga Pottery, Syracuse, an appointment he held for sixteen years. He was subsequently manager for the Newcastle China Company, at Newcastle, Pennsylvania. Mr. Heape was 62 years of age, and died at Pittsburg, leaving a widow, one son and two daughters. He was brother to the Rev. F. E. Heape and Mr. John Heape.

The U.S. Government and Tariffs.—In his message to Congress, published last month, President Roosevelt says : "This country is definitely committed to the protective system, and any effort to uproot it could not but cause widespread industrial disaster. In other words, the principle of the present tariff law could not with wisdom be changed. But in a country of such phenomenal growth as ours it is probably well that every dozen years or so the tariff laws should be carefully scrutinised so as to see that no excessive or improper benefits are conferred thereby, that proper revenue is provided, and that our foreign trade is encouraged. There must always be as a minimum a tariff which will not only allow for the collection of an ample revenue, but which will at least make good the difference in cost of production here and abroad ; that is, the difference in the labour cost here and abroad, for the well-being of the wage-earner must ever be a cardinal point of American policy. The question should be approached purely from a business standpoint ; both the time and the manner of the change being such as to arouse the minimum of agitation and disturbance in the business world, and to give the least play for selfish and factional motives. The sole consideration should be to see that the sum total of changes represents the public good. This means that the subject cannot with wisdom be dealt with in the year preceding a Presidential election, because, as a matter of fact, experience has conclusively shown that at such a time it is impossible to get men to treat it from the standpoint of the public good. In my judgment the wise time to deal with the matter is immediately after such election."

British Trade in Japan.—His Majesty's Consul at Kobe, writing on the subject of industrial conditions in Osaka, states that there is a great future for industrial undertakings there by foreign manufacturers, or with the support of foreign capital. "Belgium and French money," Mr. Bonar continues, "with a very small proportion of British (privately subscribed) has been instrumental in bringing about the formation and installation of at least one enterprise, which is about to commence operations, namely, the manufacture of glass. If British manufacturers would carefully study the import returns given in the Consular reports every year, they should have no difficulty in perceiving, not what outlets they have for their manufactures in this country, but what the prospects are of profitable manufactures on the spot, such as the customs tariff is specially directed against, and which, owing to want of expert knowledge and capital, the Japanese are as yet unwilling to engage in. For the last few years Japan has seen a number of agents of British financial houses or syndicates offering to provide money for this or that undertaking, but the British manufacturer or his expert has been conspicuously absent. Manufacturers' agents are not referred to. There is good ground for believing that those who decide to venture on industrial undertakings which Japan does not yet possess, or only to a degree of mediocrity, will have reason to be satisfied with their experiments. In any case it would certainly pay to send out experts, though these, unless properly introduced and provided with full powers to treat with Japanese—should a good opening be found—will have difficulty in obtaining access to Japanese industrial establishments. By visiting the country such experts might gain much information as to what is doing in Japan, and in Osaka especially.

Means of Changing the Degree of Plasticity of Clays.—(Translated from "Sprechsaal," by the "Journal of the American Chemical Society.") The plasticity of clays is increased by contact with spring or river water, decrease in temperature, and addition of colloids. The first change is brought about by the production of colloids by hydrolysis. Thus silicic acid, aluminium and iron hydroxides are produced. This action is expedited by fine grinding. However, the hydroxyl ions produced by the hydrolysis tend to decrease plasticity, and hence pure water is not suitable for the above purpose. Spring or river water, on the other hand, neutralises the action of the hydroxyl ions, owing to the acid fermentation of the organic constituents present, assisted by the organic matter of the clay or substances added intentionally. Bacterial processes also are of importance in this connection. The second means of increasing plasticity, lowering of the temperature, is also connected with the colloids of clay. The volume of softened clay is smaller than its original volume plus the volume of water imbibed. Contraction and evolution of heat hence take place. Applying the principle of Maupertuis, the plasticity must increase by lowering the temperature. The reaction is a very slow one. The third means of increasing the plasticity is the addition of colloids and organic substances like dextrin, tannic acid, catechu, &c. Plasticity is decreased by the addition of hydroxyl ions and raising the temperature. For this purpose lime-water is the cheapest reagent. If for some clays the concentration of the hydroxyl ions of lime-water is not sufficient, the action may be increased by an addition of sodium hydroxide solution, or all strong bases combined with weak acids. The latter class is represented by phosphates, silicates, &c. Neutral salts, like sodium chloride, Glauber's salt, magnesium chloride, &c., appear to be indifferent. The effect of hydroxyl ions is weakened, compensated, or strengthened by the addition of anions or cations. Thus borax weakens the effect of the hydroxyl ions and potassium carbonate strengthens the action. Just as gelatine, agar-agar, &c., liquefy on heating to a certain temperature, so increased temperature causes clay to "run," and hence decreases plasticity. It appears likely that the organic constituents of clay bring about this liquefaction as soon as a certain limiting temperature has been exceeded. The increase in temperature may be brought about, mechanically, by stirring. There is, up to a certain point, coincidence of plasticity with bonding power.

The Japanese Porcelain Trade.—A Canadian commercial agent reported recently as follows :—Japan has achieved much of its distinction, in the view of foreign peoples, from the high level of excellence and the artistic fame of design associated with its manufacture of porcelain. But the so-called advance of Japan has been in some important respects a retrogression ; and not necessarily so, but seemingly inevitable, very greatly to the regret of those who for art's sake appreciate artistic things. The export of porcelain has suffered a sudden falling off, which is accounted for by two of the best authorities on trade matters in this country, in the following terms : The Japan "Chronicle" (Kobe) says :—"Small shipments continue to be made to South China, but in North China stocks are glutting the market, in consequence of the foolishly large shipments made after the war. It is known that stocks have accumulated in Kobe and Osaka without buyers. The manufacturers in the porcelain centres are directing their attention to the home market, and business is practically suspended whilst making alterations of plant, &c. The export of porcelain goods, this year so far, is less than one-half of last year, the price declining by from 20 to 30 per cent." The "Osaka Asahi" (Rising Sun) referring to the present depression in the export of porcelain, observes that the value of porcelain exported about ten years ago was only some 1,800,000 yen per annum. Since, the trade increased year by year to 2,400,000 yen in 1902. The outbreak of the war between Japan and Russia further stimulated

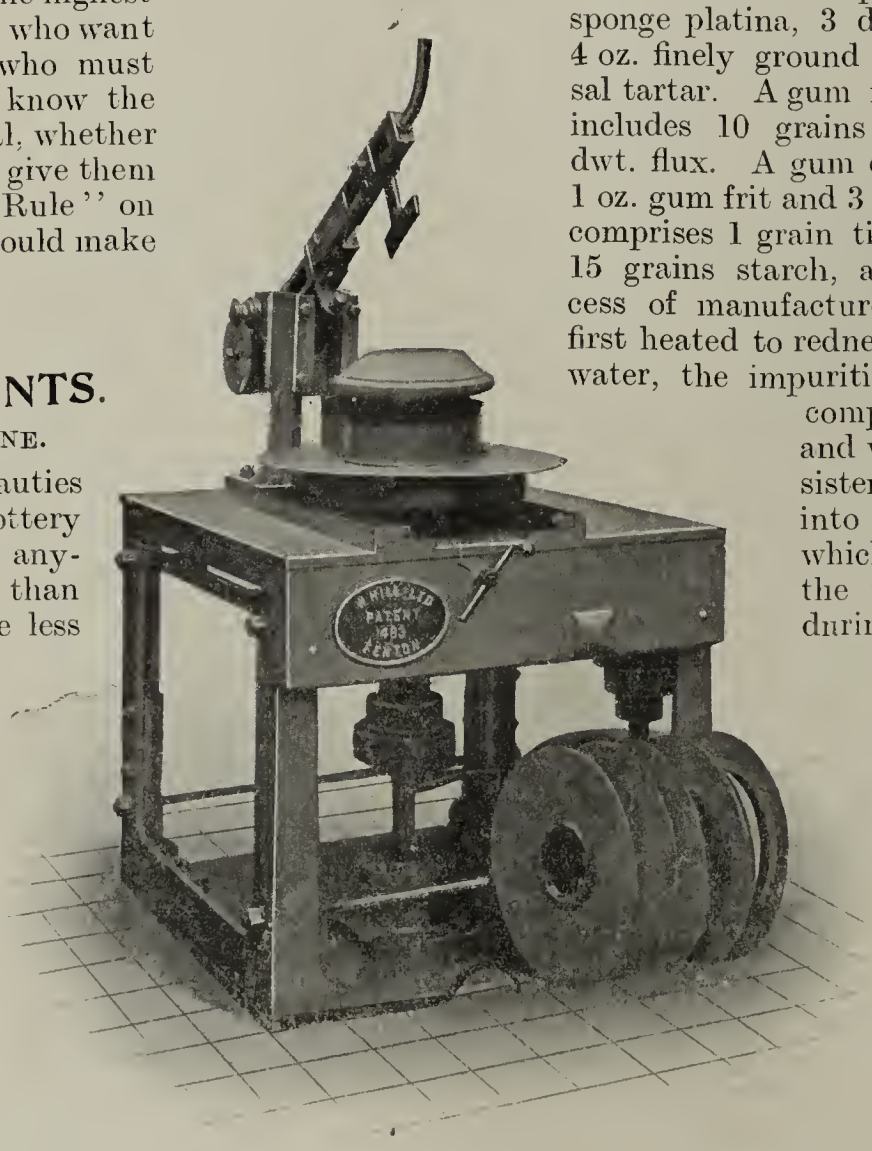
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the trade, until in 1904 it increased to 3,800,000 yen, and to 5,300,000 yen the following year. After the war the trade increased by leaps and bounds, the value for last year amounting to 8,000,000 yen. Although much of this marked increase was due to the successful issue of the war, the increase should have been maintained. As usual, however, with all Japanese manufacturers, the porcelain makers turned out bad goods and shipped them at random, with the result that Japan porcelain forfeited its good reputation abroad. This was most noticeable in America. Some of the shippers to America are known to have entirely lost their custom, while others have received demands either for damages or for reduction of prices. The Japanese, taking on the ways of the world, find that one thing entails another. This "strenuous life" makes strenuous living for many people; and there is no reason why the people of the Orient should be exempt from the operations of the rule. When they lived the simple life they made things for fame, enduring things. Now they have to make things to sell, things they can get their money out of; and things that will not last, so that they may the sooner have to make them again. But the making of porcelain of high quality and chaste form is not in immediate danger of becoming a lost art. Those who want a good article, and are willing to pay the price, can get it of the highest order of merit. Those, however, who want a good thing, of course, but who must have it dirt cheap, and don't know the difference, will find the Oriental, whether artist or art dealer, prepared to give them an experience of the "Golden Rule" on the David Harum plan that should make them wiser for a long time.

NOVELTIES AND IMPROVEMENTS.

A Patent Dish Machine.

ALTHOUGH the beauties of hand-wrought pottery are appreciated, if anything, more highly than ever, it is none the less recognised that the rapid and uniform production of useful ware necessitates the use of machines. People require domestic ware at such prices to-day that manufacturers are compelled to avail themselves of every means of rapid and economical production. Competition has already led to economies in the materials used, and manufacturers are turning their attention to cheaper means of production. Cheaper in this sense does not mean lower priced; it means more abundant and more uniform production. William Hill, Ltd., engineers and founders, Manor Foundry, Fenton, are specialists in the manufacture of potters' machinery and appliances, and they keep themselves well informed as to the ever-increasing demands of the industry. Amongst many pottery requisites their "Patent Dish" machine, of which we give an illustration, is exceedingly popular, and in order that it may both retain and extend its popularity, Messrs. Hill are constantly making improvements in it. Well-known pottery manufacturers have reported very favourably upon it. This patent dish machine has many advantages. The construction of it is very simple, and there are no parts to get easily out of order. The machine, like an ordinary plate-making machine, is easily manufactured, it is self-contained, and can be driven by either rope or belt. It will make dishes up to 18 inches. It is claimed that articles made on this machine are more modern, and, by reason of their absolute uniformity, they nest better, and come out with less loss in firing that those made by hand. But apart from this, the makers contend that the actual cost of production is less. The machine is so constructed that it can be operated by anyone who can use a "jolly." The machine turns out oval cover dishes, cheese stands, bread trays, flower-pots, and similar articles, in addition to flat dishes. It has been recently fitted with a patent collaring on spindle, which is easily adjusted by a screw and lock-nut, securing the smooth running of all the parts.



A Patent Dish Machine.

Porcelain Teeth.—An English correspondent of the Chicago paper "Brick" gives some interesting details concerning the manufacture of dental porcelain. The body is composed of 12 oz. felspar, 2 oz. quartz, 15 dwt. kaolin, and about 24 grains of titanium oxide. The enamel is composed of 3 oz. felspar, 1 to 4 grains sponge platina, 3 dwt. flux. The flux consists of 4 oz. finely ground quartz, 1 oz. borax, and 1 oz. of sal tartar. A gum frit is used, whose composition includes 10 grains oxide of gold, 1 oz. felspar, 8 dwt. flux. A gum enamel employed is composed of 1 oz. gum frit and 3 oz. felspar. The yellow enamel comprises 1 grain titanium oxide, 2 grains gold frit, 15 grains starch, and 1 oz. felspar. In the process of manufacture the quartz and felspar are first heated to redness and then quenched with cold water, the impurities removed, and ground. The compositions are mixed with water and worked into masses of putty consistency. These are then moulded into the desired shape in moulds which are so constructed as to receive the platina pins that are inserted during the moulding process. The top of the mould is then put on and the matrix placed under a press which compacts each separate mass. They are then dried slowly, removed from the moulds and carefully trimmed to the shape desired. The teeth are then placed on beds of coarse quartz sand on trays or slides made of fireclay and set in a suitable furnace or kiln and fired. The practised eye of the burner determines from the appearance of the teeth the completion of the firing operation. A vast variety of shapes, sizes, and colours of teeth are made to give opportunity of selection of forms and tints suitable to every case. Porcelain has made the dental profession its debtor to a greater extent than any other single influence. Only recently our attention was called to a case of a race-horse on southern tracks that had fallen completely out of condition owing to the dropping out of its teeth. The animal was examined by a dentist and fitted up with a complete set of porcelain teeth, so that it could take its food.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES.

The Pottery Trade.—Employment in the pottery trade continued good on the whole, and was about the same as a month ago and as last year at the same time. Employment was good in Staffordshire and at Bristol and Rotherham; fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne and at Swadlincote; in Devonshire and Scotland it was moderate. Employment in the china furniture trade was bad, and worse than a month ago. With makers of china at Longton it was fair, but not so good as a month ago. With clay tobacco pipe makers it was very good at Manchester, and fair at Glasgow, Gateshead, and Waterford.

The Glass Trade.—Employment was fairly good on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,519 workpeople in the week ended November 23, and paying £10,321 in wages, showed an increase of 2·1 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 3·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago. The increase in numbers employed was common to all districts, and to all branches except plate glass; while all departments and districts showed increases in the amount of wages paid. As compared with a year ago there was an increase of 10·2 per cent. in numbers employed and of 10·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the increase in wages being shared by all departments and all districts.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol and in Scotland; fairly good at Wakefield, and improving at Leeds and Castleford; fair at Dublin; moderate in Lancashire and the North of England; bad at Barnsley and Mexborough. It was good with medical glass bottle makers at Rotherham, and fairly good at Leeds. With flint glass makers employment continued fairly good. With cutters it was fair, and showed an improvement on the previous month; and at Wordsley it was good. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was fair. Unions in the north reported 7·1 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5·4 per cent. a month ago, and 4·1 per cent. at the end of November, 1906. Employment in London was bad, and worse than a month ago; at the other principal centres it was quite generally.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid to them on the last pay-day in November, 1907:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,325	£6,690
Plate Glass	845	996
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,956	2,229
Other Branches	393	406
Total	8,519	£10,321

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid to them on the last pay-day in November:—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	1,121	£1,398
Yorkshire	4,472	5,473
Lancashire	396	441
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,301	1,587
Scotland	901	1,090
Other parts of United Kingdom	328	332
Total	8,519	£10,321

Antimony in the form of metal or oxide is used in making flint glass, about 1¼ lbs. of each per ton of "batch" is employed. The chromate and some of the oxides are used as ceramic colours.

MANUFACTURERS AND POTTERY CLASSES.

(COMMUNICATED.)

A MEETING of the Longton Education Committee was held on December 3, and in the course of the business it was announced that a letter had been received from the English China Manufacturers' Association as to the work of the pottery classes at the Sutherland Institute. The Manufacturers' Association say in their communication: "The attention of our association has been directed to this question by the lack of trained young men with a scientific knowledge of pottery, and the complaints we have received from students desirous of pursuing their studies on this subject as to the inadequacy of the necessary provisions for so doing. It seems to us a serious matter that our local pottery school should be, for want of room, apparatus, and a very moderate amount of money, rendered unable to supply the necessary facilities for the proper carrying-on of the work for which the school was intended, and which must be fulfilled if English pottery manufacturers are to hold their own with their Continental rivals. We have no hesitation in saying that the present accommodation in Longton, shared as it is by the metallurgical students, is insufficient to the proper conduct of the elementary classes, whilst in advanced and honour students the conditions can only, and do, produce a feeling of hopelessness and disgust. That the establishment of the laboratory properly equipped and under the constant supervision of Dr. Mellor at Stoke, would do much to remedy the present position there is no doubt, but in the meantime we ask if something cannot be done to improve matters."

The association then makes several suggestions, amongst them that the present room should be retained for pottery instruction and that the committee should spend a moderate sum on the laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Mellor. A discussion followed, in which satisfaction was expressed that manufacturers were taking an interest in the work of pottery students. Longton manufacturers were invited to assist in providing means for the extension of the accommodation, and thus assist students and also assist local trade. It was resolved that a deputation from the Education Committee should meet the china manufacturers of Longton and discuss the subject.

Reynard Helps the Potter.—A fox, pursued by the Meynell Hunt, ran into a cottage at Chellaston a few days ago, and smashed a lot of crockery. A similar case occurred on Dec. 20, in connection with a run of the Heythrop Hounds, near Stow.

China Clay in the United States.—Kaolin is reported as being marketed from 10 States, and paper clay from 3. Slip and ball clay are marketed in but few States, while fire and stoneware clays are reported from nearly every State in the list. The production of every variety of clay, except slip and stoneware clay, showed an increase in value in 1906. Kaolin increased in value $42,617, or 13·04 per cent.; paper clay, $35,470, or 11·54 per cent.; ball clay, $31,861, or 19·05 per cent.; fire clay, $348,543, or 22·79 per cent.; while slip clay decreased in value from $33,384 in 1905 to $31,546 in 1906, and stoneware clay fell from $219,767 to $150,774, a loss of $68,993, or 31·39 per cent. The following figures show the imports of china clay from 1902 to 1906, inclusive:—1902, quantity 149,029, value $883,092; 1903, 157,088, $898,573; 1904, 160,046, $891,708; 1905, 187,803, $1,019,650; 1906, 223,404, $1,208,189.

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

WHILE we are celebrating the birth of the year 1908, it is appropriate to touch upon some few incidents of the past year so far as our own trades are concerned. First of all it must be set down that the year has been a most momentous one for the trade and population of the Potteries, if for no other reason than that it has brought us within measurable distance of the time when the six scattered townships will be welded into one great and united city. The year upon which we are now entering should see the successful achievement of that amalgamation, and though the precise benefits which will be derived threfrom are more or less a matter of speculation at the moment, we feel that it must ultimately result in an improvement in the general character of the towns, an enormous development in the facilities for technical education, and a general raising of the conditions of life and labour. Another feature of the past year has been the great strides taken towards the introduction of the gas firing of potters' ovens. From time immemorial the Potteries has worn a black garb of smoke, and the blacker the better pleased was the manufacturer of olden times, because its signification to him was that many ovens were being fired, that much business was being done, and that the workpeople were finding plenty of employment. But nowadays we are learning that smoke means waste, and that it may be possible before long to clear away the pall of black which usually lies over the six towns, with advantage to the manufacturer and benefit to the district. Experiments have been carried out during the year with both Mond and producer gas, which show most clearly that ovens of the existing type can be successfully fired without any smoke whatever passing into the atmosphere, and when a few more details have been arranged we may expect to see the gas firing system generally adopted not only on account of its cleanliness, but also because of its cheapness and efficiency. The strike in the sanitary branch of the potting trade was one of the unhappy incidents of the year, but the struggle has left no bitter feelings behind. Both masters and men learnt to respect one another more, perhaps, than formerly, and we may hope that it will be long before the trade may need to call upon the Rector of Stoke to act as intermediary in similar circumstances again. The opening of the new Wedgwood Institute at Burslem was an event of the first importance to the trade, and reminds us that one of the most pressing needs of the potting trade to-day still remains unfulfilled, viz., the provision of a School of Potting. The art side of our education is fairly well attended to, but until an adequately equipped institution is provided at which practical potting can be efficiently taught, and where facilities for experimental work and scientific research can be furnished, the pottery district will still be without one of the main things which it ought to have. The progress of the Federation movement raises hopes that this want will soon be supplied.

Now we come to special trade matters. What shall be said of the potting trade during 1907? Has it been a good year, a bad year, or an indifferent year? The answer may be given without any hesitation. It has been, so far as the volume of trade is concerned, a really good year. Employment has been plentiful, and from one end of the district to the other factories have been busily employed. The one unsatisfactory feature has been the question of prices. It cannot be disputed that the production has been largely in excess of what it was during the previous year, but whether the profit secured by the employers will be greater is open to very grave doubt. Many manufacturers do not hesitate to say that it will be less. The great increases in the price of raw materials and fuel hit them severely, and it was not until last September that selling prices were increased, so that for nearly two years they have been paying more for coal and materials without reaping, until very recently, any corresponding benefit from their customers. The home trade has kept up, with one or two slack intervals, in a very satisfactory manner, and the activity of the export trade is shown by the following interesting table, which sets forth the exports of British pottery for the last seventeen years, and shows that last year was far and away a "record year" as compared with any of its predecessors:—

1891	£2,373,690	1899	£2,041,876
1892	2,057,041	1900	2,038,009
1893	1,984,724	1901	1,992,797
1894	1,758,680	1902	1,899,599
1895	1,992,333	1903	2,175,988
1896	1,967,250	1904	2,106,324
1897	1,900,711	1905	2,098,223
1898	1,819,815	1906	2,382,819
	1907 ((11 months)		£2,443,787

From the above table it will be seen that already, without allowing for the month of December, which would represent, roughly, an additional £200,000, the exports this year are largely in excess of any other recent year, and this notwithstanding a falling off of nearly £30,000 in the exports to British South Africa. We have sent to the United States alone more than £100,000 worth of goods in excess of the amount despatched two years ago, and our Australian trade during the same time has increased £75,000—in each case without allowing for December's exports. More satisfactory still are the figures relating to Canada. In 1905 we sent to Canada pottery worth £178,303, in 1906 the value rose to £230,054, and this year, so far, the figure is £278,688, an increase of over £100,000 on a total of £278,000 in two years. Brazil has been a better customer of Great Britain this year to the extent of £32,000 more than last year, and New Zealand to the extent of £23,000. Germany and France, the British East Indies, and a number of smaller countries have also purchased more freely. The importance of the American continents as a market for the productions of North Staffordshire is once more emphasised by the returns. During the eleven months ended November the United States, Canada, Brazil, and the Argentine Republic together purchased British pottery to the value of £1,150,214. This total takes no account of the goods sent to such growing countries as Chili, which would represent a considerable sum in addition.

At the time of writing—just before Christmas—the condition of trade in the Potteries continues to be fairly satisfactory in both the china and the earthenware branches. Manufacturers have been agreeably surprised at the amount of Christmas trade. The home market as a whole has been much more active than was the case during the summer, which was adversely affected by wet weather and the consequent failure of the seaside trade. The Christmas demand this year, in fact, is generally reported as the best experienced for many years. The shipping trade, on the other hand, is not so good. In North and South America alike the disastrous effects of the financial crisis are being reflected in the condition of the potting trade, and the demand has fallen off noticeably. It would be wrong, however, to say that this is entirely due to the financial upheaval, for the increased price manufacturers have had to ask for their ware has had a natural tendency to restrict trade. It seems to be thought by foreign and colonial buyers that if they wait a month or two before placing their orders prices will go down again, but it is quite as likely that they will go up higher, for miners and potters are alike seeking advances in wages. As to future prospects, the outlook is fairly hopeful, but there are one or two disquieting clouds on the horizon. The U.S.A. is an unknown factor, and a bad year's trade there seems not improbable. The agitation among the potters for an advance of wages is another disturbing feature, while, again, very divergent accounts are current concerning the Australian outlook. A letter from the agent for one of our leading firms says that we may anticipate a good year in that part of the world; but, per contra, the agent of another and equally important firm says that the harvest has been so bad that Australia will have no wheat whatever for export, and that the prospects are not particularly bright. So far Australian customers, it is true, are taking large consignments from us, but it cannot be predicted that this briskness will continue indefinitely. The South African trade is as bad as it can be, and however much enterprise local firms display in attempting to drag trade over here, all their efforts are in vain. It is at present, to potters, the most discouraging market in the world.

It has already been mentioned that the operative potters of this district are beginning to agitate for an advance of wages. March 25—potters' settling day—is still a fairly long way off, and there is time for a good deal to happen before it arrives; but this matter is one of such importance to the manufacturer and retailer, as well as to the operative potter himself, that it needs more than simply a passing allusion. The facts are that the officials of the Potters' Union are taking a ballot of the whole of their members, both male and female, on the question whether or no they are in favour of putting in for an all round advance of 15 per cent. in wages. It goes almost without saying that a majority of the answers will be in the affirmative. Consequently, it may be taken almost for granted that the application will in due course be put in. Manufacturers will not be altogether surprised at the subject having arisen. The newspapers have repeatedly recorded, during the past year, that advances of 5 per cent. have been conceded to miners, and in a district where potters and colliers live next door to one another, and fraternise day by day, it is natural that one section of the industrial army grows envious when it sees another section increasing its emoluments without doing any extra work for it. Then, when the pottery manufacturers decided to increase their selling prices 5 per cent., the working potters began to discuss the possibility of obtaining an advance themselves, and the present agitation has followed. But the case of the potter is not on all fours with that of the collier. The collier has been getting high wages, but the colliery proprietors have, simultaneously, been getting enormous prices for coal. The

pottery manufacturer has had to pay through the nose for his fuel, and for all his materials, particularly those which require the use of much coal in their preparation. And while he has been doing this, his selling prices were unaltered until two or three months ago. Admittedly, the volume of trade has been heavier, but even so, the manufacturers declare that the extra profit derived from the larger amount of business transacted scarcely recoups them for the extra prices they have had to pay for coal and materials. As a general principle it is only right and proper that, when trade is good, employers and workmen should alike share in the benefits arising therefrom, and one must not forget in this connection that the operatives have already reaped very considerable advantages from the spell of good trade we have been enjoying, through having been found more employment. The workpeople have already been participating in the benefits of the better trade. They now propose to apply for a 15 per cent. increase of wages all round in addition. Can the manufacturers afford to pay this increase when selling prices are as they now stand, and the American outlook is so uncertain? To this question there can be only one answer, and that is an emphatic negative. One employer—and he among the most generous of all the master potters in the trade—admits that a 5 per cent. increase in certain branches might be discussed, but even he made this statement with reserve.

Another gentleman well known for his moderation and fair-mindedness, who has done a great deal from time to time to improve the wages and conditions of the workers, and is held by them in the warmest esteem, said, in the course of a conversation with a representative of the POTTERY GAZETTE, "Such a demand as 15 per cent. is unreasonable, and cannot be sustained. Speaking for myself, it is only to be met with an absolute and frank 'No.' In my opinion, what is wanted at the present time more than anything is some kind of codification of prices, and some re-arrangement which will bring places paying too little up to the standard of places paying better prices. As a general principle, it is impossible to justify an all-round advance, because some branches of the potting trade are already doing very well. Want of union amongst employers, and want of union amongst the men, are still the serious difficulties of the potting trade, and what I should like to see would be a really honest attempt on the part of representatives of the employers and of the men to secure such a rectification of wages rates as would do away with grievances now existing in certain directions, and tend to a fair equalisation of prices. I know that the men have grievances. They complain that the sizes and counts of different articles are increasing, without any corresponding increase in prices, and they say that this amounts to a reduction in wages. The whole thing, in my opinion, is a case for arbitration and careful consideration, with a desire to be fair to all parties. If you say there must be an increase all round, irrespective of the different scales of wages now paid, you will put an unfair handicap on the man who is already paying the full trade union rate of wages, or even slightly higher, without doing anything to level up the employer who is not paying the full rate. Such a proceeding would be manifestly unfair. There should be an attempt to rectify disparities between factory and factory before any talk is heard of an all round increase. The present situation is full of anxiety and awkward corners, and wants careful handling. The men may be anxious to test the strength of their new union, and, in addition, there is this ominous fact, that the union is now associated with the National Federation of Trade Unions, so that it has behind it the moral and financial support of a great many other workers besides pottery workers. That being so, it would not do for employers to ignore the fact that they are not dealing with a comparatively weak and ineffective union. All the more, therefore, I regard this as a case for the intervention of some competent, independent person who can properly deal with what is a very difficult situation, because nobody can think that the trade could stand a 15 per cent. advance of wages. Eight or nine years ago a section of the employers unwisely adopted the attitude that the workmen's unions were a negligible quantity, and could be ignored. That spirit begot a feeling of bitterness and antagonism on the part of the men which has led to many of our difficulties, but I hope that more friendly feelings will prevail in the discussion of the present situation. I should view with the greatest regret the possibility of anything like a strike or stoppage, but I feel I cannot even contemplate a 15 per cent. advance, though I confess that there are, possibly, one or two branches which really are, from certain reasons, suffering more hardly than the rest, and in which something may be done to improve conditions. If the union feel that some manufacturers are using apprentice labour and female labour where other employers are not doing, and that indirectly the former employers are getting a reduction in this way, that is an evil which the union must set itself to redress. If one employer is paying much less than the trade union rate paid by another for the same work, that is another evil. If the union will put these things right, and then ask the employers to consider, in detail, the general position in the wages of certain branches, then the men ought to be met in a fair spirit. But, in the present condition of things, I say again that to talk about a 15 per cent. increase all round, or any other increase all round, is a proposal that we cannot for a moment consider."

The above is a plain and unvarnished statement, just as it was made. It goes further in some respects than most employers would care to follow it, and it is evident that the masters will unanimously oppose the proposed advance. This brings us to another subject, viz., the proposed reconstitution of the Board of Arbitration. The members of the Manufacturers' Association had before them early in December the suggestion of the operatives that any six weeks' notices given on March 25 for alteration of wages, and any notices for determining engagements a fortnight later, should be considered as running concurrently; and, after having given the matter due consideration, the Association passed a resolution expressing the opinion "that it would be to the interest of all parties concerned that the Board of Arbitration, which was in existence some years ago in connection with the potting trade, should be reconstituted, either on the same lines as formerly existed, or with such modifications as the present conditions of the trade may render necessary, because, if that were done, there would be no necessity for following up the six weeks' notice with a twenty-eight days' notice, the rules of the Board providing that there should be no cessation of work, but that the manufacturer should continue to employ the operative, and the operative should remain at his work pending the settlement of any dispute between them by the Board of Arbitration." A meeting is to be held between masters and men, and it is to be hoped that some arrangement may be come to, so that the matter of the proposed advance in wages may be referred to it, and any repetition of last year's misunderstandings, which led to the sanitary trade strike, avoided. Any opposition to the reconstitution of the Board of Arbitration will probably come from the men, and not from the masters. Mr. Wm. Owen, at the last arbitration, in 1891, said, on behalf of the men, "Our figures are irresistible, and if they cannot prevail, then, I am afraid, the funeral card of arbitration in this district might be printed, 'Arbitration—requiescat in pace.'" The men's figures did not prevail, and arbitration has since been suspended.

Contrary to general expectation the adverse poll given by the ratepayers of Burslem on the proposal to federate the six local towns has not wrecked the Federation movement. Most people, at the time, thought that the scheme had received its death blow, but when the local councils met the following day, at Stoke, the Local Government Board Inspector, who presided, refused to accept a resolution which was then proposed to the effect that the conference be adjourned for twelve months, and he gave a very broad hint that if Longton, Hanley, and Stoke signed a representation to the Local Government Board in favour of federation it was more than probable that pressure would be brought to bear on Burslem. Such a representation has consequently been presented, and the official inquiry is to commence on January 8. This is all to the good progress, and the chances are that Federation will be an accomplished fact before many more months are over.

A number of members of the N.S. Smoke Abatement Committee, accompanied by several leading pottery manufacturers, paid a visit to the Royal Albert and Highgate Potteries of Albert Meakin Ltd., Tunstall, a fortnight ago, to see kilns and ovens in process of firing by gas. The deputation made a careful examination of the enamel kilns for earthenware, which had been in continuous use for over two years, and are fired by producer gas generated in separate gas producers. The results achieved have been so satisfactory, both in respect to diminished cost of fuel, and reduction of wear and tear, that the firm have since installed the system to the fritt kiln with even better results. The fuel used at the fritt kiln is common slack, and no difficulty is experienced in maintaining the heat at the required level as long as desirable. Latterly, attention has been devoted to the application of gas to the glost ovens, and an oven has been adapted to the gas from a separate producer, the fuel again being slack. Excellent ware is now fired by this means, and great advantages are derived in the way of cleanliness, economy, and ease of firing. At the Highgate works majolica kilns for enamel and painted tiles have been installed, and the visitors were deeply impressed by the arrangements. At the meeting of the English Ceramic Society, on Dec. 14, Dr. R. L. Seligman, who is an expert on the subject, delivered a lecture to a large attendance, on "Continental Gas Firing," when he expressed astonishment that more progress had not been made with gas firing in English ceramic centres. Every day gas firing seems to be creating more and more interest, and nobody can doubt that immense developments in this direction must come in the very near future.

Profound sympathy is felt throughout this district with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Aynsley, of Longton, in the heavy blow they have sustained by the death, under peculiarly sad circumstances, of their second son, Mr. John Aynsley. The deceased was a bright and cheery young fellow, just entering upon manhood, and between him and his father the closest attachment existed. Recently, however,

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his health had been bad, and he suffered from almost unbearable pains in the head, for the easing of which, unknown to his family, he had been taking morphia hypodermically. He consulted two specialists and was able to attend to business at the Portland Potteries' Mills, at Stoke, until early in December. On the afternoon of Dec. 3 he was found at home, by the fire in the billiard room, snoring heavily, and all efforts to rouse him failed. Medical assistance was speedily summoned, and everything possible was done to revive him. About ten o'clock in the evening he seemed to respond to the efforts and was able to sit up, but he relapsed shortly afterwards and passed away at a quarter-past five the following morning. In his pocket were found an empty morphia bottle and a syringe, together with a letter addressed to his father, which contained directions as to the disposition of his property and concluded, "I hope when next we meet I shall not have these everlasting headaches." At the inquest the greatest sympathy was expressed for the bereaved parents, the coroner and jury joining in sending them a message of heartfelt sorrow at the terrible trouble which had overtaken them. The funeral took place very quietly at Moddershall. The ceremony was marked by great solemnity, and a scene which was most affecting took place after the committal, when, in accordance with a dying wish expressed by deceased, Mr. Will Boxall, ex-huntsman of the North Staffordshire Hounds (of which Mr. Aynsley was a follower) blew the hunter's horn over the grave.

An action of great trade interest, which bears a remarkable resemblance to another case reported in the POTTERY GAZETTE about a twelve month ago, was heard two or three weeks ago at the Hanley County Court, before Judge Ruegg, K.C. The parties to the action were Mr. Archibald Dray, china and earthenware dealer of Warwick-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, and the Hill-street Pottery Co., Hanley, Mr. Dray seeking to recover from the Company £6 5s. 9d. money paid, and £3 14s. 3d. damages for breach of contract through late delivery. The plaintiff's case was that, being about to set up in business, he dispatched an order to the Hill-street Company on Sept. 24, and, having received the invoice, he forwarded a cheque on the 27th. The defendants, in their price list, said that one of their chief characteristics was their prompt despatch of orders, and that if any delay were likely to occur, they were in the habit of informing customers and paying cash back in full. A circular which they issued also stated that they used every endeavour to dispatch goods the day after the order was received. Mr. Dray asked for delivery by Monday, Sept. 30, but the first crate was not received until Oct. 9. The result was, that he was unable to open his shop for twelve days, and on Oct. 5 he sent to defendants cancelling the order. For the defence witnesses were called to show that Mr. Dray's cheque was not received until Sept. 28, and that one crate was sent off on Oct. 4 and another on Oct. 5. It was contended that there was no unreasonable delay between the clearing of the cheque and the sending off of the goods.—His Honour said that in view of the defendant Company's circular and plaintiff's request for the delivery of the goods on the 30th they ought to have informed Mr. Dray that they could not comply with his request. He held, therefore, that plaintiff was justified in cancelling the order. But at the time the order was cancelled the first crate had been dispatched. There appeared to have been some delay on the railway, but he should hold that the railway company acted as plaintiff's agent, and that at the time he cancelled the order the first crate was actually in his possession. Plaintiff was, consequently, only entitled to cancel the order for the second crate. The claim for damages was disallowed.

On Dec. 16, at the Masonic Hall, Hanley, Councillor Wm. Sandland, founder of the business of Sandlands & Colley (Lim.), Lichfield Pottery, Hanley, was entertained by his former employees and presented with a large portrait of himself as a memento of his election to the Hanley Council. There was a large attendance of his former workpeople at the presentation. The proceedings began with a tea, following which Mr. Alfred Colley presided over a social gathering. Mr. F. Shore, the oldest employee, made the presentation, and Mr. Sandland made a suitable reply.——The Mayor of Burslem, Alderman S. Malkin, has been dispensing hospitality with a generous hand since he came into office. Early in December he entertained eight hundred of the old people of his town to a "high tea," and a right happy evening was spent afterwards in an entertainment of a varied character. Not one of the guests was under 65 years of age, and their total ages came to something like 56,000 years! His Worship has since followed up this treat by entertaining 600 poor children of the town. An excellent repast was provided, and afterwards there was a Christmas tree at the Town Hall, when Santa Claus, in the person of the Mayor, gave a present to each of his little guests, who will long remember the joyous time they spent.——A bazaar for the benefit of the cripples of the Potteries is to be held at Trentham next spring, and each of the local towns is providing a stall. The movement has been taken up most enthusiastically especially at Longton, where the residents have already promised about £400 to stock the china town's stall. The Mayor (Alderman Edwards), has made himself personally responsible for 50 guineas, Alderman A. B. Jones for 25 guineas and Mr. J. G. Aynsley for 10 guineas, while a host of other members of the trade have promised smaller sums.

A unique specimen of printing on pottery in colours has been lent to the Stoke Museum by Councillor E. Brooke. It was produced about the year 1810 for Messrs. Davenport, and was the invention of Wm. Brooke, a well-known potters' engraver and grandfather of the lender. In the early years of the 19th century he succeeded in perfecting a method of printing under glaze, in several colours, and the specimen on exhibition was one of the first trials. The design was made for the purpose of decorating dinner ware, but it was found that the cost of engraving the plates was too great to enable Messrs. Davenport to make a commercial success of the idea, and they did not proceed further with it.

An inquest was held at the North Stafford Infirmary on December 3, as to the death of John Bennett, a glost placer of Victoria-street, Tunstall. Deceased had been employed for the past two years at Messrs. Wedgwood & Co.'s pottery, Tunstall, as a glost placer. Some time ago he was suspended, as it was suspected he was suffering from lead poisoning. Mrs. Bennett, mother of deceased, said he had been ill six months ago, but did not complain of headache or of pains in the stomach. Dr. King Alcock, certifying surgeon for the Burslem district, said he had examined the deceased every month since November, 1905. He suspended him in September this year. Witness had made notes about his health since April this year, and in August he told him he was not satisfied about his condition, but the man disclaimed any illness. Deceased was jaundiced and very anæmic. He gave him an interim suspension, and advised him to go to the Infirmary, which he did. After his admission deceased began to have manifest signs of lung trouble. He was operated upon without satisfactory results, and died on November 29. There were no signs of lead poisoning, except for the anæmia, which was common to many diseases. On Saturday last he made a post-mortem examination with Dr. J. H. Board, the house physician at the Infirmary. Externally there was nothing of any importance, but the wasting. Internally the diseased organs were the two lungs. Deceased had suffered from cancer of the lungs, which was a very rare disease. This condition could not have been set up by his employment. Dr. J. H. Broad, the house physician, said he thoroughly agreed with what Dr. King Alcock had said in his evidence. A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical evidence.

A private dinner was given by the "Association for Promoting the Federation of the Potterics," to some of the leading federationists of the district. The press was not represented, but an official report of the proceedings has been issued. The report says:—"The dinner did much to re-establish the *entente cordiale* between the representatives of some of the towns, whose interests appear to be somewhat conflicting. There is little doubt now that all difficulties will be surmounted by the prevalence of a spirit of 'give and take' and a desire to compromise on details." The company at dinner included the Mayors of Hanley, Burslem, Longton, and Stoke, and the chairman of the Fenton District Council. Councillor Cecil Wedgwood, of Hanley, a member of the famous potting firm of Wedgwoods, Ltd., presided. The Mayor of Burslem proposed the toast of the Association. He said the Burslem Council had decided that it was desirable that they should watch the interests of the mother town at the coming Local Government Board inquiry. But the growth of the sentiment in favour of federation, and the astonishing change of figures at the recent poll, had evidently influenced the Council; also they had been influenced to a certain extent by the petiion presented to the Council from ratepaying firms, representing amongst others rateable value of nearly £25,000 which had no voice whatever in the recent poll, who were strongly opposed to lavish expenditure in opposition.

In reply, Mr. Leonard Grimwade, the secretary of the Association, who is one of the largest potting manufacturers in North Staffordshire, made important refcrences to the future of the potting trade. He was, he said, anxious that just now the men responsible for the government of the district should not concern themselves too much about trivial and almost insignificant matters such as the precise settlement in regard to gas and electricity undertakings, but that greater consideration should be given to those larger aspects of the question which were fraught with such tremendous import to all the six towns. He referred particularly to the outlook for the china and earthenware trade, upon which the whole district depended for its prosperity and its very life blood. A constant stream of wealth was pouring into this district from the four corners of the world as a result of the enterprise and efforts of the manufacturers. There was scarcely a country that did not pay tribute to the Staffordshire potteries. Six million pounds annually was tapped in this way, and therefore the continued prosperity of the potting trade was of the utmost importance to the district, because all other trades depended largely for their support upon its welfare. He did not wish.

to take an alarmist view, but desired to point out that such tremendous strides were being made by competing nations, such as Germany, Austria, and France, to say nothing of the United States, that he felt the time had come when greater attention should be paid to the prospects of our trade, and greater assistance afforded by the local councils. This question was wrapped up in the question of federation. Never was there a time when more intricate and difficult scientific problems faced master potters. We seemed now to be just on the eve of discoveries, in respect to bodies and glazes, methods of firing, uses of marks and fireclays, and general principles of decoration, which made it essential that the Potteries should possess scientific and technical institutions of the very finest type. We were far behind other nations in this respect. Consequently, although we were still able to make the finest plates in the world, and one might also say the finest sanitary ware, the finest domestic goods, the finest toilet ware, and perhaps the finest high-class china, yet there were many new and important branches of the trade in respect to which we were hopelessly behind the times—branches of the trade which were increasing in volume and importance every year. He referred particularly to felspar china. Millions of pounds' worth of this class of pottery were produced annually, but practically none by the Staffordshire Potteries. Fireproof ware also was a comparatively new branch of the trade, bearing a handsome profit, but in respect to which, as well as felspar china, we were in a state of absolute ignorance. Other nations had grappled with these new developments, and made a commercial success of them. We ignored them altogether, thereby richly deserving the criticism of one of our greatest educational experts, who said that there was no district in the world which had finer traditions behind it than the Potteries, and none that had such disgraceful arrangements for perpetuating them. Mr. Grimwade appealed to the public men present that they should give due consideration to these important aspects of the great question of federation, and he ventured to say that unless superior scientific and technical education were forthcoming, the Potteries, although maintaining its high traditions for excellence in regard to certain branches of the trade, would fail altogether in her opportunities for developing new branches, which, if properly grasped, would bring extraordinary prosperity to the whole district. Incidentally, also, he referred to the importance of railway rates and better canal accommodation, and finished by an earnest appeal for greater consideration and a spirit of compromise between town and town, so that unity might be created. Councillor Percy Shelley, a china manufacturer, of Longton, proposed "The staple trade of the district." He hoped one of the first undertakings of the new federated boroughs would be to co-operate with the movement to improve our canal facilities, so that the existing ruinous rates on raw materials coming into the district and goods going out would be lessened. He hoped that the Mersey-Weaver Navigation, which at present comes within twenty miles of the Potteries, would be extended, and he calculated that this would effect a saving of more than one half the freights paid both ways. Alderman Shirley responded.

In consequence of the inclusion of lead poisoning among the diseases of occupation scheduled for compensation under the new Workmen's Compensation Act, it has been necessary to execute certain alterations in the memorandum of the Potters' Insurance Co., Ltd. A number of amendments were submitted to Judge Ruegg at the November County Court in Hanley, and there being no opposition, his Honour sanctioned them forthwith. A batch of compensation cases has been dealt with lately at the local courts. In one case, at Hanley, a strange point arose. A pottery fireman had met with an accident and claimed £8 15s. compensation. But his employer executed a deed of assignment, the insurance company refused to pay anything, and the trustee was in a quandary as to whether the amount should rank for dividend, or whether the receiver should pay it in full and risk it. The injured man expressed his willingness to accept £7, and ultimately the trustee paid that sum and the whole of the costs as well. His Honour said he thought the trustee had done quite right in doing as he had done, and risking it.—In another case, at Hanley, Messrs. Wooliscroft, tile manufactures, of Hanley, sought to have an order, under which they were paying compensation at the rate of 2s. 11d. per week to a boy, commuted on payment to the respondent of a lump sum of £15. On the suggestion of the judge it was agreed to increase the amount, and to pay the boy £1 per month for two years. His Honour commented on the difficulty of dealing with these cases affecting children, and remarked that he was glad this difficulty would be largely removed under the new Act.

The dispute between Mr. A. G. Harley Jones, of Fenton, and his holloware pressers has been satisfactorily settled, and the men have returned to work. Mr. Jones complained that it was unreasonable and unfair for the men to have gone out whilst the Christmas orders were on hand, thus depriving numerous other employees of opportunity of earning full wages. The men now admit that "after mature consideration they feel that it would, perhaps, have been better if they had given Mr. Jones a little more time to consider their demand for a revision of prices before handing in their notices to cease work."—The ex-Mayor of Burslem Mr. S. Gibson (of the Albany and Harvey Potteries), has presented a fine carbon photograph of himself to the Burslem Education Committee as a memento of the opening of the new School of Art, at which Mr. Gibson officiated a few months ago. The photo is tastefully framed in oak, and shows the Mayor wearing his robe and chain of office. It has been placed in a prominent position in the new school.

The china manufactory of Bridgett & Bates, Longton, was the scene of an outbreak of fire last month. The roof and floor of the mould shop were destroyed, and much damage was done to blocks, cases, and other stock. The loss is covered by insurance. The outbreak is supposed to have been caused by the escaping heat from an oven after the "clampings" had been removed.—Mr. T. C. Moore, J.P., pottery manufacturer, of Hanley, who has taught the men's class at Bethesda Chapel for a quarter of a century, has been presented by his scholars with a framed photograph of himself in recognition of his services.—Mr. J. T. Harris (Bullers, Ltd., Hanley) and his family have generously contributed £250 towards defraying the cost of installing electric light at the North Stafford Infirmary.—The Mayor of Stoke, Mr. W. B. Hackney, wholesale factor in pottery, has given £25 to the Stoke Education Committee for the purchase of boots for poor school children in the town.—The operative potters of North Staffordshire, through their union, have made a grant of £20 towards the 3,900 potters on strike in Germany. The North Staffordshire Trades Council have also sent a donation of £5.—A representative of the Board of Trade, in the person of Mr. George E. Arkell, has been visiting the potteries during the past month, to prepare returns in connection with the potting trade, under the Census of Production Act.—Mr. S. A. Alldridge, potters' manager, has been elected a member of the Longton Town Council, obtaining a majority of 62 over Mr. F. H. T. Goodwin, flint miller, at a by-election a few weeks ago.

The annual distribution of prizes to the students of the Longton Evening Classes took place at the Sutherland Institute on Dec. 23. Mr. W. C. French, chairman of the Education Committee, presided. The Mayor distributed the prizes in the presence of a large number of students and friends. Reports were presented by Dr. W. Harris, the headmaster of the School of Science and Technology, and Mr. W. Morse, headmaster of the School of Art. Dr. Harris said "when local employers co-operate with the Institute as they do in certain other industrial centres, and encourage their apprentices to attend classes in working hours without reduction of pay, they would begin to see the fruit of their labours. The headmasters were congratulated on the satisfactory nature of the reports.

Trade Unionism in the Potteries.—In view of the proposal of the operatives at the present time to apply for a 15 per cent. increase of wages, it may not be out of place to refer briefly to some of the labour organisations of the past in the Potteries, and to struggles which have taken place. The potters of North Staffordshire began to organise in 1817, at which time the entire population of the six towns was only about 40,000, as compared with a quarter of a million at the present time, of whom 50,000 are actually engaged in the trade. In 1824 the first Potters' Union became an established fact, and in the following year the workers at a number of factories struck for an advance of wages, at a time when the trade was labouring under conditions of severe depression. The Union had but slender resources, and in order to eke out their funds the strikers conceived the ingenious idea of turning their idle hours to good account by establishing a co-operative factory in which the out-of-work members were to be employed. The expedient was a bold one, but such an attempt, supported only by men inexperienced in the conduct of business and hampered for want of funds, was foredoomed to failure, and when it collapsed the strike ended too. There was evidently need for organisation on the part of the workers at this time, and the employers themselves recognised that fact, for the ruinous undercutting of prices, combined with heavy discounts given, had reduced the trade to a perilous condition. Consequently, when, in 1833, a new union was evolved, not a few manufacturers gave it a cordial welcome. One of them, Mr. Charles Mason, declared that such was the state of trade through unfair competition among the manufacturers, that unless the workmen came forward for its protection, nothing but ruin need be expected." The new union was invited by these manufacturers to send a deputation to them empowered to form a list of working prices for the ensuing year, to take effect after Martinmas, 1833. The union acceded to this request and a list was drawn up. But the main body of manufacturers refused to concur in this arrangement, and a strike occurred, the operatives after four months of struggle succeeding in winning from the majority what the minority had voluntarily granted—an advance of 25 per cent. in wages. A prominent member of the trade at this time was Mark Lancaster, the Secretary of the Union, who lived in Well-street, Hanley, just opposite to where the new offices of the Union are now being built. The Grand Lodge of the Union used to meet at the Trumpet Inn, which is only a few seconds'

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walk from the new premises. . . . Having gained their 25 per cent. advance, the men, in 1836, attacked the annual "hiring" and the "good from oven" system. Under the custom of hiring then in vogue an employer could keep a workman tied to a situation which yielded him no more than one day's employment per week, and if the workman left, it was at the risk of prosecution. Moreover, the next employer to whom he offered his services would ask for a written discharge from the man's previous master. (Incidentally, it was not until 1865 that the annual hiring system was abolished, and the men obtained the power to leave their employment by a month's notice, as at present.) It was a vain attempt to abolish the old hiring system that 20,000 men employed at 78 factories came out on strike at Martinmas, 1836. For twenty weeks they were losing nearly £14,000 per week in wages, but they kept up the struggle through grim privations, until the following January, when peace was declared. But it had been a costly business for the men. Their savings of years had been scattered, hundreds of homes were plunged into dire poverty, and the concessions they obtained were of a very flimsy character. The Union broke up; very soon the old "good from oven" system and annual hiring were resumed, and it was not until 1843 that another union was formed. The labours of this organisation, little by little, regained for the operatives the position they occupied as to wages in 1836, and in 1844 and 1845 two successive advances in wages, amounting to 7½ per cent., were obtained. In December of the latter year the masters met to consider an advance in selling prices; in the following March the Union sent to the masters a resolution they had passed placing on record the regret of the men that the masters, in their attempt to increase prices, "had been somewhat opposed by one or two of the cheap labour traffickers of the district," and pledging the operatives to "assist by all legal and moral means the combination of potting manufacturers to put an advance on the selling prices of their ware, believing, as they do, that such endeavour is founded on the desire to give a fair and equitable price for potting industry."

The fiasco of 1845, when the union, alarmed at the reported prospective introduction of machinery in the industry, started a scheme of emigration to America, may be briefly passed over. The idea was that the operatives should, by a series of levies, raise £5,000, buy land in America, and start a new pottery town there, but the scheme was attended by disaster to the union and all involved. Coming to more modern times, a landmark in the history of trade unionism in the potting trade was the establishment in July, 1868—largely through the instrumentality of Mr. Wm. Owen—of the Potteries Board of Arbitration and Conciliation. The next few years were prosperous ones for British potters—thanks to the Franco-Prussian War, which brought the Continental factories almost to a standstill—and the potters obtained an increase of 8⅓ per cent., or a penny in the shilling. In 1876 the manufacturers appealed to the Board for a reduction in wages of 10 per cent., but the umpire decided against a reduction. Three years later, however, the employers again gave notice of a reduction, and Lord Hatherton's award decreed a reduction of 8⅓ per cent., or a penny in the shilling. "Lord Hatherton's pennies" is a significant phrase which one often hears even to-day in the Potteries. Several attempts were afterwards made, from time to time, to secure the return of the lost pennies, but without success, and the men, in 1881, withdrew from the Board of Arbitration in anger. A strike followed, but with negative result, and in 1885 the Board of Arbitration was re-established. Six years afterwards the operatives demanded a 10 per cent. increase in wages, and the employers responded with a claim for a 10 per cent. reduction. Mr. Hinckes, M.P., presided at the arbitration proceedings, and the decision was that "it is not advisable to make any alteration in the rate of wages now paid to those branches which were the subject for inquiry." One good result of the arbitration, from the operatives' point of view, was that it changed the commencement of the trade year from Martinmas to March, so that when strikes now occur, as unfortunately they sometimes do, they take place in warmer weather than used to be the case. But the men were so incensed at the decision with regard to wages that the Arbitration Board again fell through, and not until now have any real attempts been made to re-establish it. In 1900 there was a general strike for an increase in wages, which resulted in the operatives recovering 5 per cent. of the 8⅓ per cent. taken from them by Lord Hatherton's award in 1879, and more recently there have been other sectional improvements in wages. Such, in brief, is the history of trade unionism in the Potteries during the last century. It is a history of ups and downs for both sides, and occasionally some little bitterness has been engendered, but, at the present time, the relations existing between masters and men are of the most cordial character, and we trust that they will not be disturbed by any hasty action or ill-considered step on the part of anyone.



THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FOLLOWING our usual custom when writing of the condition of the glass trade at the close of the year, we may devote a little space to a review of the operations of the previous twelve months. When 1906 was drawing to a close, we said that, strong as the Continental competition had been, there was reason to anticipate that British makers should be able to make a better fight against it. Such has proved to be the case in certain branches of the trade, and in the highest classes of table ware we have more than held our own, but in the bread-and-butter of the trade, in articles of everyday use, the foreigner has made further encroachments. Such, in brief, is a history of 1907 in the glass trade. Of plate-glass works there is only one left in the United Kingdom; of manufactories where ordinary window glass is made the number is less than there used to be; and, despite a sort of spurt in bottles in some months of the year, there are several glasshouses closed or limited in producing power below the normal, and the out-of-works among the blowers and other operatives are numerous.

Turning to the several districts where the manufacture of glass is carried on, we find that in Stourbridge, amongst the leading houses, there has been a fair amount of activity, chiefly in the execution of orders for best table ware, for which the town and immediate neighbourhood are celebrated. The demand came largely from London West End dealers and those of corresponding importance in Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and other centres. Exports of the best makes have not been wanting, but it is doubtful if they have come up to the average of the last decade. There is less trouble now with the glass-blowers—chairmen, servitors, and footmakers—than was the case a few years back, the men, or, at least, many of them, recognising that it is useless to press for higher wages when Austrians, Belgians, and Swedes accept half of what is paid to our best artificers, and labour under conditions that would not be permitted in this country. The production of novelites in coloured flower vases, lamps for electroliers, &c., goes steadily forward, but manufacturers are still annoyed at finding their best designs very quickly imitated by Continental makers and sent over here. In ordinary goods there has not been much done, and the manufacture of common blown ware is not regarded as a speciality, anyhow, of either Stourbridge or Wordsley. For the silversmiths a good many scent and other bottles have been made, and glasscutters have had fair employment. Few shops, however, can be reported as busy during the period that has elapsed since the publication of our last article.

There is anything but a cheery story to tell concerning the glass trade in Birmingham. The industry is certainly not in a satisfactory condition, nor has it been for some time. In the summer an old-established house found it impossible to go on any longer, so the works were closed, and of course the workmen thrown out of employment. Now another old and, like the other, well-reputed concern, in which the manufacture of lamp-chimneys was a leading feature, has shut its doors, the men being discharged, and (strong proof of the want of confidence in the revival of the glass trade) the works have been dismantled and the plant, &c., sold by auction. Foreign competition is blamed for these occurrences. Those houses in Birmingham that are doing well owe their good positions to specialities they manufacture, or to their inventive genius, which enables them to bring out, month after month,

something new in shape and colour, &c. This is especially noticeable in shades for electric lights, flower-stands, all or nearly all of which are quickly copied by Continental makers. The looking-glass trade is fairly good, but bevellers have hardly had full employment. At Sponlane a good deal is doing in specialities. Slackness has also prevailed among the glass-cutters of the city.

Mr. W. Murray, proprietor of the Vesta Glass Works, Birmingham, has once more been elected a member of the Birmingham City Council, and without a contest. It will interest many more than old Birmingham members of the trade to read this extract from "Aris's Gazette" of June 20, 1837; it relates, as will be seen, to the then head of one of the finest glassworks in the Midlands:—"On Wednesday last an election dinner was given to Thos. Hawkes, Esq., M.P., at the hotel, Dudley, where he was presented with a splendid service of plate, exceeding in value 170 guineas, as a tribute of respect and gratitude, from the glass manufacturers of the United Kingdom for the unwearied zeal and devotion paid by that gentleman on all occasions to promote the interests of the trade . . . whether in or out of Parliament." Mr. Hawkes was Member of Parliament for Dudley. We note that Mr. A. Cay, of Kenilworth, who many years ago acquired the business of Stevens & Son, Dartmouth-street, Birmingham, manufacturers of deck-lights, glass retorts, &c., and who also took over Stone, Fawdry & Stone's glassworks in the same thoroughfare, has been nominated as High Sheriff of Warwickshire for the coming year. He married a daughter of the late Sir John Jaffray, who also served the office; and it is worthy of note that his brother-in-law was High Sheriff of the same county a year ago. Mr. Cay is very popular, and everyone in the trade will wish him success in carrying out the duties of this ancient and honourable office.

In Lancashire the condition of the glass trade has varied during the past two months, and in some departments, reported in our last article as busy, slackness prevails. Warrington bottle-makers have done fairly well lately, but in flint glass works there was less activity, both round the furnace and in the cutting shop. Manchester firms of old standing have had orders in hand for Christmas, but at the time of writing are quieter, and one leading firm, on the 13th ult., discharged many of their workpeople owing to slackness. Fancy articles in coloured glass have gone off pretty well, especially for table decoration, and just now travellers are out with spring novelties. The demand for steam-tubing, after a long period of briskness, has become dull, owing to the disputes in the cotton trade between the employers and the workpeople, and the same thing has adversely affected machinery glass. There is a confident belief that when the differences are adjusted the demand will be as strong as ever. Bottle-makers have had a fair share of work since autumn set in, and they are moderately busy at the present time.

The glass trade in St. Helens has of late exhibited some excited conditions. The ravages of the fire at the works of Pilkington Bros., Ltd., have to a large extent been repaired, and many of the workers who lost their employment by the destruction of buildings have been put on again. There has, however, been a strike at the works in the German-sheet department, among the youths employed as gatherers. Disapproving of the rate of pay they threw down their blowpipes on the 9th ult. and walked out of the works. They had no funds, and in a few days were begging in the streets. This the chief constable put a stop to on the 14th. Eventually the dispute came to an end. The lads sought an interview with Col. Pilkington, the head of the great firm, but he told them he would not enter into any consideration of their case until they returned to their employment. Whilst the dispute was in progress, an alarming occurrence took place at another St. Helens glasshouse—viz., the bursting of a tank containing scores of tons of molten metal. The workers fled hastily, and all got safely out of the building, which, however, was completely destroyed. After a few days' delay a tank was got ready in another house and operations resumed. The structure formed part of the works of Cannington & Shaw, bottle manufacturers.

A law case of not a little importance to the tradespeople of St. Helens, as well as to the parties concerned, was opened at the Chancery Court at Liverpool on the 9th inst., and is reported in our legal columns. The bottle trade of the town has been brisk of late, but just now is slackening. Shippers and bottlers had placed good orders. Glass-benders have done moderately of late.

The glass bottle manufacturers of South and West Yorkshire have had a fair spurt, and the men in the glassmakers' union are applying for an advance of wages to the extent of 2s. per, week with 2½ per cent. more for overtime, partly on the ground that manufacturers are getting higher prices for bottles. Members of the Masters' Association hold that the advance is not warranted, and that any enhanced prices have been counterbalanced by the increased rates they have had to pay for raw material. Some complaint is being made by retail chemists about the irregular sizes of reputed 6-oz. and 8-oz. bottles, and that they are thereby placed in difficulties at times in making up prescriptions. The answer to this is that prescriptions ought only to be made up by the use of the standard engraved graduated measures, and that bottles are not "irregular" to any appreciable extent. Machine-made jars and wide-mouth bottles are being produced in increasing quantities, especially at Knottingley and Barnsley. Employment for blowers is more steady in the latter town, also at Castleford and Hunslet. Fifteen-ounce bottles have of late met with ready sale in preference to 10-oz. The outlook for the bottle trade is regarded as hopeful, but much will depend upon what occurs in February, when the yearly agreement as to wages and trade conditions comes under consideration. The flint hands are doing rather better than in autumn, but in their branch, as in the bottle shops, the effect of foreign competition is keenly felt by manufacturers and therefore by the employees.

In York city the glassworks have been busy during the last two months, largely in the production of tubing, rods, and other articles for scientific purposes, and the prospects for next year, it is understood, are cheering. Activity has characterised the medical bottle departments. Further north—viz., in Durham and Northumberland—the flint trade, especially in pressed goods, has been sluggish. Bottle-makers have done moderately, but, taking the business all round, it is not satisfactory either to manufacturers or workmen.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Toronto, Canada.

NEVER before in the history of the Canadian Dominion has there been such strenuous competition in the crockery and glassware fields as there is at present. This condition has been precipitated mostly by the persistent efforts of United States importers and manufacturers to capture a share of the Canadian trade, and to get in "on the ground floor," as it were. The Canadian importers hold their own only by jealously and zealously covering every inch of the territory they call their own. They are seriously handicapped by the unjust and inexplicable agreements existing between the British manufacturer and the New

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York importer. If a customer desires a bill of certain well-known makers, the Canadian wholesaler must place his order through the New York agents, who have been given control of the Canadian territory! This plan of including Canada in matters American places our importers at a great disadvantage. They do not receive the deference paid to the United States importers, and their influence is correspondingly limited. There is no reason why the Canadian control of these and other lines should not be in the hands of the Canadian agents, most of whom are quite as reliable as are the controlling agents in the American metropolis. This distinction in favour of foreign competitors is irritating to the trade here, and certainly militates against the trade in certain makes of pottery.

The United States importers have opened a vigorous Canadian campaign. Their travellers have visited the larger centres and opened out their very finest and most attractive lines of wares, with substantial results. One of the largest crockery and glassware importing houses in New York opened a branch house in Toronto a little over a year ago, and early in the summer established a similar agency in Montreal. It is the intention of the same company to open a Winnipeg branch a year hence. Another large New York firm, dealing in fancy goods and carrying lines of crockery and glassware, has a very large branch in Toronto, and purposes branching out in the near future. In the face of these facts, it is not to be wondered at that the Canadian importer resents the British manufacturer's leniency towards the Yankee competitor.

The Eastern Canadian trade has been steady, with a tendency towards the better grades of crockery. This is due to the general prosperity, but there is a lull which, it is feared, presages a general slump after the holidays. Travellers for the leading wholesale houses report that a lively trade in fine pottery and glass is being done with the drug stores and jewellery stores in the medium-sized towns in Northern Ontario. There is a demand all along the line for goods of the better class. The importer's sample rooms are filled with samples of the most recherché pottery. A gratifying feature to mention is that it is mostly pottery of English manufacture.

The steady expansion and development of Winnipeg, and its constant increase in wealth, have created a continuous improvement in the call for china and glassware of the better grades; but there will always be sale for the intermediate and commoner values, for one remarkable, and perhaps unique, reason. The rural population of Manitoba is constantly shifting. This movement is wholly due to the severity of the climate in winter. Incomers are attracted to that part of Canada by the amazing fertility of the soil and its adaptability to wheat production. Once located, the farmer is obliged to remain until an opportunity is presented for him to dispose of his farm to advantage. Few of them hesitate to sell when they can. The returns from two or three harvests, added to the price of the more or less improved farm, gives the average farmer a competence. With his money safe in the bank he departs to a more salubrious climate far away from the terrible blizzards of Manitoba. The Promised Land to all the Western Canadians is the beautiful Okanagan (pronounced Ok-an-oggan) Valley, the fruit belt of British Columbia, and the finest, mildest and most equable climate, probably, on the continent of North America. No snow falls in the valley, and there is no cold, rainy season, such as militates against the perfect equableness of other mild localities on the Pacific Coast.

Here, therefore, the settlers of Manitoba come with sufficient means to make them independent. Land is cheap, and fruits and vegetables of all kinds grow with almost tropical prodigality. The rivers teem with salmon and other fish, and the foothills abound with all sorts of game. The contrast with the frozen areas of Manitoba is almost inconceivable. The settlers' existence is incomparably more pleasant. The society, as a rule, is congenial. A majority of those who have taken up fruit farms in the Okanagan Valley are British born, bred, and educated. They are superior to the foreign immigrant, and even to the typical Canadian farmer. Their home life in England was more refined. They were accustomed to luxury and the refining influences of a well-ordered household and intellectual home atmosphere. Naturally, their desire is to surround their own children with as many as possible of the advantages they enjoyed, and the result is a demand for finer grades of crockery than can be sold elsewhere in the whole Canadian West. Lines of the higher class wares which cannot be sold anywhere between Winnipeg and the Rocky Mountains, sell readily for the trade of the highly civilised and comfortable inhabitants of that section of British Columbia. The only drawback is the limited population. The valley has a population of about 50,000; but it is surely and steadily increasing, and with the advent of greater transportation facilities, which cannot be long delayed, and the consequential growth of an accessible market for its products, this Garden of Eden will eventually become a still larger market for the best products of the potteries and cut-glass factories of the mother country.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE experience of the month of December (prior to the advent of Christmas) amongst the larger of the retail merchants in the china, crystal, glass, and finer pottery wares can be estimated at the time of writing, which is between Christmas and New Year's Day. Although the weather, has on the whole, been again unfavourable for shopping, it is found that in this retail turnover there has been some improvement, as compared with the corresponding period of the close of 1906. The business done was of course largely in wares suitable for presentation, in anticipation of the approaching Christmas and New Year's Day. But, while some little improvement has thus been observable, it could not escape the notice of the salesmen that the goods thus selected were mostly of a common character, and low in price. This is an evidence in a small way of the continued tightness of the money market, and of the uncertainty in the financial outlook.

Christmas Day in Glasgow and over most of Scotland, though cold, was a good out-of-door day, dry and bracing, and all ordinary shops and places of business (in contrast to the custom throughout England) being open as usual, a substantial addition was on that day made to the season's returns, amongst the retail houses of our particular industry. This dry weather has continued since, and if it is maintained over New Year's Day, which in Scotland is (under favourable weather conditions) a great day for gadding about, with more or less money to spend, the benefit to the trade will be further increased. The saloons and shops this year have been well arranged with attractive displays of stock, some of them distinctly surpassing themselves in this respect.

Irrespective of the passing extra retail push caused by the festive season, the considerations of the industry are not at all enlivening. Travellers out for orders against the early spring needs have been meeting with much discouragement, in the general unwillingness to order with anything at all approaching freedom or assurance. The disastrous cereal harvest has much to do with this timidity, although other adverse influences are also felt—idleness in shipbuilding circles, slowne s in the general industries of

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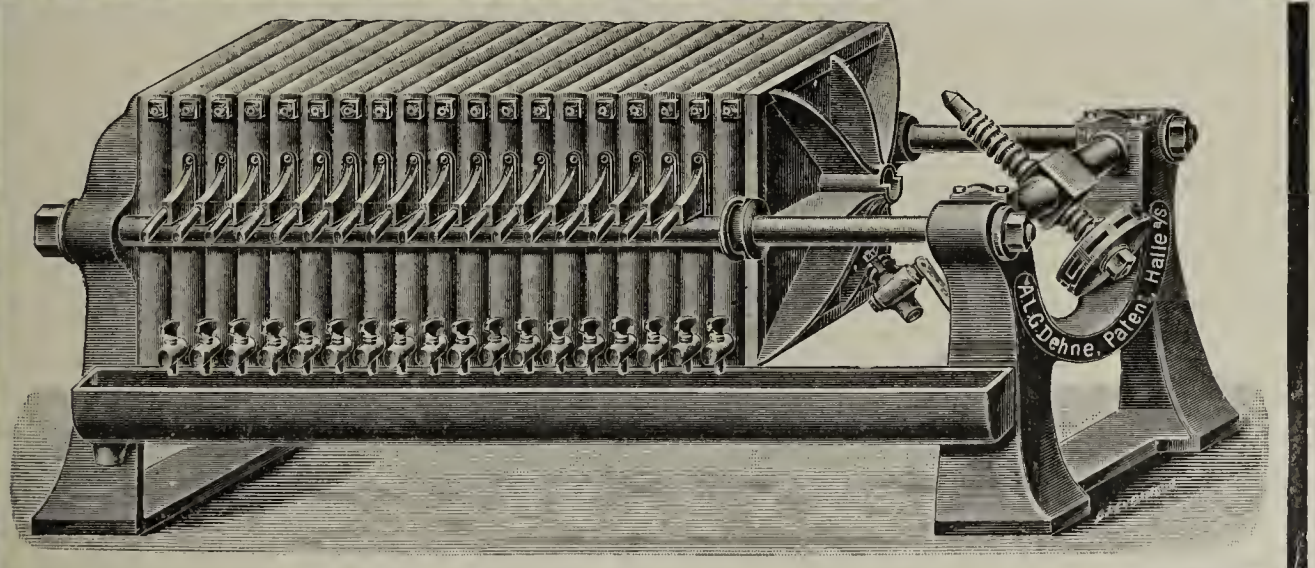
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the country, &c., including the uneasiness in the money market, and the much restricted financial accommodation available. It does not appear that recent advances in the prices of glass and some pottery ware goods have much influenced the orders. The advances have been generally acquiesced in, as even more than justifiable under the circumstances, and in the case of those orders that have been forthcoming it is understood that the heightened values have been quite fully maintained.

Makers have now nearly finished their season for jam jar production, and are able to look upon the returns with some fair degree of satisfaction, both sales and prices being a good deal better than could at one time have been expected. The Rockingham makers' newly formed agreement is on report as still intact, so far as is known, and the values now being got by the Scotch makers, in Scotland and Ireland, are fairly remunerative, although not quite up to the English mark. The attempt at agitation amongst the employees of the Scottish potteries is still persisted in, and, indeed, of late weeks it has assumed more of a practicable and forceful shape. Meetings have been called and held, and orations delivered, the object apparently being the formation of a branch in Scotland, to act with the main body in England. The whiteware hands are included as well as the stoneware workers, and, indeed, it is sought to include the whole of the Scottish pottery workers. The masters, meantime, are not apprehensive, relying on the good feeling existing, and now well secured, between them and their work-people.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements, the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

CAULFIELD & Co. (James Brown Dick and Alfred King), 16, Adam's-court-lane, Glasgow, wholesale china, crystal, and stoneware merchants. Nov. 30. Debts by J. B. Dick, who continues. (Dec. 3.)

HINES BROS. (Thos. Hines and Wm. Hines), Heron Cross Pottery, Fenton, earthenware manufacturers. June 17. Debts by Grimwades, Ltd., Winton Pottery, Stoke-upon-Trent, to whom the business has been sold, and will be continued at Heron Cross Pottery. (Dec. 3.)

WALTHO & STOCKS (Alf. Waltho, Saml. Percy Stocks, and Josiah Calderbank Ragg), 2A, Price-street, Birkenhead, manufacturers of patent bottle stoppers. Nov. 27. (Nov. 29.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders: and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

DAVIES (JOHN) POTTERIES, LTD. Resolved Nov. 29 :—That it is advisable to wind up the company. H. D. McAusland, 8, Victoria-street, Liverpool, liqr.

GODLONTON & SONS, LTD. Resolved Dec. 2 :—That the company be wound up. W. T. Godlonton, 158, Stoke Newington-road, N., liqr.

Notice under Assignment, &c.

MAYOR, JNO. W., trading as Mayor & Co., 175, Oxford-road, and 100, Alexandra-road, Moss Side, both Manchester, china dealer. Claims to J. H. S. Matthews, 6, Booth-street, Manchester.

Notices of Dividends.

FINNEY VINCENT J. and EDMUND F. FINNEY, trading as Finney Bros., 6 and 8, St. James'-walk, and 1 and 2, Suffolk-street, Clerkenwell, Staffordshire warehousemen. First, 2s. 6d., at Poppleton & Appleby's, 4, Charterhouse-square, E.C.

MARCUS WALTER B. and WM. T. HUNT, trading as W. B. Marcus & Hunt, 44, Bow-lane, com. agents. First and final 5¾d., at Josolyne, Miles & Blow's, 28, King-street, Cheapside, E.C.

PHILLIPS EMMANUEL, trading as Thomas Phillips, Stoke-on-Trent, colour manufacturer and beerseller. Second and final of 1s. in the £ at offices of F. Geen, Victoria-chambers, Stoke-on-Trent.

SHUFFLEBOTTOM EVE, 35, Great Ancoats-street, late 454, Gorton-road, Reddish, earthenware dealer. First and final, 5s. 9d., at O.R.'s, Manchester.

WEBSTER WM., 178 Woodcock-street, Hull, hardware and china dealer. First and final, 1s. 0½d., at O. R.'s, Hull.

Proceedings under Cessio.—Petition Presented.

CLARK WM., Kirkintilloch, china merchant.

Orders Made on Application for Discharge.

FINNEY VINCENT J. and EDMUND F. FINNEY, trading as Finney Bros., 6 and 8, St. James'-walk, and 1 and 2, Suffolk-street, Clerkenwell, Staffordshire, warehousemen. Oct. 24. Discharge suspended two years.

WILSON CHARLES WILLIAM, formerly trading as C. W. Wilson & Co., glass bottle and cork merchants, 121, St. James-street, Liverpool. An application was made at Liverpool Bankruptcy Court on December 20 for discharge. The liabilities admitted were £683, and the amount realised by the trustee was £439, out of which a first and final dividend of 8s. 9d. in the £ was paid. The failure, last February, was attributed to matrimonial difficulties, bad trade, and speculation losses on the Stock Exchange and by betting. The Official Receiver reported that the bankrupt had omitted to keep proper books of account. Mr. Leake (Messrs. T. J. Smith & Son) opposed, on behalf of the petitioning creditor, a sister-in-law, until 10s. in the £ was paid. It was pointed out that only £40 or £50 was required to do this, and his Honour granted the discharge, to be suspended until 10s. in the £ was paid.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BAKER EDWARD JAMES and BAKER WILLIAM THOMAS (trading as Baker Brothers), master potters, The Hoo Potteries, Hoo, near Rochester. In this matter, the first meeting of the creditors was held last month at 115, High-street, Rochester, and the debtors later on the same day attended the Court House, Eastgate, Rochester, for their public examination before Mr. Registrar Smith. The debtor, E. J. Baker, was first questioned by the Official Receiver, and stated that when he and his brother commenced business they had practically no capital. The business originally belonged to their father, and on his death in September, 1900, witness and his brother took over the potteries and other properties belonging to him. There were then debts amounting to £200. Debtor thought the present position had been caused by pressure by creditors and want of capital, while competition had been very keen. Asked whether he would have known at any time how he stood financially, debtor said they never employed anyone to balance the books. After the debtor William had been questioned the case was adjourned.

BERRY LEO HENRY, 5, Nott-square, Carmarthen, china dealer, R.O., Dec. 3. Exam., Guildhall, Carmarthen, Jan. 8 at 12. Adj., Dec. 5.

EVE ARTHUR GEORGE (trading as A. G. Eve & Co.), merchant, 96 and 98, Leadenhall-street, E.C. This case has already been reported in these columns, and a statement of affairs has now been filed by the debtor disclosing liabilities £961 9s. 5d., of which £876 11s. 10d. are returned as expected to rank, and net assets £4 2s. 11d. Messrs Ford & Son, Burslem, are returned as creditors for £24. A sitting for the debtor's public examination was recently held at the London Bankruptcy Court before Mr. Registrar

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Austria.—Herr Gustav Györi, 1, Maysedergasse, 6 Vienna.
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Hope. In his observations upon the case the Official Receiver reported that the receiving order was made upon a creditor's petition, and the debtor has been adjudged bankrupt. At the first meeting of creditors no resolution was passed, and the Official Receiver therefore remains trustee of the estate. The debtor states that he has kept cash books only and no other books of account for several years past. With the exception of £172, due for goods supplied for household and personal expenses and services rendered, the unsecured liabilities are business debts. It appears that the debtor has under-estimated his liabilities by about £70, and he has been required to amend his statement of affairs. The debtor says that the household furniture at the address at which he resides belongs to his wife, having been purchased by her with money given to her by a relative either from the trustee under an assignment in 1904 or previously. Upon examination by the Official Receiver, the debtor stated that he had made arrangements with his creditors on two previous occasions, namely, in June, 1904, and May 1906, at both of which dates he executed deeds of assignment for the benefit of his creditors. On the first occasion his liabilities amounted to some £4.000, and a dividend of about 10s. in the £ was paid. On the second occasion his liabilities amounted to about £2,000, but he was ignorant of what dividend had been paid. After June, 1906, he continued his business of a merchant at 11, Leadenhall-street, under the style of A. G. Eve & Co. In April he removed to 96 and 98, Leadenhall-street, where he had since traded. His insolvency was due to loss on trading since June, 1906, loss on a contract, and want of capital. The examination was concluded.

Farmer George Edward, glass and china dealer, &c., 26, Church-street, Wath-upon-Dearne, Yorks. This debtor filed his own petition on Nov. 15, and he attributes his present position to want of capital, bad weather, competition, pressure by creditors, and the coal strikes. The liabilities are said to amount to £403, to meet which the assets are estimated to produce £35. The debtor states that he started business about 11 years ago with £40 capital, of which his wife lent him £20. All the household furniture is claimed by Mrs. Farmer and a daughter, while a son claims 3 horses, 3 wagonettes, dray, cart, and two sets of harness. The day previous to filing his petition, the debtor sold a horse and a pair of wheels for £7 4s., and out of this he paid £7 to his daughter on account of wages owing to her. The daughter is also a creditor for £79 odd in respect of money lent to the debtor. No books of account have been kept. The first meeting of the creditors herein was held on Dec. 5, at Figtree-lane, Sheffield, and debtor attended the County Court House, Bank-street, Sheffield, later on the same day for his public examination before Mr. Registrar Binney. The liabilities amounted to about £408 and the assets were put at £40. The debtor was questioned at some length by the Official Receiver with reference to the money said to be owing to his (debtor's) daughter, to whom is due £79. Debtor said she lent him the money some years ago, but he said he had never bothered as to whether she had a bank book. He, however, admitted that he had never seen her bank book. A creditor asked the debtor how many horses he had, and he said only one. He was then asked how he had got through 160 stones of corn since September, and debtor replied that there had been his son's horses as well. After further questions had been put to the debtor, the examination was concluded, but the Registrar remarked that he was not satisfied with the debtor's answers, which were very evasive.

Green Henry, pot and brick manufacturer. &c., Strensall, Yorks. This debtor filed his own petition, and the receiving order was made on December 2. The accounts filed show gross liabilities £2,521 12s. 7d. (unsecured £675 5s. 2d.), and net assets £1,223 2s. 7d., or a surplus of £547 17s. 5d. The debtor has been in business at Strensall for forty years, and on the death of his father some twenty-five years ago he became possessed of about 12½ acres of land, on part of which he erected a pottery. The land was at that time subject to a mortgage, the amount of which he cannot now remember. He says that the brickmaking trade was fairly successful until about six years ago, when a new yard was opened near by, and this caused a considerable diversion of trade. He has not done any brickmaking for the past twelve months, and the pottery has been closed for four or five months. He has not kept any books of account, but says that he became aware of a straitened financial position six or seven months ago. A number of creditors have instituted proceedings, and execution was levied on November 30 for a sum considerably over £100, and at that time of the receiving order the sheriff's officer was in possession. The two secured creditors are for money lent in 1904, the security being a mortgage and further charge on the brickyard, pottery, dwelling-house and land at Strensall. The Official Receiver considers that the debtor's estimate is considerably above the real value. The claims for wages amount to £33, and are entirely those of members of the debtor's family. The failure is ascribed to interest on mortgage, bad trade, competition and law costs. The following are creditors :—M. Barry, Scarborough, £105 ; Albert Eastwood, Morley, £100 ; F. S. Gramshaw, York, £83 ; Albert Green, Strensall, £44 ; Mrs. J. H. Green, Strensall, £150 ; bankers, York, £50 ; Rotherford & Co., York, £31 ; Thos. Wood, Stillington, £30 ; W. W. Watson, York, £12. Fully secured creditors : Miss Flint, Scarborough, £1,700 ; J. H. Turner, York, £100. Prefcrential creditors : Rent, £15 ; rates, Sheriff's charges, &c., £46.

Jacobs Gershon (Gershon Koloski, commonly known and described as), 21, Houndsditch, E.C., pottery, &c., merchant. The adjourned sitting for the debtor's public examination was held on December 19, at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Hope, the statement of affairs showing liabilities £5,202 10s. 5d., of which £5,151 10s. 5d. were unsecured, and estimated net assets £263. Examined by the Official Receiver, the debtor stated that he began business on his own account in March, 1903, with £20 capital ; but he had never endeavoured at any time to ascertain his financial position. If he had realised that the business was not paying, he would have pulled up before. As a matter of fact, he had continuously lost money during the last three years without knowing it. It was not until December, 1906, that he began to keep a cash book ; in that month he engaged a clerk, who had since kept his books of account for him. Examined by Mr. Albert Osborne, representing the trustee, the debtor stated that he had sold large quantities of goods to travelling auctioneers, some of whose addresses he did not know. Consequently, he had returned his claims against them as bad debts. He believed that he had upwards of 230 creditors, but could not say how many of their claims represented new accounts opened within the last twelve months. There must be 64. Asked where he obtained the names of all those creditors, the debtor replied that the creditors came to him ; they served his brother, and expressed their willingness to do business with him (debtor). He was in a position to show to whom he sold goods on credit. Goods sold over the counter were sold in the ordinary course of business, and he paid between £12,000 and £15,000 every year into the bank. He had no doubt that he could satisfy the trustee how the stock now represented by his liabilities was disposed of and the amount it realised. His father, who had been in the habit of shop-walking, had nothing to do with the ordering of goods ; he had been in his employment nearly the whole of the time that he had carried on the business. The

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debtor admitted that he was only eighteen years of age when he began to trade. His father-in-law had also assisted him in the business, and that gentleman and his father had both advanced him money; all the loans appeared in his bank pass-book. He did not borrow money because he was short of capital, but because he wanted to purchase job lines at low prices. It was not until a few days before he convened the private meeting of his creditors that he first had bills returned. He had also borrowed money from other persons, including a Mr. Crockett, a publican in Houndsditch, who had purchased the stock-in-trade from the trustee in bankruptcy. Mr. Osborne: And now the business is carried on just the same as formerly, the same people being employed in it. Did you have anything to do with the sale of the stock to Mr. Crockett? The debtor denied that he had. He also denied that his deficiency account consisted chiefly of estimates. He had sometimes been compelled to dispose of goods at under cost price, but that would necessarily be the case if they were sold as job lots. His wife claimed the furniture at his residence on the ground that it was given to her at various times by relatives. An application by Mr. Osborne that the debtor should be ordered to file additional accounts with reference to the disposal of his stock was not granted, and Mr. S. Myers, who represented the debtor, asking no questions, the Registrar ordered the examination to be concluded.

PHILLIPS, MARY JANE, 35, Bridge-street, Haverfordwest, china dealer. R.O., Nov. 26. Adj., Nov. 26.

RAMSAY JOHN MOLL, glass merchant, 33, Hoxton-square, N. The sitting for debtor's public examination was held on Dec. 13, at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Brougham; the statement of affairs showing liabilities £822 18s. 7d., of which £800 11s. 3d. were unsecured, and estimated net assets, £63 14s. 2d. The following were the Official Receiver's observations upon the case:—The Receiving Order was made on the debtor's petition and he has been adjudged bankrupt. The books of account produced by the bankrupt do not sufficiently disclose his business transactions or financial position at any time during his trading. The debtor having been examined by Mr. Walter Boyle, Assistant Receiver, as to his trading and affairs, the examination was ordered to be concluded.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" by Messrs. G. F. REDFERN & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings. W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

CUTTING DESIGNS ON GLASS, No. 25,991.—H. Müller-Hickler. Improvements in apparatus for cutting designs on surfaces of glass or the like. Nov. 23, 1907.

ENAMELLED BLOCK, No. 25,005.—A. Evans. Enamelled and glazed fireclay sanitary block, for use as a toilet requisite container. Nov. 12, 1907.

FIRING KILNS, No. 26,189.—A. Meakin, Ltd., and W. Jackson. Improvements in ovens and kilns for drying or firing ceramic wares. Nov. 26, 1907.

GLASS BOTTLES, No. 24,945.—G. Calvert and G. S. Hunter. Improvements in or relating to glass, or the like, bottles, or receptacles, and the manufacture thereof. Nov. 11, 1907.

HYGIENIC INKSTAND, No. 26,964.—S. J. Sandle. New hygienic inkstand. Dec. 6, 1907.

INK WELLS, No. 26,059.—J. Heissenberger. Improvements in and relating to ink wells. (Date applied for under Patents Act, 1901, Nov. 30, 1906.)

JOINTING SURFACE FOR PIPES, No. 27,001.—J. K. Jensen, A. Jensen, and A. Devantier. Improved wavy or angular jointing surface for draining pipes. Dec. 6, 1907.

KILNS, No. 26,265.—A. Parry. Improvements in or relating to ascertaining the temperature of kilns and other drying floors and the like. Nov. 27, 1907.

MANUFACTURE OF PLATES, No. 26,413.—A. Tillberg. Process and apparatus for the manufacture of plates, plaques, and slabs for wall covering and similar purposes and for pressing or moulding other objects from plastic materials. Nov. 29, 1907.

PIPE JOINTS, No. 25,802.—J. Farlye. Improvements in or connected with the joints of earthenware or other pipes. November 21, 1907.

PIPE JOINTS, No. 25,885.—J. Farley. Improvements in or connected with the joints of earthenware or other pipes. November 22, 1907.

PIPE JOINTS., No. 25,887.—J. Farley. Improvements in or connected with the joints of earthenware or other pipes. November 22, 1907.

PIPES, No. 26,390.—F. Herbert. Improvements in the method of making spigot and socket-pipes, flanged pipes, and the like. Nov. 29, 1907.

PREVENTING REFILLING OF BOTTLES, No. 24,990.—B. Hall. Improvements in or relating to devices for preventing the fraudulent refilling of bottles and other glass vessels. Nov. 11, 1907.

PRODUCING PLASTIC MASSES, No. 26,820.—L. Küppers. Improved process for producing plastic masses for surgical and other medical purposes. Dec. 4, 1907.

Specifications Published.

1906.

27,034.—Gaved. Dry process of extracting china clay, mica, and quartz, from decomposed granite.
28,451.—Brooks. Hot-water bottles, water beds, and analogous receptacles.
25,955.—Clowes. Non-refillable bottle.
27,806.—Thom. Presses for plastic materials.
28,023.—Poulton. Flue cover blocks and the like for use with the brickwork settings of steam boilers and for other like purposes.

1907.

1,725.—Hoyle. Apparatus for stoppering bottles.
3,182.—Caso. Glass plates applicable to the construction of large vessels and receptacles and other utensils.
11,711.—Gobbe. Apparatus for the manufacture of plate glass. (Date applied for under International Convention, June 20, 1906.)
17,671.—Sutton & Gregson. Means or devices for closing the ends of pipes or junction inlets or outlets of earthenware or stoneware pipes.
1,824.—Wright. Furnaces for annealing iron, steel, and other goods, and for burning pottery and the like.
12,132.—Soc. Anon. des Manufactures de Glaces et produits chimiques de Saint Gorain, Chauny, et Cirey. Process of moulding or manufacturing glass tiles. (Date applied for under International Convention, June 2, 1906.)
17,342.—Whyte. Tea-pots.
8,760.—Morgan. Rotary cement kilns.
18,587.—Weidl. Bidet.

Designs.

512,078.—Parke, Davis & Co., 111, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
514,154.—Max Emanuel & Co., 41 and 42, Shoe-lane, E.C.
514,353.—T. A. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Furlong Tile Works, Burslem.
514,354.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-street, Birkenhead.
514,403.—T. A. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Furlong Tile Works, Burslem.
514,410.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-street, Burslem.
514,415.—Sunderland Forge and Engineering Co., Ltd., Pallion.
514,546.—E. Offenbacher, Markt, Redwitz, Bavaria.
514,646.—Rubian Art Pottery, Ltd., Fenton.
514,647–9.—Henry Richards Tile Co., Pinnox Works, Tunstall.
514,650.—Schindler & Co., 9, Aldermanbury-avenue, E.C.
514,681.—G. Lemiere, 183, Goswell-road, London.
514,788.—J. W. Bray, Heyton, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.
514,547–50.—Max Emanuel & Co., 41 and 42, Shoe-lane, E.C.
514,597.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-street, E.C.
514,796.—Greener & Co., Millfield, Sunderland.
514,848.—Geo. Davidson & Co., Gateshead-on-Tyne.
514,915.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-street, Birkenhead.
515,209.—Max Emanuel & Co., 41 and 42, Shoe-lane, E.C.
515,325–7.—Henry Richards Tile Co., Pinnox Works, Tunstall.
515,343.—L. Willmott, 4, Berners-mews, London.
513,966.—W. F. Down, High-street, Sidmouth, Devon.
514,135.—Robinson & Leadbeater, Ltd., Wolfe-street, Stoke.
514,404–6.—Robinson & Leadbeater, Ltd., Wolfe-street, Stoke.
515,613.—W. C. Morgan, 42, Ranmoor Cliffe-road, Sheffield.
516,010–17.—Pilkington's Tile and Pottery Co., Ltd., Clifton Jn.
516,096.—John A. Maier & Co., 19, St. Dunstan's hill, E.C.
516,097.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
516,098–9.—T. Rathbone & Co., Tunstall, Staffs.
516,107.—R. Osttli, 16, Barmead-road, Beckenham, Kent.
516,138.—J. H. Barratt & Co., Ltd., Boothen Tile Works, Stoke.
516,146–7.—G. W. Morrison, 1, Cornwall-terrace, Clarence-gate, N.W.
516,206.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
516,207–8.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-street, Burslem.
516,209.—H. W. Dawson, 9, Curral Velho, Portalegre, Portugal.

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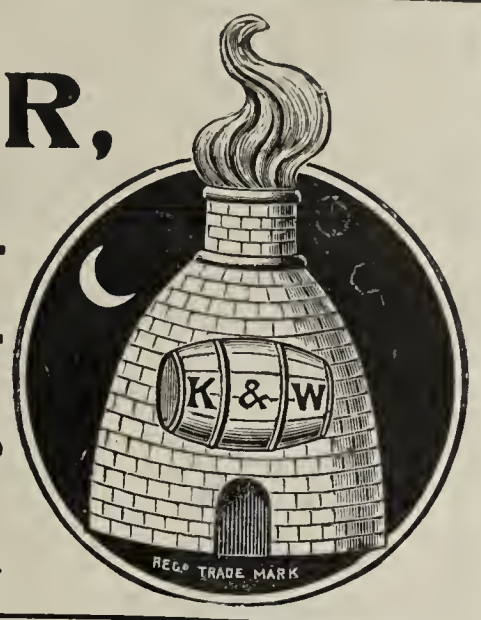
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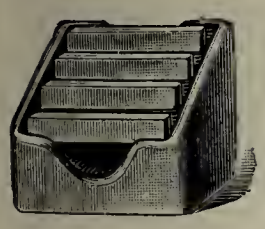
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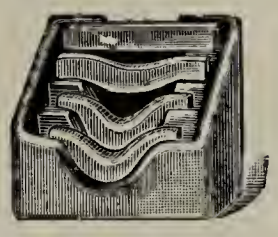
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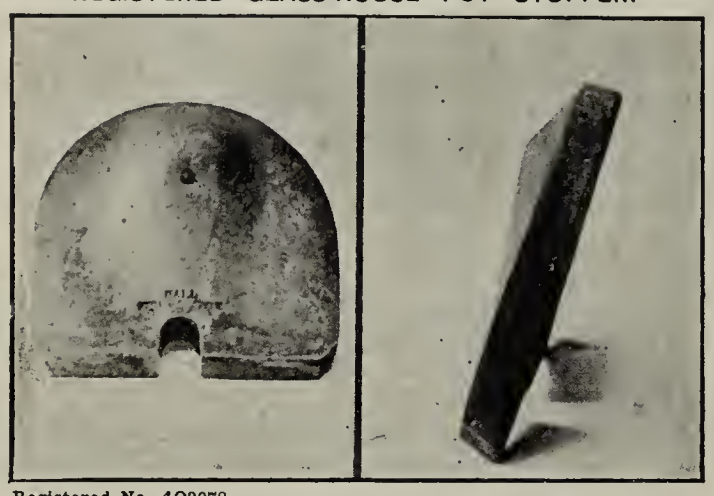
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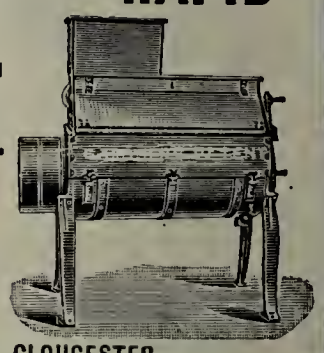
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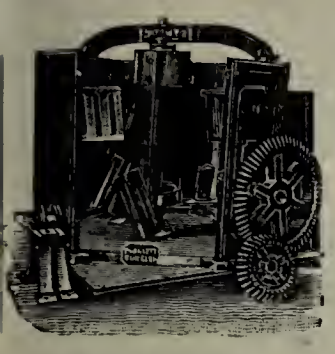
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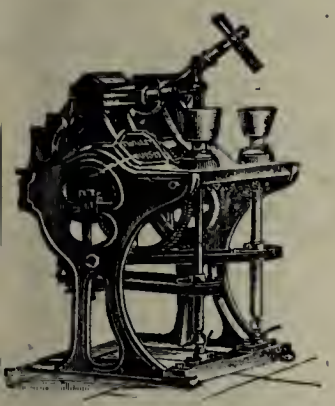
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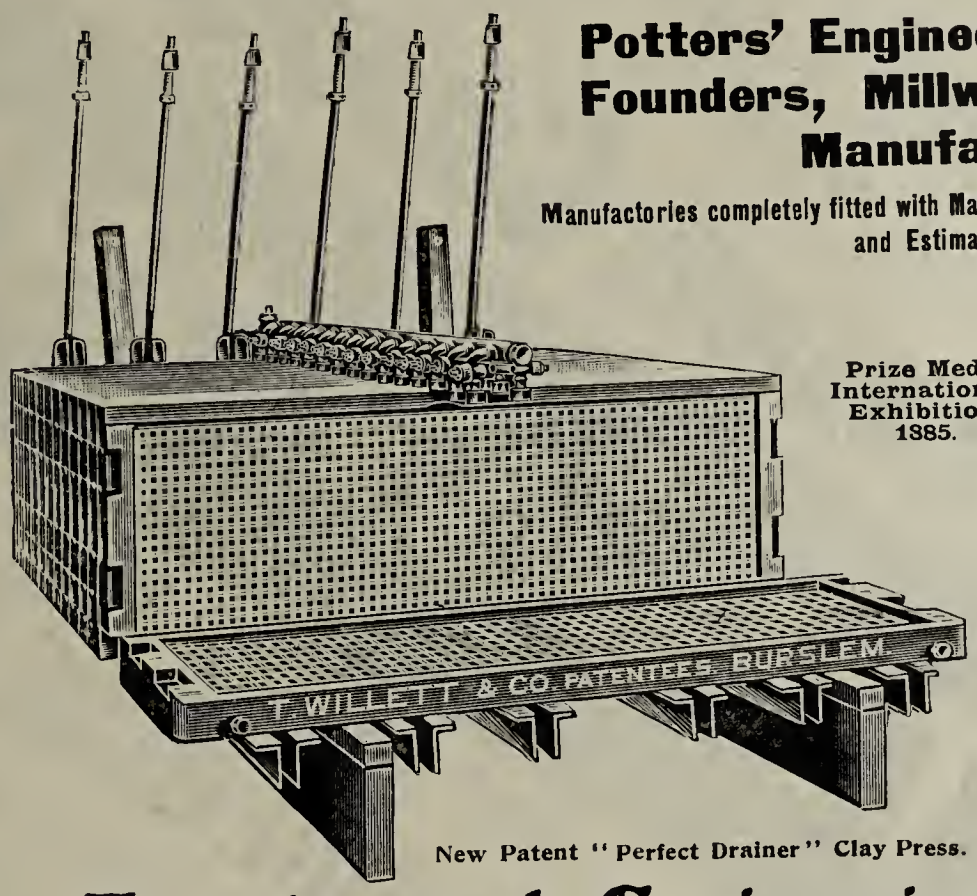
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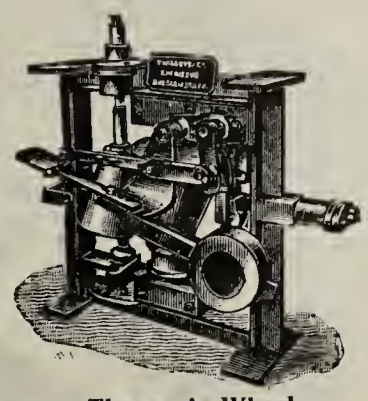


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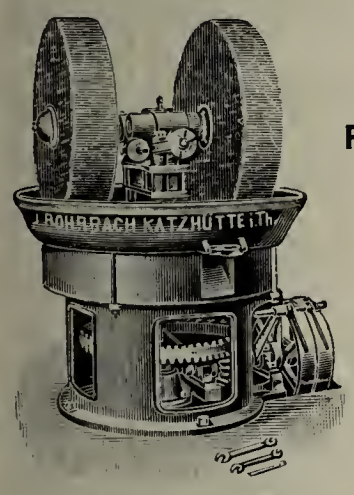
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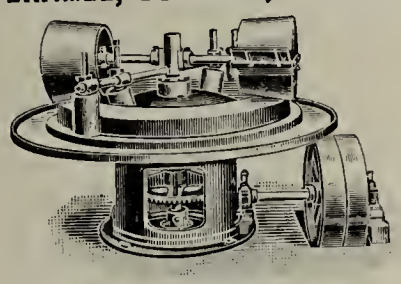
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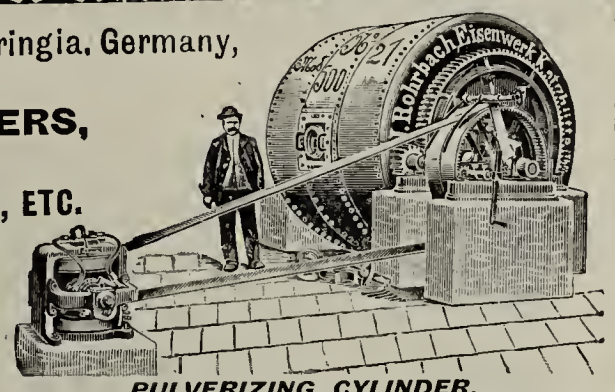
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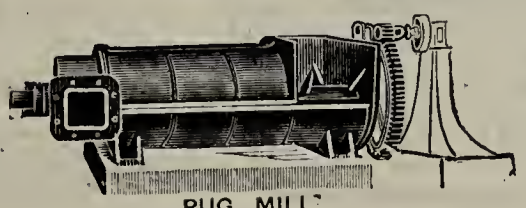


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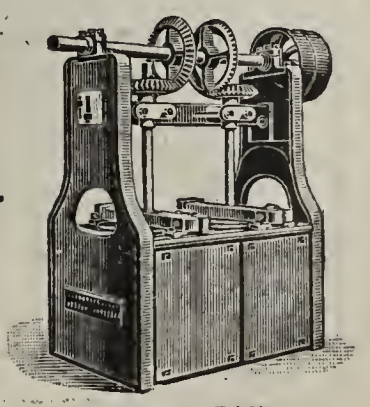
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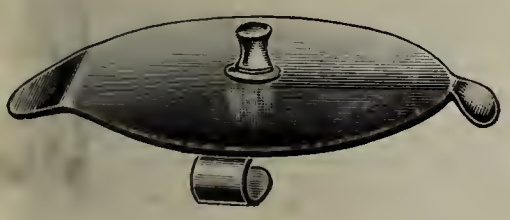
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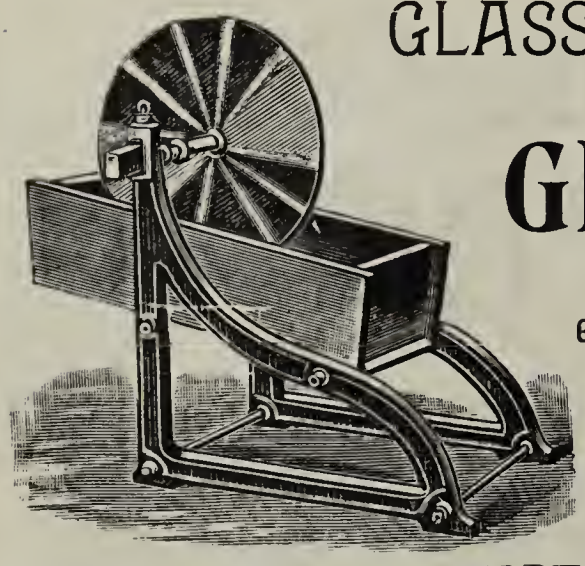


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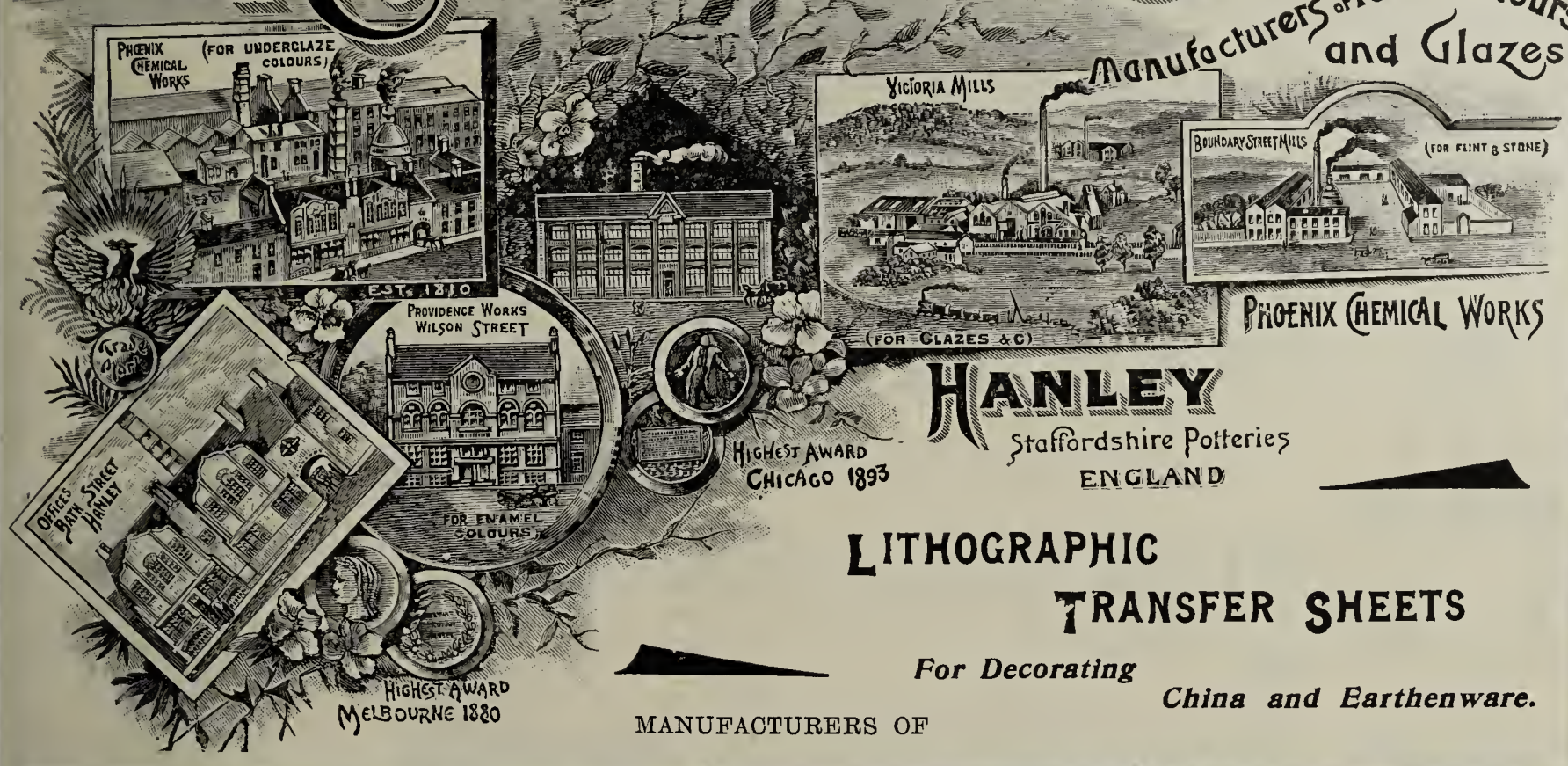
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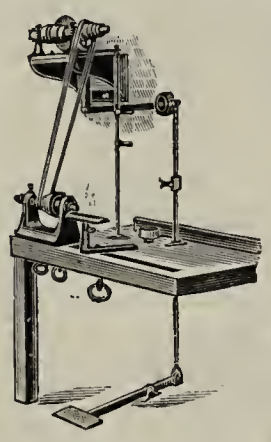
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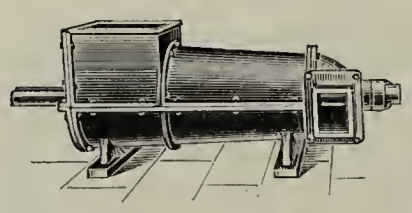


Potter's Lathe.

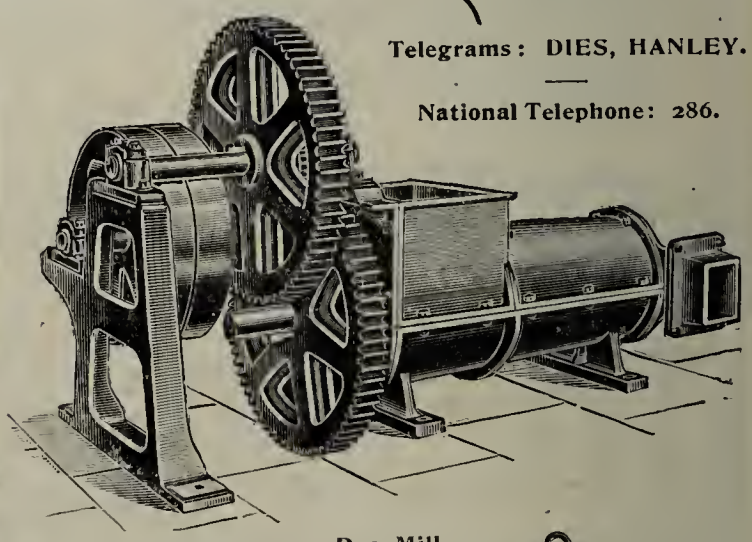
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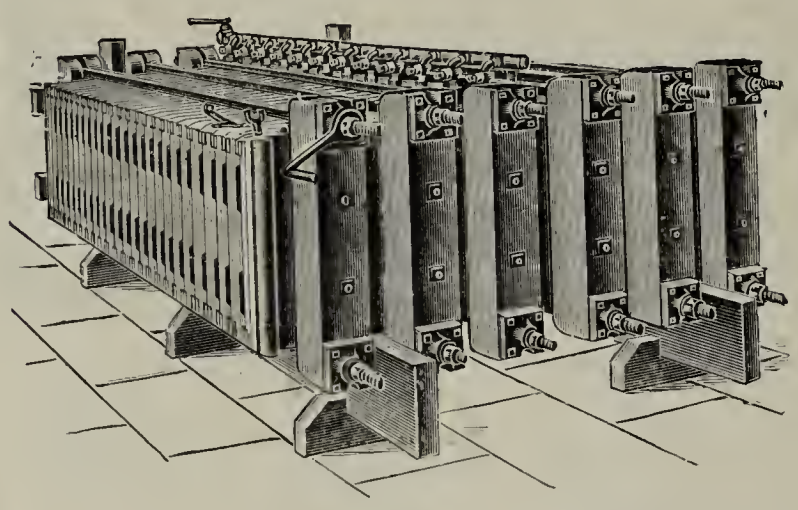
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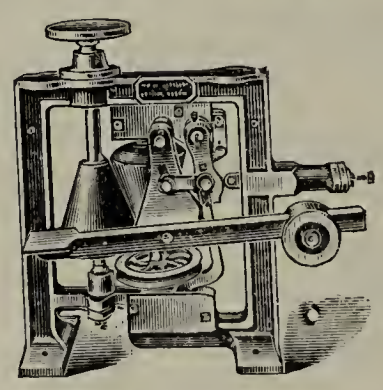


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



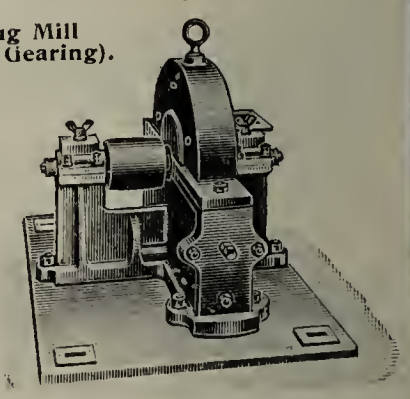


Filter Press.

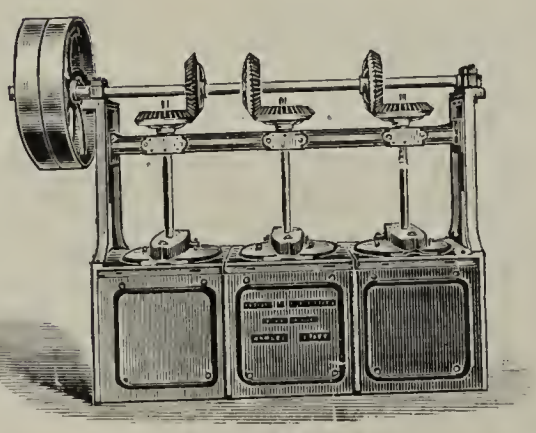


Throwing Wheel.

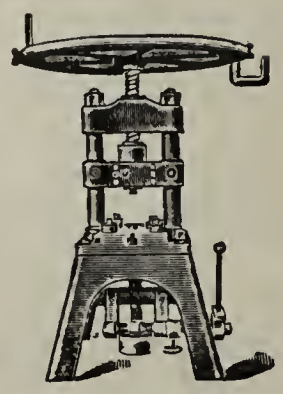
Pug Mill with Gearing).



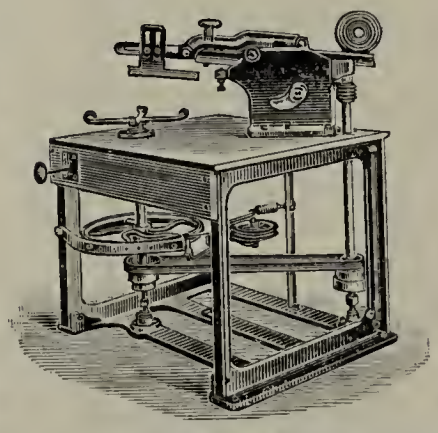
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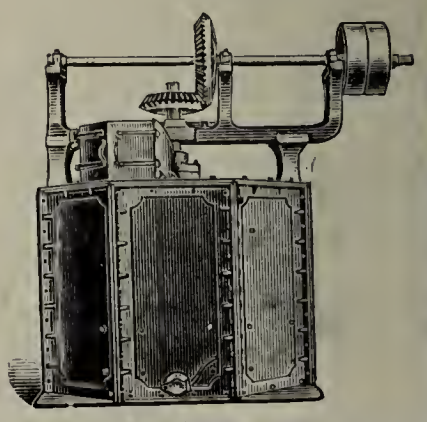
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☛ FOR LITERARY CONTENTS SEE PAGE 167. INDEX TO ADVERTISERS, PAGES 138 and 140.

All alterations for March issue must reach us by February 24th

All announcements for this Heading for March issue must reach us by February 26th.

Special Trade Announcements

☛ Firms who wish to place Miscellaneous Advertisements in local papers without giving their name and address can have the replies addressed to the "Pottery Gazette" Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. Intimation must first be sent to us of this being done.

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Continued on page 124.

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continued from page 122.

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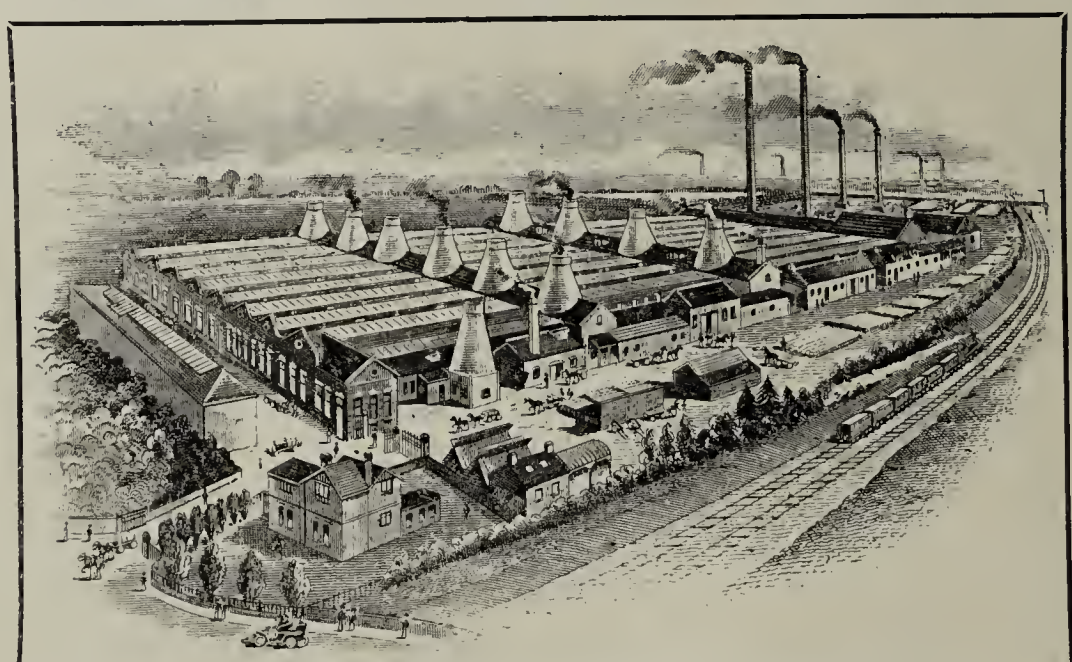
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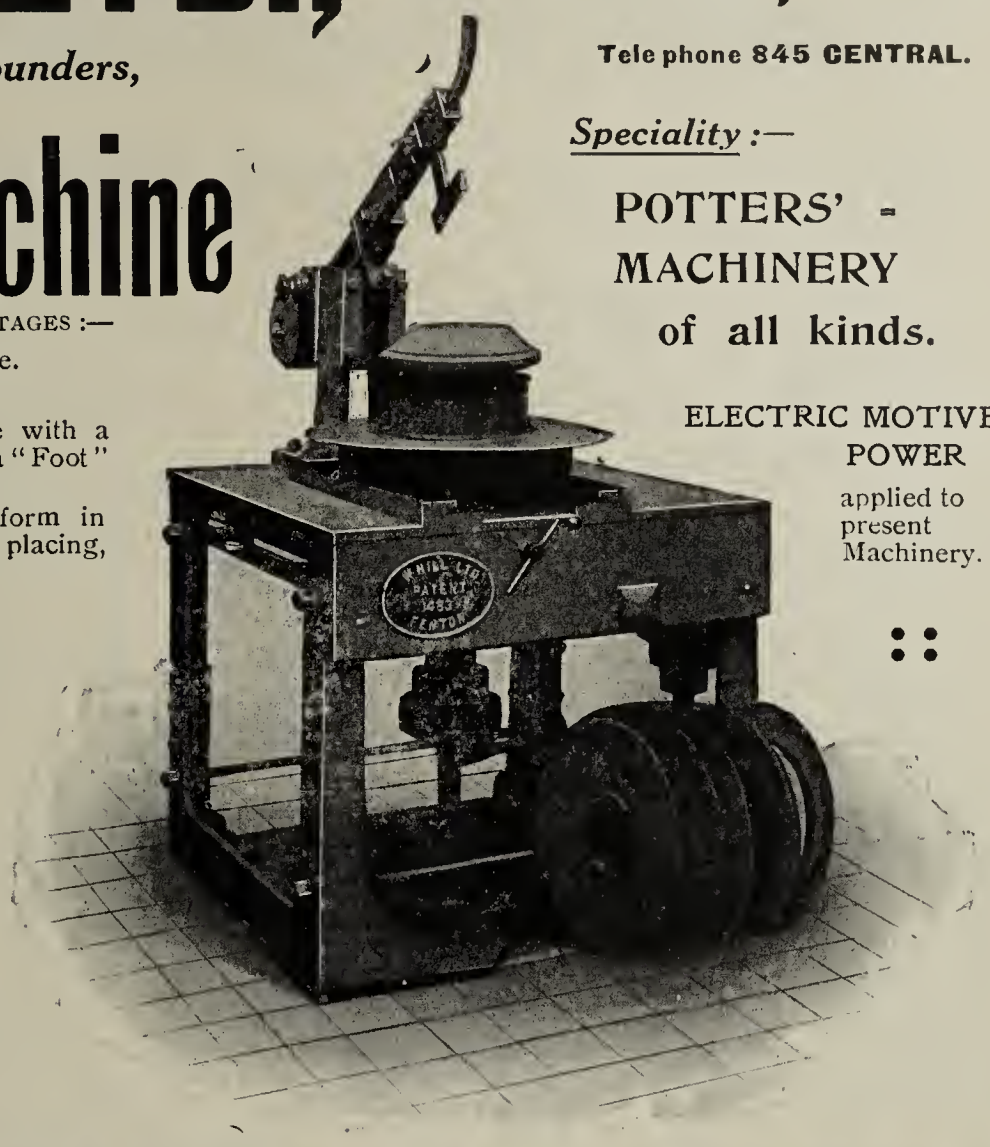
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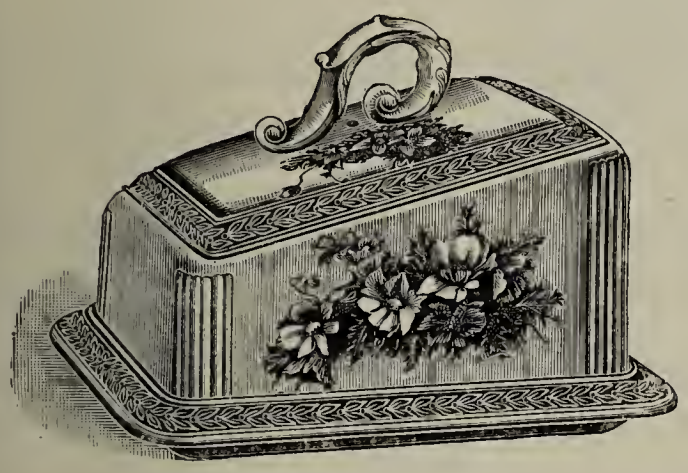
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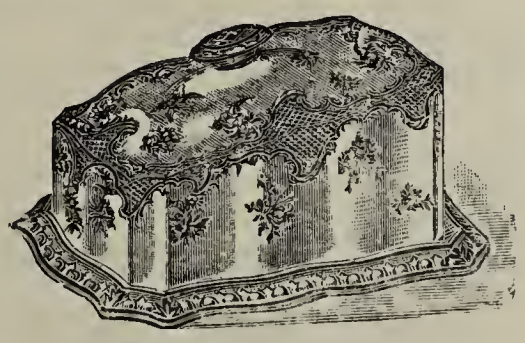
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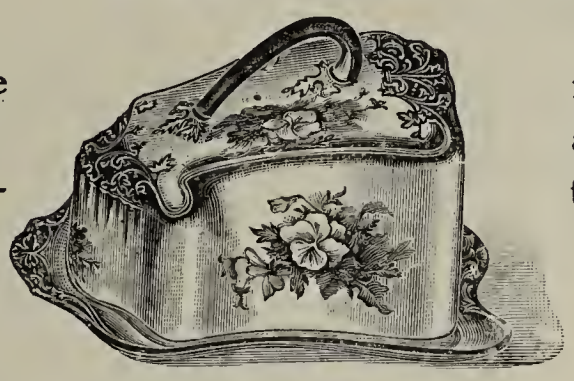
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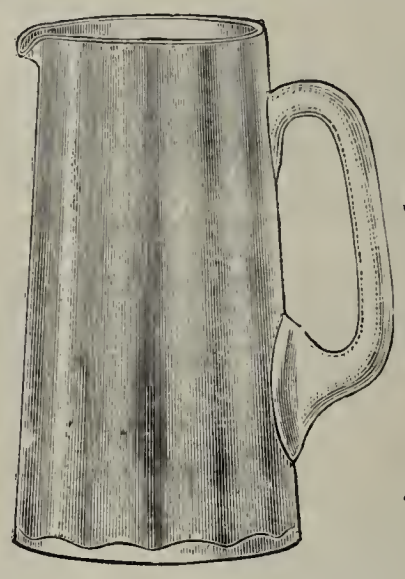
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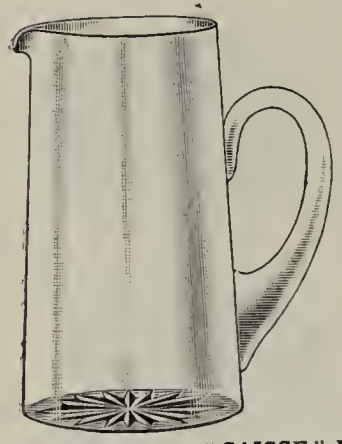
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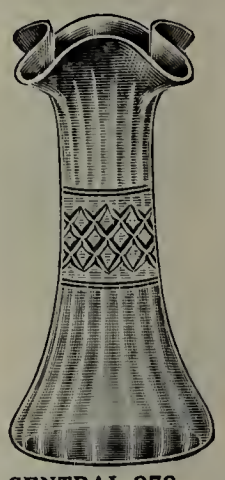
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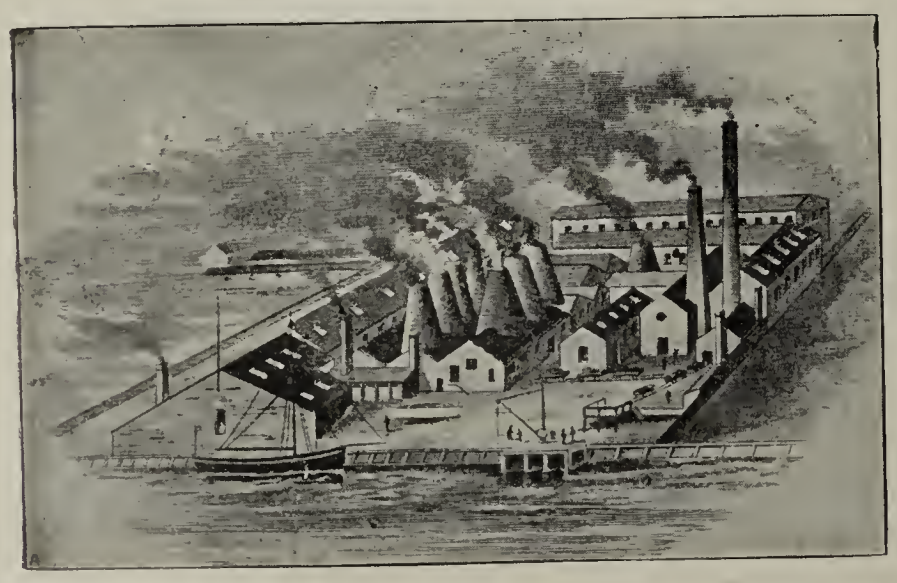
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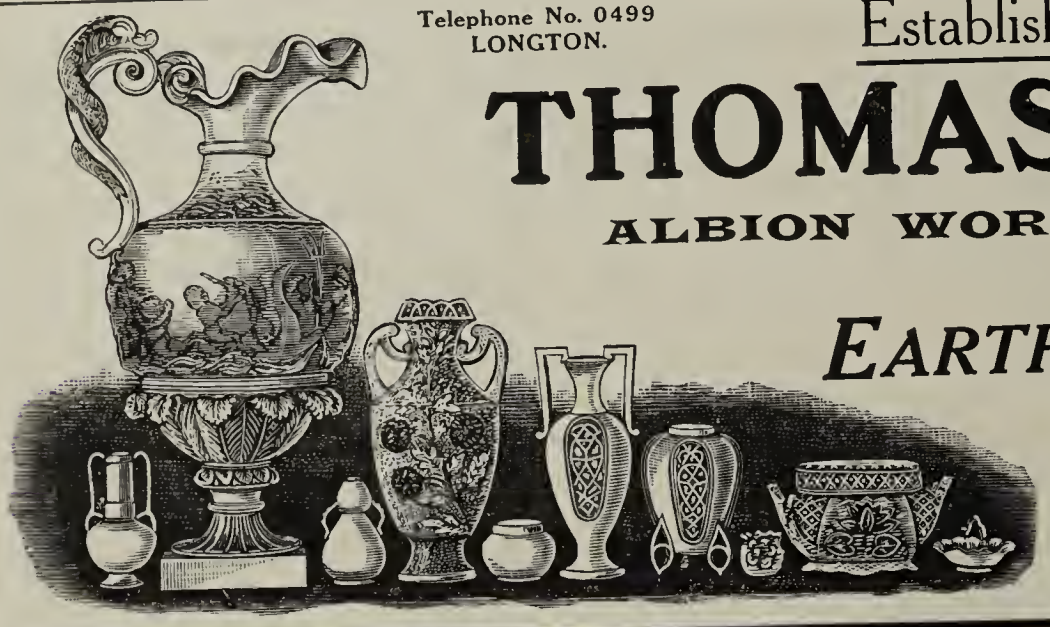
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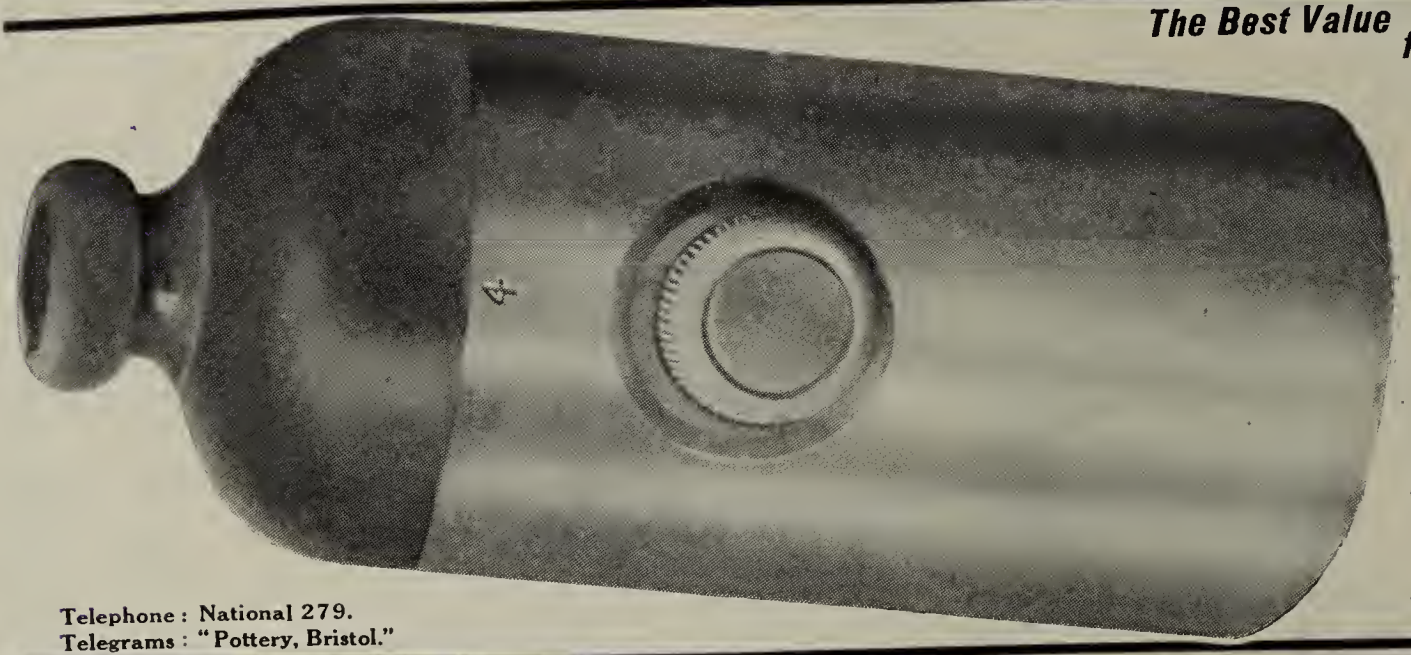
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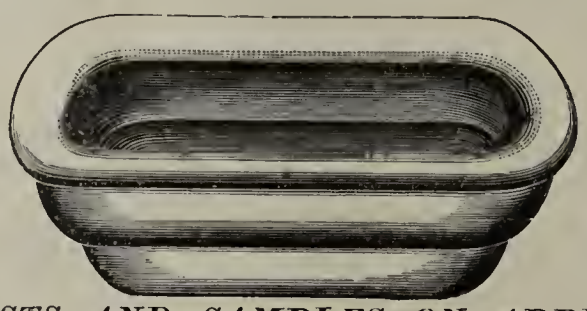
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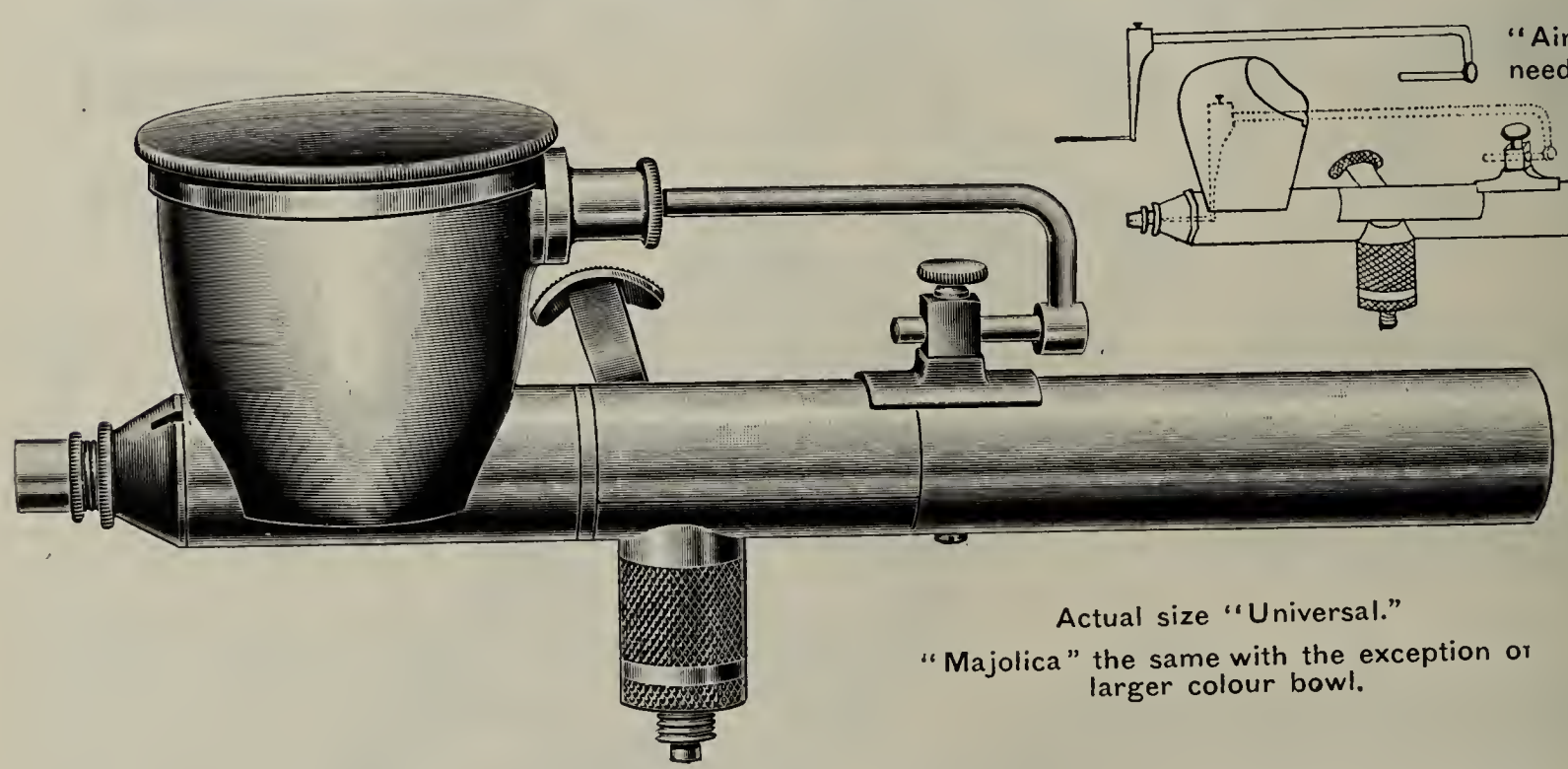
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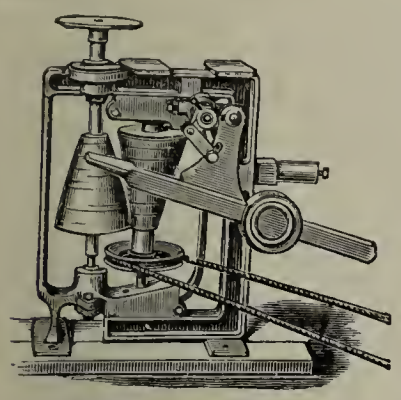




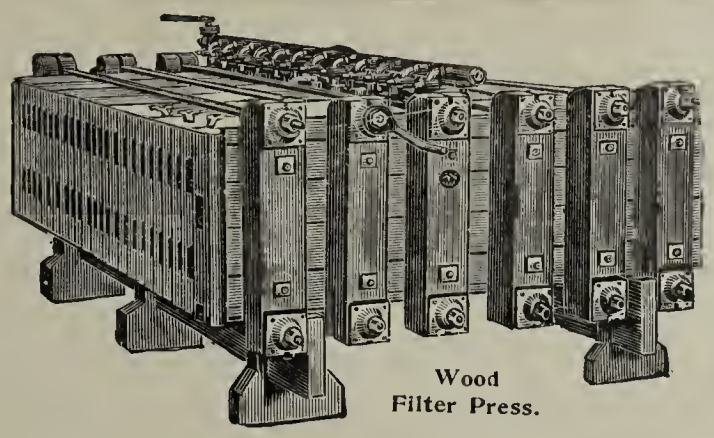
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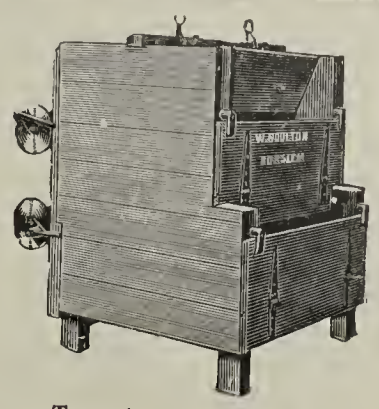
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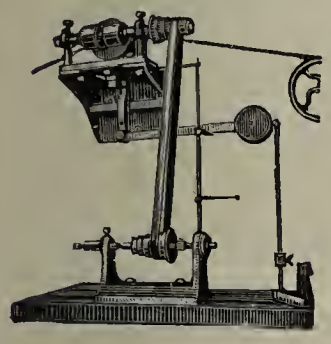
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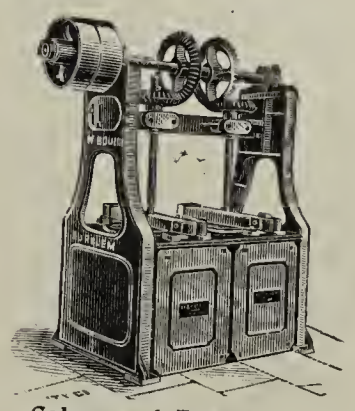
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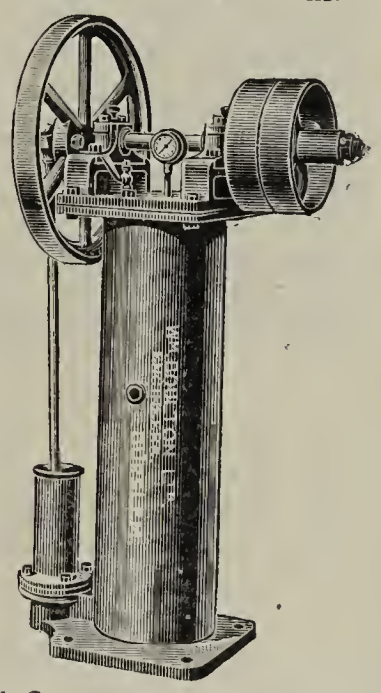
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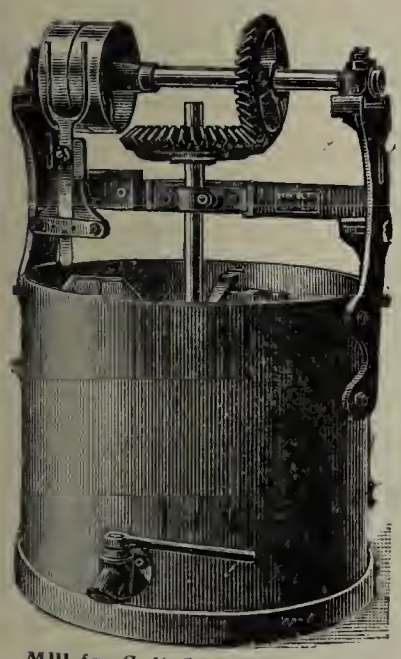
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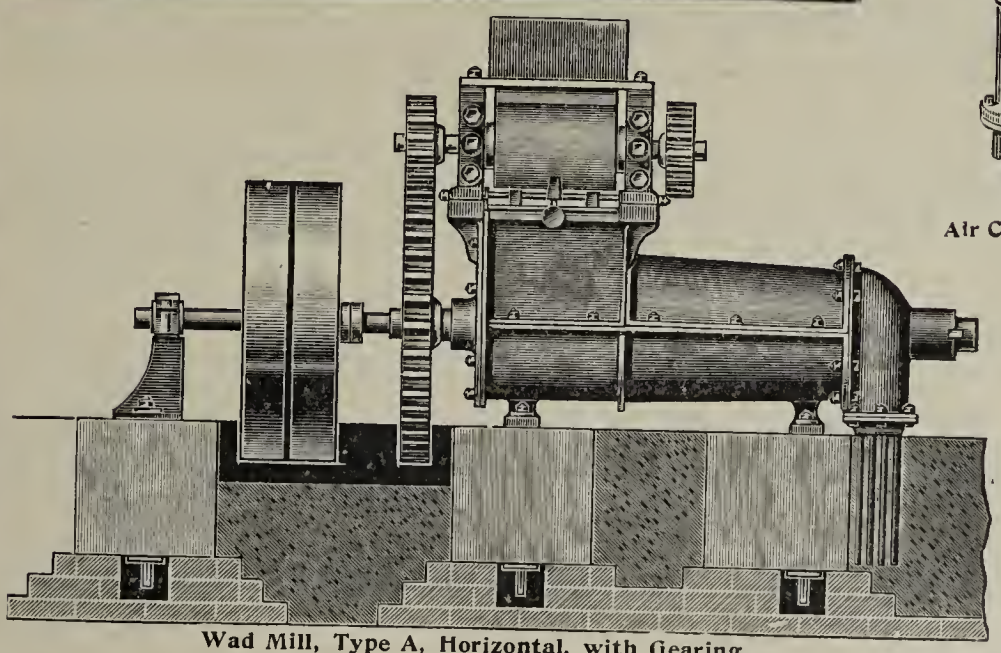
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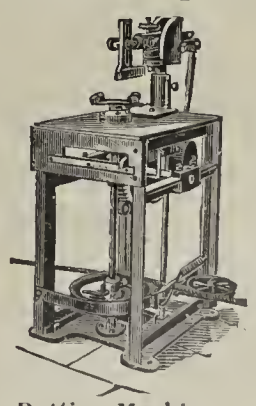
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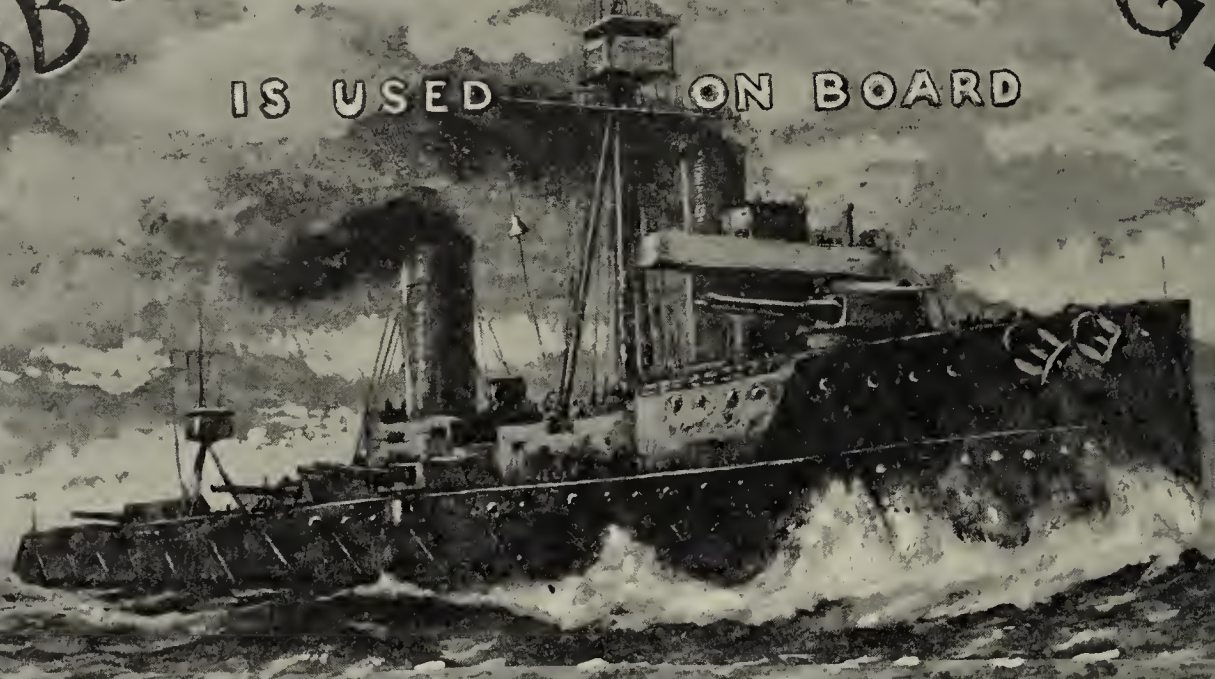
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Editorial Notes.

SUGGESTED POTTERY BOARD OF ARBITRATION.

THERE was a meeting at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on Jan. 24, between members of the Potteries Manufacturers' Association and representatives of various sections of the workpeople, when a proposition to establish a permanent board of conciliation and arbitration for the pottery trade was discussed. Mr. J. C. Bailey, of Doultons, Ltd., presided, and the views of both parties were freely expressed. There is a general impression that the suggestions will shortly take definite form, but as the proceedings were private, no account of them has been permitted for publication. It is earnestly desired by distributors, as well as manufacturers and operatives, that some automatic method of adjusting differences may be agreed upon, so as to prevent the periodical disorganisation of business by prolonged disputes. It is well known that the operatives are divided into two camps, one under the leadership of Alderman Thomas Edwards, and the other under the leadership of Messrs. Lovatt, Booth, Parkes, Clowes, &c. To the two unions separate interviews were granted, and it is rumoured that while one party seem to be quite willing to join the manufacturers in forming a Board of Conciliation, which should settle all disputes in the future, and so save the necessity of strikes or lockouts, the other party, who have generally been considered the most reasonable, and to take the broadest views of matters generally, held out no hope of doing this, and seemed to prefer the arbitrament of a strike. Of course, it is almost impossible for manufacturers to conciliate and arbitrate with one section if the other insists upon striking. It is a pity the cause of the workmen is damaged by wild statements as to there being no good masters, journeymen only earning 8s. and 9s. a week, &c., and also as to the relative value of the recent advance in selling prices, and the increase in cost of fuel. We admit the increased cost of production, caused by a two or three shilling advance in fuel, varies slightly according to the class of goods that have been manufactured, but in no case can the recent advances that have taken place in fuel alone be less than an extra 4 per cent. on the gross turnover of any firm. The deplorable part of the men's action in raising the hopes of their followers by such wild statements as have recently been made, is, that they are at once dashed to the ground when they come to close quarters with the manufacturers, and the sworn statements of accountants who have gone through their books. It will be a good day for the operative potters when they succeed in finding a man who is strong enough to confine himself to facts and drop all abuse, and to be in a position to tell his followers unpalatable truths when they exist: such a man, in short, as Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P., the successful leader of the miners. Whoever heard of Enoch Edwards abusing the colliery proprietors? He is much too shrewd for anything of that kind. The old "dose of dust" statement, some years ago, had, no doubt, much to do with checking the career of another operative leader of considerable ability; but few of the present leaders seem to have learnt the lesson.

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THE SELLING PRICES OF EARTHENWARE.

WE are sometimes told that "great uncertainty exists in the pottery trade." We venture to say, however, that at the present time there is one thing that is certain beyond the least shadow of doubt, and that is, that the selling prices of earthenware must be permanently, and in the interests of the trade, they should be unanimously, advanced. The workers have announced their intention to make a demand for an increase of 15 per cent. in their wages. If they insist on that increase and it is granted, it will strengthen our argument that selling prices must be advanced; but that is not the basis of our present contention, which we should have urged in the absence of any application for an increase in the pay of the workers. Two things are very desirable—first, that buyers and retail dealers should accept the conclusion that, as earthenware costs more to produce, more should be paid for the purchase of it. The second point, that is not only desirable but in our opinion necessary, is that dealers should make the public—the consumers—accept this conclusion also. First, as to the buyers and dealers. If manufacturers are as unanimous and as loyal to each other as they might be—as they ought to be—there would be no difficulty in maintaining or, when necessary, in advancing prices. But they are not unanimous, and buyers know it. This is why a buyer will go into a manufactory or a show-room and, on being told the price of a line, will say instantly he can get a similar—an equally good line—elsewhere at a lower price. If a manufacturer knows what his goods cost him to produce, and if he is offering them at a reasonable profit, why should he allow his customer to say what the price of them should be? A manufacturer or a representative, who having quoted an honest price to a customer, once accepts a lower price at the dictation of that customer, has spoilt his chance for all time of doing a paying business with him. Buyers, as honest business men, must realise that if an article costs more to make, it should sell for more. We ask them to consider that nearly everything used in the production of pottery is dearer than it was. Should not the product be worth more? Coal is an important item in pottery manufacture. A manufacturer said to us last week, "Our coal bill was £2,000 more last year than the year before." A day or two after, we saw a London representative who had just returned from the Potteries, and he said: "Our people are paying £40 a week more than they used to pay for coal." Buyers and retailers, in justice to the trade, should make their customers—the public—understand that "their pottery will cost them more." There is no foreign competition in earthenware as there is in some grades of china. The competition is between manufacturers themselves, and for this dealers are largely responsible. Why do dealers insist upon having such a number of shapes and patterns? The public do not want such a large variety to select from, and they certainly should not require so many new shapes. Dealers should remember the number of expensive moulds required to every dinner set and toilet service; and when they get a good shape they should run it as long as possible. Many of them turn away from a really handsome shape for no other reason than that, "I had it last time." Another hardship on manufacturers is the smallness of the majority of orders for particular shapes. Some dealers will order six dinner services, and want six different patterns, and yet pay no more than if they had ordered six sets of one pattern. Manufacturers must strengthen their own hands. They will never maintain prices, much less advance them, unless they are unanimous. They recently agreed to an advance of $8\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. to be added to invoice. Since that agreement, a buyer had placed an order, and was on the point of leaving the show-room when the representative remarked, "There will be the $8\frac{1}{3}$ on." The answer came quick—"Then cancel the order. I can get the same goods without the addition, and I am not going to pay it." If manufacturers were unanimous they could make him pay it, and they are entitled to do so.

THE CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

THE special Act of Parliament passed in 1906 giving power to the Board of Trade to make inquiries and to collate particulars of the total products of the various national industries, is now in operation. The Board of Trade returns at best furnish an incomplete summary of industrial production—sometimes a misleading one. Many persons habitually regard the totals of our exports and imports as reliable indications of the state of trade. They overlook the fact that these returns give no account of our productions for home consumption. Under the powers conferred by the Act a special department of the Board of Trade has commenced making a "Census of Production." Schedules will be sent out to manufacturing and producing firms with spaces for information as to the nature of the trade or business carried on, particulars as to output, numbers employed, power used or generated, estimated value of materials used, and the total amount paid to contractors for work given out to them. A beginning has been made with the coal and ironstone mining, and the schedules sent out have been prepared in consultation with a special advisory committee, appointed by the Board of Trade, representing and consisting of leading experts, connected with those industries. The same method will be adopted in dealing with all other industries. When it comes to taking a census of the industries we represent, our manufacturers and factors will, therefore, know that the questions they are asked to answer have been approved (some of them probably suggested) by persons actively engaged in those industries. The information thus being collected has been wanted for a long time. All the details given will be treated as absolutely confidential, and nothing relating to any individual establishment or firm will be disclosed. Gross totals only will be made public. There need be no hesitation in making the returns. The schedule is so arranged that the name of the firm is easily separated from the information given, and the latter only forms part of the general mass of statistics. There are penalties for neglecting to supply the information and also for making false returns.

PROSECUTIONS BY FACTORY INSPECTORS.

THE recent series of prosecutions of pottery manufacturers by Miss Vines, one of H.M. lady inspectors of factories, calls for some comment. In nearly all industrial matters that are the subject of legislation there are trivialities that, strictly speaking, are contrary to the exact letter of the law, but which it is well understood are not contrary to the spirit of it. The inspectors who are in constant touch with the pottery trade are familiar with these, and while they have not failed to require on the part of manufacturers and workers a compliance with the Factory Acts and with the special rules governing the trade, they have had regard to all the circumstances, and have not interfered on slight technical points where no real injury has been caused. The success of Mr. Walmsley, the late inspector, who was respected and trusted alike by manufacturers and workpeople, was due to the exercise of his discretion. We are reluctant to speak disparagingly of a

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lady, but the prosecutions conducted by the lady inspector at Burslem last month displayed a want of tact that is lamentable in a Government official. The offences alleged were very trivial, and certainly did not warrant the vehemence with which the prosecutions were conducted. It appeared that in one case, Mr. J. A. Redgrave, one of the superintending inspectors, a short time ago had a consultation with some manufacturers, and discussed with them the question of "stoppages" from wages, suggesting the abolition of all "stoppages," and an alternative arrangement. One of the most prominent firms in the Potteries carried out the alternative suggestion, but found that in one small detail the alternative was more disadvantageous to the workers than the original scheme. With the view of preventing loss to the employees, another arrangement was made, with which all were satisfied, but a formal notice in writing was not handed to the workers at the time. This was the inadvertent infringement of the Act, which Miss Vines magnified into an offence deserving prosecution. Where hundreds of women workers are employed it is quite conceivable that there are circumstances in which a lady inspector can render services to them that male inspectors cannot. We are willing to believe that the lady inspectors do render such services, though they are not heard of in public. But the cases we have referred to were not of that character—they were cases that must have been within the knowledge of the regular inspectors, and might well have been left to them. Whenever the lady inspectors visit the Potteries, they display such an excess of zeal (some call it officiousness) that we do not wonder that women workers have greater respect for the ordinary inspectors.

RETAILERS AND LEADLESS GLAZE.*

LAST month we had occasion to refer to the needless alarm aroused by the opponents of lead-glazed pottery, whose misguided zeal had caused the ignorant members of the public to fear that they might be poisoned by using ware in the glazing of which lead had been used. We have now to deal with another branch of the same subject, viz., the difficulties the retail dealer has to contend with when, as a result of the present agitation, his customers refuse to buy any lead-glazed crockery at all, regardless of the fact that he may not be able to obtain suitable articles free from lead, and may have large stocks of lead-glazed ware on his hands. These good people take such action, no doubt, on purely humanitarian grounds, out of solicitude for the welfare of the workpeople engaged in the potting industry. But the best of motives can often lead us very far astray if we act on insufficient information. In most cases we believe, the retailer will find that if he states clearly the overwhelmingly strong case for a continuance of the use of lead-glazed ware, and appeals to his customers' reasoning faculties, he will have no further trouble on this score. As, however, some of our readers may not have the necessary arguments at their fingers ends, or may not be able to express them in a plain and succinct manner, we append a few suggestions, which can be used in conversation, or reprinted on circulars, or on cards to hang in the shop :—Lead-poisoning is not necessarily a result of the use of lead in pottery manufacture ; the operations are carried on under special rules to ensure safety, which are rigorously enforced by the Home Office. When cases of lead-poisoning now occur, they are usually due to the neglecting of these rules by the workpeople or to some cause quite unconnected with the industry. Lead poisoning cases are and have been far more common in industries other than potting, such as painting and plumbing ; but no one agitates on behalf of the painter or plumber, or objects to the presence of lead in colours, piping, &c. Why ? Because it cannot be avoided. And this is just as true in the case of pottery. The leading manufacturers and scientists are agreed that the use of lead is necessary for the satisfactory production of almost all kinds of ware. Goods made without it are far more costly and much less durable. The prohibition of the use of lead would result in the ruin of a great industry and the closing of many works, which, in turn, would bring thousands of people to destitution and misery.

* Reprints of the above editorial, suitable for circulation among customers, can be obtained from the POTTERY GAZETTE offices, 8, Broadway, E.C., if ordered before Feb. 8th. Price 7s. 6d. per 100.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

NUMBERING PACKAGES FOR EXPORT.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I should like to draw pottery and glass firms' attention to a very bad system they have of numbering packages. If you order, say, two crates or tierces from six different firms, they will all number them 1 and 2. When they arrive in New Zealand, you find you have six packages numbered 1, and six numbered 2. It does not require much imagination to know what confusion and trouble this leads to. I know that your paper has a large circulation among firms I am ordering goods from, and I intend to, in future, take a note of any firm sending a package starting from No. 1, and put a black mark against his name in my address book.—Yours, &c.

New Zealand. "KIEVI."

MARKING GOODS "FRAGILE."

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Once more I wish to draw your readers' attention to the fact that parcels by post containing china must be taken to the post office and the fragile label must be attached by the postal authorities and a certificate of postage must be presented (the form is supplied), and the clerk must sign it or stamp it. Then the postal authorities are answerable if the parcel is properly packed. The recipient must keep the package and packing if the article is broken, and inform the sender at once. The Post Office Authorities have quite lately refused to pay my claim for a cup sent to the Royal Crown Derby Works, because they could not see the package.—Yours, &c.

Weybridge, Jan. 24. G. M. LEVI.

RETAILERS AND LEADLESS GLAZE.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I am glad the trade has someone to render the assistance you are always so willing to render. I beg to thank you very much for your article in the January POTTERY GAZETTE. It does not, however, meet one objection raised by those that have approached me on this matter. They say, owing to the fact that so many deaths are caused, and so much suffering among the workers through the use of lead glaze, they consider it a duty to combine, and agree to only buy those goods that are leadless glazed ; they think if this becomes general throughout the country, as they mean it shall, the manufacturers will then be compelled to discontinue the use of lead glaze in the manufacture of their wares. I have explained to them that the manufacturers do all they can to prevent injury to their employees, and carry out all the rules and regulations suggested by the Government inspectors ; but the employees themselves are to blame in not carrying out the rules as they should do. I have told them of one worker

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Telephone No. 476 Central.

in a pottery in Scotland, now over 80 years of age, who from youth upwards has been more or less engaged in glazing ware, and instead of washing before partaking of food, simply rubs his hand down his apron and then eats his food. Evidently lead glaze has not done him much injury, seeing he has lived beyond the allotted time and still enjoys good health. It is just possible, if I could get to the bottom of the matter, I should find there are some among them financially interested. I have asked some of them straight, whether this is so; they assure me they are not. I have put some very pointed questions to some of the ladies. I do not find that they are consistent. One lady wasted about an hour of my time discussing this matter; she spoke very strongly. I said, to be consistent she should destroy all china and earthenware in her possession, and replenish her stock with the ware she was so anxious for me to sell. She said she was not prepared to do this, but as it got broken she should replace it with the leadless glaze ware. Then again, I find that it is a matter of convenience to themselves. The firm they have been in the habit of getting the ware from requires cash with the order. If I supplied them I should be kept waiting 6, 12, 18 months, or longer, before I received payment, and then be expected to supply the goods at cash price, as supplied by this firm. This, of course, is unreasonable, seeing I should have to pay extra carriage for the goods. They do not take this into consideration. If they had them sent to them direct they would have to pay for package and carriage, or do as one titled lady told me she had to do, but did not like doing, "Lug the goods down herself." I have also asked them whether they are going to carry out their ideas when they had their house re-decorated by painters. They had not taken this into consideration. They were astonished when I told them the number of deaths reported among house painters and plumbers during the 11 months ending November, 1907. The poor china and glass dealer has a lot to contend with from faddists and the like.

Whatever may be the manufacturers' opinion of this question, as far as the retailer is concerned it is one that he cannot afford to treat lightly. I have been favoured with a visit from a lady having very great influence in this district, whose custom I cannot afford to lose, which to me is worth from £20 to £30 per annum. She informs me in future it is her intention to only use in her house ware that is leadless glazed. I pointed out to her that I had at the present time a stock of ware which I kept purposely for her, which I could not sell to anyone else. Well, she agreed to take this of me when required. After the stock was exhausted, only leadless glazed was to be sent to her, or she would cease to deal with me. I pointed out to her that to supply her wants it was necessary for me to obtain the goods from different manufacturers. I find from one I could obtain leadless glaze ware, but was doubtful whether I could from others. You see my difficulty. I am dependent upon my business for a living, which is a poor one at its best. Here are ladies of influence in the neighbourhood advocating among their friends for leadless glaze ware to be used. Now if I do not take up this ware, I am a ruined man. I and my family have to suffer through this fad. This they do not take into consideration. Some are more reasonable than others when I have explained to them that some colours could not be produced to give satisfaction if leadless glaze was used. In the country towns we feel the effect of these fads more than is done in London and very large towns.—I am, Sirs, yours, &c.

January 3. A Southern Retailer.

CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRY.

W. S., Melbourne, asks for makers of china jugs marked "Royal Rose, Wheelock & Co., Germany."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. N. D.—You will see we happen to publish just the information you seek in this issue.

M. R. & Co.—We have not heard of the firm. If they are manufacturers, they cannot do much business, or we should at least know the name. It is not in any of the directories we have.

J. W. B.—We have sent you the names of manufacturers of fire-proof china. This, however, is not advertised as leadless glazed. We also send you the names of manufacturers of English fireproof leadless glazed stoneware. This is light and serviceable for all cooking purposes.

G., Hanley.—The exports of china stone from the United Kingdom to the United States are not officially recorded, and, therefore, the particulars for which you ask are not available. We publish in the Pottery Gazette all the statistics connected with the trade that can be obtained.

James D.—If you find it desirable to remove your business to new premises so near your present shop, before the expiration of your lease, you should try and let your old shop to someone in a different business, for the remainder of your term. If you ask the landlord to release you from the remainder of your agreement, he may let the premises to someone in the china trade, who would, of course, get a good share of your business.

EARLY ENGLISH TILES.

ON Jan. 23, the North Staffordshire Field Club held its second evening meeting of the winter season at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent. Dr. A. M. McAldowie, formerly of Stoke, read a paper on "Winchcombe, an Ancient Mercian Capital." Dr. Spanton presided. In the course of a very able historical sketch, Dr. McAldowie referred to the discoveries at the Cistercian Hayles Abbey. A great many

Early Encaustic Tiles

were found, mostly broken, Some of these, of fourteenth century workmanship, were of interest, as the Staffordshire knot formed a principal part of the pattern. These were probably manufactured at Malvern. Tiles, bearing identical patterns, i.e., struck from the same stamp, were scattered far and wide. Mr. Ward believed the explanation to be that companies of tile-wrights, carrying about with them stamps and other tools, temporarily settled at the nearest point to where their services were required. It was interesting to picture the little band of Staffordshire potters six centuries ago working at the Malvern kiln, and stamping the emblem of their county on the tiles, which were to adorn the great abbeys in the south-west. It was also interesting to note that the name Tellwright—tile-wright—was not uncommon in the Potteries at the present day. The discovery of these tiles also afforded evidence of the great antiquity of the Staffordshire knot. The lecture was illustrated by views of the district.

Referring to the paper, the Chairman commented upon the perfection of the work of the Romans. He said it must be particularly interesting to the potters of the district to find that 600 or 700 years ago the tile-makers of Staffordshire were considered expert, and travelled about the country, because, evidently, they were the most skilled men at that time in that work. Dr. McAldowie seemed to hint that some of that early work compared very well with the work produced now. That was not much to the credit of modern science.

A vote of thanks was passed to Dr. McAldowie for his address.

LIBRARY OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BURGESS & LEIGH,

Middleport Pottery,

BURSLEM.

Manufacturers of

BURLEIGH WARE

Show Rooms always open.

LONDON—44, FARRINGDON STREET, E.C.

NEW ZEALAND—28, FORT STREET, AUCKLAND.

AUSTRALIA—51, PALING'S BUILDINGS, SYDNEY.

Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Alfred Meakin, Limited, Royal Albert Works, Tunstall, have opened a new London office and show rooms at 25, Holborn-viaduct, E.C.—half way between Holborn-circus and the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Station. They have appointed Mr. Ernest Dean as their representative for London and the district. Mr. Dean has been associated with them for some years at the works, and is fully familiar with all the productions of the company. He will cover the whole of the ground hitherto included in their London district. They have appointed Mr. Sydney W. Wright as their representative in London for the export trade. The company are sending representatives direct from the works over the greater part of the United Kingdom. They have fine show rooms on the Viaduct, and have had them fitted up specially for the effective display of their samples. They have inaugurated their new London house by showing a large number of novelties in all their lines. The firm has a good reputation as manufacturers of semi-porcelain dinner and toilet ware and white granite goods. The samples now displayed are calculated to enhance that reputation, especially in the new shapes and patterns of dinner ware. The accompanying illustration includes a vegetable dish and dinner plate, each of two new shapes—the "Champion" and the "Dainty." The company are adepts in the production of mazarine underglaze blue bands and gold. This rich decoration on their thin, china-like ware has been very popular, and is likely to continue so. They are now showing light green underglaze borders and gilt with the same success. The "bleu-de-roi" is a high-class decoration, particularly suitable for good dinner services. There are several other new dinner shapes decorated in a pleasing variety of designs. One of the new toilet shapes is shown in our illustration—the "Argyle" shape. This is a finely modelled ewer of full capacity and with graceful handle. It has a deep round basin. The neat ornamentation of Dresden sprays is applied both inside and outside the basin. The company make a good show of toilet shapes and decorations; the latter are very varied, including tasteful floral patterns, flow blue and gold, and a number of enamelled coloured combinations. We illustrate two out of many excellent samples of the company's ironstone china tea ware. The patterns are attractive, and the ware is particularly light. The samples illustrated are the "Champion" and "Ovide" shapes. There is a good assortment of fluted white semi-porcelain—a stock line of Messrs. Meakin's which has become very popular. The range of decoration on all the company's lines is nicely varied, including a number of high-class enamelled patterns. Samples of most of the best shapes in dinner and toilet ware and jugs are shown with monograms, crests, and badges. They are keeping a stock of their principal lines available for speedy delivery, and, except in extraordinary requirements, they guarantee to deliver goods in six weeks from receipt of order. Samples of the company's tiles are shown at the same address. Arrangements have been made by which the company are acting as London and export agents for Mr T. C. Wild, St. Mary's Works, Longton, manufacturer of all descriptions of china, and for Bilton's, Ltd., London-road, Stoke-on-Trent, manufacturers of Samian jet and Rockingham. Samples of the productions of both these firms are shown in Messrs. Meakin's rooms.

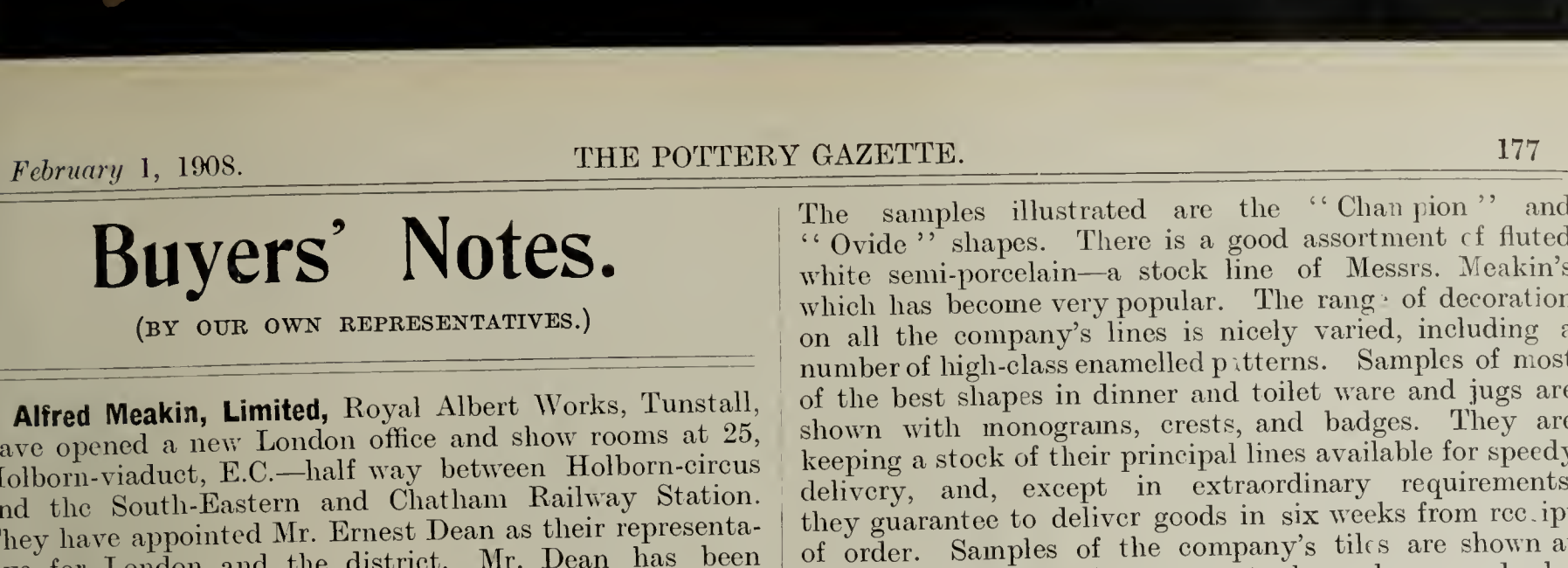


Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

ALFRED MEAKIN, LIMITED.

Thomas Till & Sons, Sytch Pottery, Burslem, are meeting the demand for new goods in a spirited manner. They have brought out novelties in toilet ware, dinner ware, and in miscellaneous pieces. Their London representative, Mr. F. J. Bennett, has received samples of the firm's new shapes and patterns for the coming spring trade, and has them now on show at his rooms, Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C. Some of their former shapes that are still selling well are shown in new decorations, but naturally the objects of most interest in Mr. Bennett's rooms are the new dinner and toilet shapes. We give an illustration of the vegetable dish and a dinner plate of the new "Boat" shape service. The principal features of the form (which are indicated in the name) will be more readily understood from the illustration than from a long verbal description. The neat ornamentation is in perfect harmony with the shape, and it is supplied in all colours. Several other new dinner shapes deserve attention, while the well-known "Minton" and "Saxon" shapes are shown both in familiar and in new ornamentations. The firm are showing their mazarine blue bands with as much fervour as if they were interesting novelties. They are anything but novelties with Till & Sons, but they are as interesting as ever. Bands in other colours—a nice green among them—are also shown. There is a good show in toilet ware, and amongst the new shapes the "Italian" is one of the best. The form is a good one, and the graceful handle is a pleasing feature in the design. The body of the ewer has broad flutes (I call them flutes for convenience; I do not like to say from ignorance of any other term by which to describe them, but that is



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

THOMAS TILL & SONS.

the truth). There are about four of them, and they are formed by indentations running from the neck to the foot of the jug. In some of the decorations there are beads, and in others there are flowers, dividing the panels. Another new toilet service is the "Queen" shape. This has side panels formed by scroll embossments. These panels are filled with pretty printed decorations, the plates for which have of course been expressly cut to fill the space. These patterns are in various colours. The well-known "Chrys" decoration, which had a good run last year, is made good use of on both old and new shapes and in all colours. A variety of attractive "Pearl" decorations is shown with good results on toilet ware. There are novelties in jugs, cheese stands, breakfast and tea ware and tea pots, and miscellaneous pieces of table ware.

F. Winkle & Co., Colonial Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, are now represented in London by Mr. John Porter. The company have exceptionally fine show-rooms at 13, Charterhouse-st., E.C., and Mr. Porter has at the present time a splendid assortment of the firm's samples on show. He has recently been to the Potteries and has selected a number of the latest novelties, and has them on show. Others are expected from the works shortly, but those to hand will meet the wants of dealers who are looking for new attractions for the spring. Winkle & Co.'s goods are familiar to the majority of dealers, but those who do not happen to be well acquainted with them should, in their own interests, become so. The principal has contrived to impress some of his individuality on the goods he makes. This was inevitable, for the huge business carried on at the Colonial Pottery has been created by the strong personality, the energy, and the practical knowledge of the founder of it, Mr. Frederick Winkle, who controls it still. I could say much more about Mr. Winkle and his remarkable career, but my duty at present is with the goods he makes, and particularly with the most recent of them. When I called at Charterhouse-st. a few days ago, Mr. Porter showed me the new arrivals in toilet ware. They form a fine display, arranged as I saw them, apart from other samples. They are all cleverly modelled shapes, and the ornamentations are the work of artists. The forms are, for the most part, tall ewers and large round basins. Upright jugs in what may be called "Art" shapes have been, and are still, very popular. In his latest toilets, Mr. Winkle is simply continuing that steady progress to higher standards, which, without doubt, accounts for the development of the Colonial Pottery. The shapes are those in vogue, and Winkle & Co. are up-to-date. It is just possible they may be slightly in advance of public favour, As a matter of necessity pottery manufacturers are obliged to make what the public fancies. But many of them, while doing this within limits, aim at leading the public taste, and they often succeed; but not so often as their efforts deserve. Mr. Winkle has made this effort often. He continues in it, and the samples I am referring to indicate it. There are many handsome sets in the prevailing style, stately ewers, artistic in form and ornamentation, and sufficiently varied to meet all tastes. We illustrate one of them as typical of the whole. The "Leighton" shape, with "Versailles" decoration, is a handsome set very tastefully ornamented



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

F. WINKLE & CO.

and, like all the others shown with it, it is a high-class production at reasonable price. The 'Greek'' toilet set, tall ewer and round basin, has a plain surface nicely decorated in the seventeenth century style. But another set amongst the new samples attracted my attention, as it doubtless will that of all who look at the group. This was the ''Dresden'' shape, which is sure to find many admirers. The ewer is sexagonal, with a slight taper from the shoulder towards the foot. The six sides, or panels rather, are plain surface, and are thus amenable to greater variety in decorative treatment. The conventional enamelled ornamentation on the sample shown, is strikingly pretty. The basin, of course, has flat panels, on sides, to harmonise with the ewer, but there are eight instead of six, as on the jug. The reason for this, doubtless, is that with the greater circumference, only six sides would have made the basin too angular for the ewer. The octagon shape is better, as it approaches more nearly to the round. There are new samples besides those of toilet sets. There are new designs in dinner ware and in suites. A very pretty set of the latter is shown on a table with a white cloth, as in use. The pieces are all nice and light, good shapes, and neatly decorated. The jugs and biscuit boxes are nearly as light to handle as china.

Henry Dreydel & Co., 10 Holborn-circus, London, E.C., are well known to the trade for the extent and variety of fancy glass and china they have always on show. Their show-rooms (the entrance to which, by the way, is by the first door in Ely-place) just now contain a number of attractive novelties for the coming season. They make a special feature of fancy table decorations, to the production of which they have evidently given much thought. They have, from time to time, introduced many pleasing schemes of table ornamentation in white china basket and rustic ware. These are still holding a good position in the market, but popular taste is, after all, very fickle, and there is a strong and increasing demand for novelties. Dreydel & Co. are quite alive to this widespread preference for novelties, and to meet it they have now a selection of samples as full of beauty as it is full of novelty. Perhaps the newest and at the same time the most pleasing line they are showing comprises specialities in white and in new sea-green basket ware and rustic ware. This sea-green is a bright and cheerful novelty. It consists principally of white china dessert ware, table decorations with sea-green shadings, generally on the edges of the pieces. It is a very delicate green, and in combination with the attractive shapes in white china makes a choice table ornamentation. Sea green, is, however, not confined to these goods. It is shown, with very good taste, on rustic stands or flower-holders in practically all shapes. Sea green is applied to many pretty shapes in basket ware that have hitherto been supplied in white china. Dealers who are familiar with the firm's range of pretty designs can now obtain the same forms in the new sea green. This applies to dessert ware as well as to table decorations. Many of the ''old Wedgwood'' basket ware forms are reproduced. These include comports, flower vases (supplied with porous linings), dishes in several sizes, and other forms. The firm are showing many reproductions of Leeds candlesticks. These are carefully modelled, and, as indicative of the up-to-date character of the firm's productions, we notice the best of these tall candlesticks are perforated through the columns so that they can be easily adapted for use with electric lights or gas, without destroying their original utility as candelabra. These tall pieces are in classical shapes—the ''Ionic,'' ''Corinthian,'' ''Pompeian,'' ''Roman,'' and others. One takes the quaint shape of a hand bell. The bell stands on the table inverted, the end of the handle being uppermost, forming the receptacle for the candle. The firm supply an immense variety of pieces in china basket ware, with (where the form of the article admits of it) floral wreaths on the sides. Amongst a large number of fancy pieces are many grotesques, such as ''Cats'' doing the cake walk. The figure of a mature tabby, standing on its hind legs and holding its front legs (as a man would his arms) akimbo, with its head thrown back, and its chest forward, as in the American cake walk, is exceedingly amusing. Other fancy pieces include small dishes and ash trays. An ash tray that will be appreciated for hotel, restaurant, and club use is white with a-figure of Asmodeus in red on the tray. There are many other lines, including figures, mirrors—all up-to-date.

C. & H. Berry (formerly Charles Berry), 25, Ely-place, Holborn-circus, E.C., have been making some useful changes in the arrangement of their offices and show rooms, by which they have not only secured greater convenience for their office work, but more space for displaying the samples of the manufacturers they represent. They are the London agents for Messrs. Gibson & Sons, Ltd., Albany and Harvey Potteries, Burslem. From the latter works they show samples of specialities in useful and ornamental earthenware and of impasto art ware, and Messrs. Berry give considerable space to their display of these goods. From the former works they show the jet, Rockingham, russet, and mosaic goods with which the company's name has so long been associated. Messrs. Berry are also representing The Anchor Porcelain Co., china manufacturers, Longton, and Mr. W. L. Baron, art pottery manufacturer, of Barnstaple. They show also samples of the table glass imported by J. Wuidart & Co., Ltd.

An Industrial Disaster Averted.—There is a feeling of thankfulness all over the Kingdom that the dispute in the cotton trade has been settled. If an arrangement had not been arrived at, 150,000 workers in Lancashire would have ceased work last Saturday and 50,000 more would necessarily have been thrown out of work in a week or two. The loss of profits to manufacturers and of wages to the employees would have soon told seriously on every retail trade in the country.

Taking Care of Show Cases.—Most up-to-date pottery shops have at least one glass show case, and these cases often became scratched, unless care is taken. A subscriber to a Transatlantic contemporary recently asked how to remove scratches from the show cases in his store, and the following was suggested as a practical method of removing scratches:—''Dissolve one ounce of white wax in a pint of pure turpentine. To dissolve the wax place the vessel containing the turpentine over a burner and warm, and apply with a soft cloth. This will in every case greatly improve the surface.'' For cleaning glass, a good method is as follows. Mix one ounce of whiting, one ounce of alcohol, and one ounce of water of ammonia in a pint of water. Apply with a soft cloth, allow to dry, and then wipe off. Numbers of glass cases are ruined yearly from lack of proper attention. Small cracks appear, caused by heat or contact with hard, heavy bodies, and if these cracks are not at once attended to they soon spread. An excellent method to prevent a crack from spreading is to draw a short crack at right angles with a diamond or a glass cutter, this will prevent a crack from spreading in every case. Cases should be set perfectly level on the floor, especially the new all glass variety, which, if this is not done, are certain to warp. The legs of the case should be propped to the required height from the floor to ensure their sitting true. If these methods on the care of show cases are followed out they will likely repay owners for the care taken by retaining a better appearance for a considerable time.

LIBRARY OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BRITISH TRADE WITH NEW ZEALAND.

WITH commendable enterprise the Advisory Committee of the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence are issuing a series of special reports on important trading centres. We have just received one which the committee have prepared dealing with the conditions and prospects of British Trade in New Zealand, and based upon information collected by Mr. R. J. Jeffray, their special commissioner. The conclusions are summarised as follows: The Dominion of New Zealand presents a market which, though small in comparison with Canada, Australia, or South Africa, is yet considerable, is steadily expanding, and presents great possibilities for the future. In that market British merchants and manufacturers have by far the greatest share, and although that share did decline slowly for some years, the downward movement appears to have been checked since 1902. This improvement is undoubtedly due in part to the greater energy displayed by British manufacturers and traders who have succeeded in some instances in recovering ground which they had lost; and to some extent, also, to the effect of the preferential arrangements made in 1903. It may be noted that whilst the new tariff of New Zealand does not, except in a few cases, lower the barriers against imports from the United Kingdom and British possessions, it increases the advantage which British traders enjoy over against their foreign rivals. Nevertheless, there is considerable and active foreign competition from the United States, Germany, France, and Belgium, and evidence of active efforts on the part of those countries to promote their trade with the Dominion. There are a few classes of goods which the United Kingdom might supply in which the trade is held almost entirely by foreign countries, but with the exception of certain goods for which the countries named have acquired a special reputation, such as agricultural and some other machinery, tools, and a few other metal manufactures from the United States, dress goods, and some articles of apparel from France and Germany, and glass from Belgium, the goods obtained from foreign countries are in the main either cheap linen with which British manufacturers—rightly or wrongly—have not cared to trouble themselves, or miscellaneous articles and fancy goods of many kinds which have never been important in British trade. It appears then that, with the exercise of reasonable vigilance and attention to the desires and perhaps the prejudices of the consumers, there is no reason why British traders should not maintain and even improve their position in the New Zealand market.

With regard to articles directly connected with the trades represented by this journal, it is interesting to note that glass and earthenware imported from the United Kingdom have received specially favourable treatment as regards customs duties since November, 1903. In spite of this the import of fancy china ornaments, cups and saucers, and cheap china of every description is almost entirely of German origin. About half the imported glassware comes from the United Kingdom, but there is an increasing import from Germany and Belgium. In fact, china, glass, and earthenware are among the chief imports from Germany. Re-exports of "glass and manufacturers thereof" from the United Kingdom have fallen off rapidly between 1902 and 1906. This appears to be due, to some extent at least, to the substitution of the Germany-Australia route for the London-New Zealand route. It was asserted that the foreign goods have the advantage of lower freights, even when carried via British ports. The production of "Bricks, Tiles, and Pottery" within the colony in 1905 was valued at £52,193. An appendix to the Blue-Book contains the following tables, with others dealing in a similar manner with all classes of goods :—

NEW ZEALAND IMPORTS OF CHINA AND EARTHENWARE.

	1890.	1900.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
United Kingdom ..	48,051	62,452	77,595	95,645	84,412	98,966
Brit. Possessions—						
Victoria	109	499	1,261	1,061	2,368	2,032
New South Wales..	137	1,004	927	1,138	1,476	1,330
Hong Kong	—	—	271	233	86	100
Other Brit. Poss...	17	55	10	25	36	31
Total Brit. Poss. ..	263	1,558	2,469	2,457	3,966	3,493
Foreign Countries—						
United States	67	428	661	1,474	1,698	871
Germany	445	3,133	7,549	11,881	7,978	9,329
France	4	—	—	24	1,652	153
Japan	—	938	1,070	2,779	1,891	1,933
Other Foreign C'trs.	52	132	409	198	609	329
Total Foreign C'trs.	568	4,631	9,689	16,356	13,828	12,615
Total Imports ..	48,882	68,641	89,753	114,458	102,206	115,074

NEW ZEALAND IMPORTS OF GLASSWARE.

	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	24,080	38,168	41,659	49,237	43,342	50,319
Brit. Possessions—						
Victoria	939	4,772	6,280	5,441	9,379	13,381
New South Wales..	2,013	12,631	15,078	12,912	12,095	17,210
Other Brit. Poss. ..	9	2	14	27	22	18
Total Brit. Poss. ..	2,961	17,405	21,372	18,380	21,496	30,609
Foreign Countries—						
United States	2,572	8,833	15,667	15,230	10,757	7,513
Belgium	118	3,625	5,255	5,830	3,798	4,629
Germany	84	6,326	14,554	17,225	13,523	13,700
Other Foreign C'trs.	15	184	877	1,359	1,288	1,001
Total Foreign C'trs.	2,789	18,968	36,353	39,664	29,366	26,843
Total Imports ..	29,830	74,541	99,384	107,261	94,204	107,771

Next month we hope to deal with a similar Blue Book relating to Canada.

Advancement of the Pottery Art.—Mr. William Burton lectured at the Congregational School, Hale, on Jan. 14, on "The Rise of the Pottery Art." An able address was illustrated by a series of interesting lantern slides exhibiting specimens of the potter's art from prehistoric times to the last century. Some neolithic pottery from a British tumulus corresponded, as he showed, with pottery now being made in another part of the world by people still in the state of culture represented by the people of the Stone Age in this country. Some vessels shown, which were the work of primitive man in Britain before the use of metal, were practically identical with some made by Pueblo Indians of New Mexico. Examples of Egyptian work, such as might be seen in the Museum at Manchester University, showed what had been done in ancient Egypt by the patience and innate refinement of the workman in his knowledge of form. Tracing the origin of the potter's wheel, Mr. Burton suggested that it came from the use of a basket mould for the clay such as primitive races still use. Some details of ancient method were still followed in pottery making. He briefly alluded to the early artistic pottery which came from the East of the Mediterranean, and then to the best period of Greek pottery, which he placed at 400 B.C. He said he would have liked to be able to say that pottery had gone on flourishing to this time, but he could not do so. Technically, and in point of chemical and mechanical skill, things were being done to-day in Europe that earlier potters had never done; but at the same time, in point of taste, in the making of pottery in harmony with the material, and its adaptation to the intended purpose, there were few potters, he said, now living up to the standard which was achieved in Asia and Europe in the Middle Ages.

Novelties.

The Blitz Flower Holder.—Since flowers now play such an important part in the adornment of our homes, attention is very properly being paid to means for making the display of them as pleasing as possible. Some persons say, "Flowers are natural, and you cannot improve on Nature." It is admitted that the beautiful effects of growing flowers can be enhanced by the artistic grouping of them in their flower-beds. It is equally true, therefore, that the beauty of cut flowers, and the pleasure imparted by their presence in the home, are greatly increased by the judicious, artistic arrangement of them in the flower-holders. Flowers form an important factor in the decoration of the dining table of the well-to-do, and they are also indispensable in the homes of all classes of the community, where the joy of the inmates is considered and catered for. The work of arranging the flowers usually devolves upon the lady of the house, and no one knows better than herself how much time is required for the task. In recent years, manufacturers of glass and pottery—more especially glass—have provided bowls, vases, and spills for holding cut flowers. Although there is no lack of fertility in design in these bowls and vases—while artistically beautiful themselves—many of them contribute absolutely nothing to the effective display of the beauties of the flowers. Indeed, there are ladies who seem to pose the vase so as to show its graceful form or rich ornamentation, rather than the simple natural beauties of the flowers it contains. In order that those who desire the latter effects may be assisted in obtaining them, the useful arrangement we illustrate, "The Blitz Flower Holder," has been patented in this country by the Anglo-Belge Glass Association, Ltd., 13, St. Andrew-street, Holborn Circus, London, E.C. The first illustration shows the holder itself, with the perforations through which the stalks of the flowers are passed, and the tapered shank which is dropped into the vase. The second illustration shows the holder with flowers being removed from a vase for the purpose of changing the water. This can be done (as will be seen from the way in which the holder is held) without disturbing the arrangement of the flowers. From this illustration the general appearance when the holder is dropped into the vase, and the hand withdrawn, will be easily understood. It is claimed for the device that it is more cleanly than any metallic or wire arrangement; that it is unobtrusive, as when in position in the vase its presence can scarcely be detected, and that, by reason of its form, it gathers the stems towards a centre at the bottom of the tapered shank, and holds the flowers in a free and upright position, as they would be in a bouquet, but without any undue compression. Another and an important advantage is that the stems have always free access to the water. The "Blitz Flower Holder" will save time in the arrangement of flowers, it is likely to please ladies who use it, and should prove a good selling line for glass and china dealers. We want more novelties which, like this one, are calculated to bring our glass and china shops into favour with the public, by giving them, at a small cost, something which will help them to make the home cheerful. This holder is made in seven sizes, and is adapted for upright forms or for bowls.

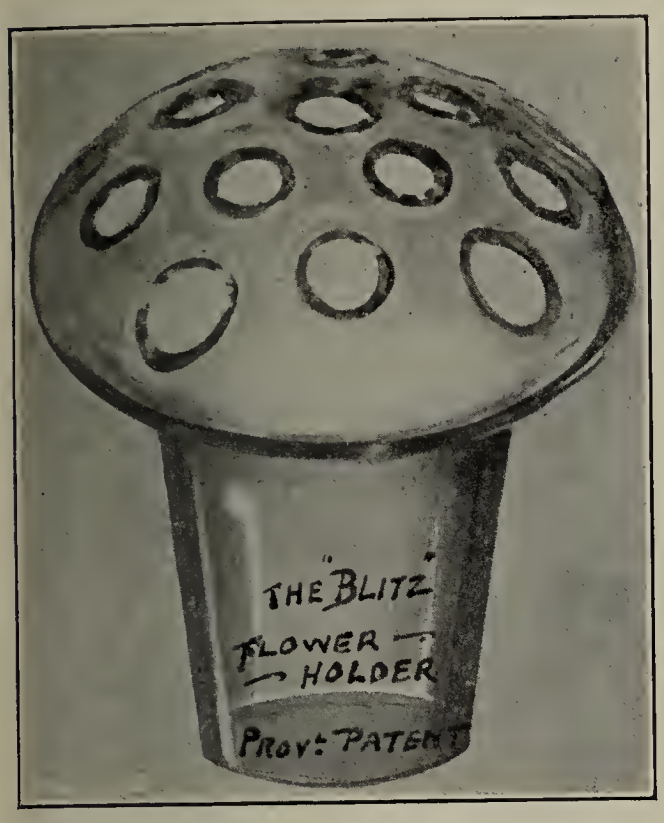


FIG. 1.

Mr. H. J. Cyples, of the Longton Colour Works, Normacot-rd., Longton, has been engaged in the production of potters' colours ever since he was twenty-one years of age. Up till comparatively recently he was established in Gower-st., but for the last fifteen months or so he has been installed in his commodious premises in the Normacot-rd., which have been specially constructed for the purposes of his business. Here he has laid down the very latest machinery and he is now able to carry out the process of grinding, which he was unable to do in Gower-st. Mr. Cyples is now ably assisted in the business by his son, Mr. W. H. Cyples, who has received special training in chemistry at Owens College, Manchester. Mr. Cyples produces about 150 different colours suitable for the decoration of earthenware and



FIG. 2.—BLITZ FLOWER HOLDER.

china, and for the manufacture of ceramic lithographs. Of the colours made, about 120 or 130 are enamel colours, and the remainder are underglaze. Mr. Cyples is also the sole agent for the United Kingdom for Dr. Möckel's liquid gold and lustres, and, in addition, he represents an important firm of ceramic lithograph manufacturers, who have just issued a complete range of new patterns, including some really admirable figure and floral designs. On the occasion of a recent visit to the works we were informed that a new stamping gold introduced by Dr. Möckel was steadily growing in demand. This gold is specially suitable for stippling. As a rule, ordinary gold is thickened down for this purpose by evaporation, but the new liquid contains a very high percentage of gold and is ready for used at once. Although Mr. Cyples is particularly well-known in the potting trade few, perhaps, even of his most intimate acquaintances are aware of the fact that he is a representative of one of the oldest families connected with the industry. His ancestors came over from Holland with the Prince of Orange, and the famous Brothers Elers, who set up a factory at Bradwell, near Burslem, about 1692. Two brothers named Cyples assisted the Elers family in that enterprise which first introduced the process of glazing with salt. One of the brothers Cyples at length settled down at Stoke, and the other at Hanley, the latter eventually removing to Longton. It is to this branch that Mr. H. J. Cyples belongs. Mr Cyples has in his possession at the present time, a pottery tobacco box stamped "Joseph Cyples, Lane End (*i.e.*, Longton) 1734," made by one of his ancestors who set up a factory at Longton about the beginning of the eighteenth century, and only recently, in turning over some old documents at home he came across a diary containing entries relating to the engagement of apprentices by Messrs. Cyples in 1772. The factory in Market-st. remained in the hands of the family until a comparatively recent date. Mr. Cyples grandfather was associated with it, and his father and brother-in-law, Mr. Thomas Barlow, who was succeeded by Mr. A. B. Barlow. The latter gentleman recently died in London. The works are now occupied by Bentley & Co. Mr. Cyples' father ceased to be connected with the concern about 1855, when he relinquished potting to become agent for Johnson, Matthey & Co., bullion dealers, a firm whom Mr. H. J. Cyples himself represented for 37 years. After his father's death Mr. Cyples entered the colour manufacturing business and carried it on in Gower-st., until his removal to Normacot-rd., where he has ample accommodation to allow for the development of his business.

The International Time Recording Co., of 151, 153, and 155, City-road, E.C., are an enterprising and progressive firm. They are starting the new year by adding to their already well-known Rochester and Bundy Recorders, a new and most ingenious machine, which appears to represent the highest possible type of time recorder. It automatically prints the punctual arrivals in blue and late comers in red. The use of this improved "Rochester" reduces the number of time and cost clerks who must be employed, and furnishes further protection to employers against the fraudulent practices of idle and unscrupulous employees.

The Kaiser and the Plate-Breaker.—"Most distinguished Herr Kaiser, I have broken thirty-five plates belonging to my master, and I must pay for them, but I have no money. I implore you to send me a few florins. Thanking you in advance, and with respectful greetings to your wife and children." This note was received through the post by the German Emperor, while he was staying in Budapest, the writer being a kitchen boy at a restaurant in the city. Next day the boy was summoned to the German Consulate, where he was given five florins, and warned to be careful in the future.

THE L.C.C. AND SCHOOL GAS GLOBES.

(COMMUNICATED.)

IN the annual report of the Medical Officer to the Education Department of the L.C.C. (Dr. Jas. Kerr), which has just been issued, an account is given of experiments made in the Council schools as to suitable globes and shades for incandescent lighting. Mr. Bishop Harman, who conducted experiments on the subject, points out that for desk work, a Welsbach light without shade is rather worse than a naked jet, because the brass-work of the burner casts a black shadow beneath the light; by reflection from a shade, the light can be so distributed as to be practically perfect. Such a lamp shade for school use should be cheap and durable. It should reflect the light so that there is no shadow beneath the burner, and in such a way that the lamp at a given distance will efficiently cover a given area. The shade should also protect the teacher's eyes from the direct glare of an exposed mantle. Four varieties, of shades were submitted for examination—"Squat" "Calypso," "New No. 3," and "Reflex." Most of the shades or globes on the market are adaptations of the old globes around naked gas jets, and variously altered or contorted to suit the fancy or aesthetic ideals of the makers. The inadequacy of such a form as the "Squat," proceeds the report, is obvious. The sides subtend an angle of 45 deg. to 50 deg., and do not reflect the light past the massive brass burner, In the "Calypso," with something of a parabolic reflector in its shape, the opaque mass of the burner is particularly effective in stopping the rays. "New No. 3" differs only from the "Calypso" in the shape of the lower clear glass portion, which is immaterial. The "Reflex" is an attempt in the right direction, but its details have been carelessly arranged, so that in class rooms it may be very objectionable to the teachers. Efficient reflection can only be obtained from a Welsbach burner when the opal sides of the shade subtend an angle of about 90 deg. The opal upper portion of the "Reflex" $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. vertical, is shaped on this plan, and, consequently, the shadow beneath the burner is less than with any of the other shades. The lower part of the shade, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. perpendicular is of clear glass, so that two-thirds or more of the incandescent mantle is directly exposed to the teacher's eyes the effect being intolerably dazzling. For this reason, the "Reflex" is quite unfitted for the class room. This effect is easily remedied by extending the sides of the "Reflex" with a simple paper shade figured as the 90 deg. shade globe. The relative values of these shades from the point of efficient lighting was shown by an experiment in which the metre candle value of the illumination was measured on the desks immediately below the burner, and then at intervals of a yard along the horizontal desk-tops. The results found for the "Squat," "Calypso," and "New No. 3" were alike, and 1 m.c. less than the "Reflex" below the burner. The improvement on the unreflected light by the use of the "Reflex" shade is great, but the results to be obtained by increasing the depth of the shade are most striking. The gain is obtained by reflecting the rays which would otherwise be dissipated upon the upper part of the walls of the room, and the teacher's eyes are screened from the dazzling of the naked mantle by the depth of the shade. Whereas all the other shades cast shadows of differing degrees of density beneath the burner, with the 90 degree shade no shadow could be detected. The 90 deg. shade, therefore, filled all the requirements of school use, and the gas fittings in the schools could easily be adapted to their use.

Change of Agency.—S. Fielding & Co., Railway Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, are now represented in London by Mr. C. J. Pratt, of Gamage-buildings, 118, Holborn.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EGYPT.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

LEAVING London one dismal Friday evening last November, I found myself less than six days later in Assouan, at the first Nile Cataract, on the borders of the Nubian desert. The granite boulders in the river and the drift-sand on the hills, in a red sunset glow, formed a great contrast to one's last memories of Charing Cross in its garb of rain and fog.

The journey had been a very interesting one. Firstly, after the cross-channel passage, there was the fifteen hundred miles run from Calais to Brindisi by the through Peninsular express, then 48 hours on the fast mail steamer brought one to Port Said, and later in the day Cairo was reached by train. A few hours afterwards a mail train left Cairo for the south with well-equipped sleeping and dining cars attached. These cars had double roofs, and were painted white outside to minimise the heat of the sun, while special shutters kept the sand from filtering in at the windows. The journey of four hundred miles to Luxor was performed in thirteen hours, which speaks well for British management on the Egyptian State Railways. At Luxor it was necessary to change trains, as the gauge from that place to Assouan is narrower on account of the many rocky cuttings. The train for this section of the journey was painted white outside from end to end, including mail and luggage vans and the travelling kitchen coupled next to the little dining car. The underframes of all the coaches were painted a bright blue.

My travelling companions from London to Assouan were nearly all young English and Scotsmen returning from annual leave to their various vocations in the Egyptian and Soudan Administrations. It was a striking example of the fact that the development of the country is being carried out by young Britishers. Naturally the engineering profession claims a large proportion of the young men working in Upper Egypt and the Soudan. A few of my fellow travellers were heads of departments in the Soudan Government Railways. Several were bound for Khartoum in connection with the new girder bridge across the Nile to connect Khartoum with the railway, a contract which the Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., of Darlington, have in hand. Others were on their way to Assouan to assist in the work of raising the dam and altering the locks.



THE ASSOUAN DAM.

The Arabs are slowly being taught modern British methods by our young men in Lower Egypt in the same way. One met at the British Club in Cairo (known as the Turf Club), professors in the Law Schools, superintendents of police, technical and secondary schoolmasters, also young men in many other departments of the administration—in the service of the Egyptian Government, and wearing the official red tarboosh or fez when on duty—but still British subjects, and a very valuable asset to the British Empire.



THE ASSOUAN RESERVOIR AND PHILAE ISLAND.

THE ASSOUAN DAM ranks as one of the most stupendous pieces of modern engineering. One expects to find a great ugly wall across the valley, with a desolate waste of water covering the ruined temples on Philae Island, the renowned "Pearl of Egypt." However, the Dam itself is not only the most wonderful sight in Egypt, but is really very graceful, as its great length counteracts the massiveness of the huge granite pile. The Dam was completed in 1902, with the object of furnishing a regular supply of water for the irrigation of the country during the time of low Nile.

The Egyptian Government recently decided that the Dam should be raised to a height of twenty-four feet

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above the present level. The quantity of water stored in the reservoir will be two and a half times greater than at present, and will irrigate about 950,000 acres of what is now desert. The temples on the Island of Philae will be completely submerged during the first few months of each year instead of being only partly under water as shown in the accompanying illustration. However, the pillars of the temple and the colonnades have been underpinned with steel and concrete, and it is thought that these ancient monuments will remain undamaged.

The cost of raising the Dam will be about £1,500,000, and the contractors for the original undertaking, John Aird & Co., have obtained the contract. Work had begun in real earnest at the time of my visit, and several large electric cranes, the parts of which had been brought up the river from Alexandria in cases, were being erected on the Dam walls. A large body of Italian quarrymen were at work, blasting out the granite in the adjoining quarries and shaping it into blocks, under the superintendence of British engineers, the task of conveying the stone to the Dam, and unskilled labour of a like nature, being performed by thousands of Arabs.

A new lock will have to be added to the four existing locks to admit of steamers and sailing craft still going up to the second Cataract at Halfa, and this section of the work has been let to the contractors for the present locks, Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., of Ipswich.

(To be continued.)

Obituary.

THOMAS GUEST.—AGED 71.

MR. THOMAS GUEST, an old and respected member of the glass trade, died at his residence, Wood-street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, on January 6. His health had been declining for upwards of twelve months, and though his friends had advised him to take matters easily, his natural activity impelled him to take an interest in business until a few weeks before his death. The name of Guest has for many years been a familiar one in the glass trade of the Stourbridge district, several distinct families of that name having been identified with the industry. Mr. Guest was born at Coalbournbrook (between Wordsley and Stourbridge) on January 1, 1837. He was employed in the glass trade when quite young, and has been connected with it all his life. For nearly twenty years he has carried on business as a glass decorator in conjunction with one of his sons. He was not a manufacturer himself, but decorated glass in many artistic ways for several of the manufacturers in the district. He was married on December 27, 1857, so that his golden wedding day occurred only a short time before his death. An intended celebration of the occasion was prevented by his indisposition. He was a broad-minded man, and took considerable interest in local affairs—political, philanthropic, and religious. In politics he was for many years a co-worker with the late Mr. Philip Pargeter. His family for several generations had been enthusiastic Presbyterians, and the deceased was an earnest worker in connection with the church of that denomination in Lower High-street, Stourbridge. A few months ago he completed 50 years' service as Treasurer of the Provident Society connected with the church, and the members showed their appreciation of his labours by presenting him with a gold watch as a jubilee souvenir. For many years he was also a member of the church choir. The deceased was of a retiring disposition, always avoiding publicity as much as possible, and was averse to contentious controversy, either theological or political. In business he was greatly respected, and was never aggressive in his methods, preferring a steady though progressive line of his own. The funeral took place at Stourbridge Cemetery on January 9, in the presence of a large assembly of relatives and friends. The deceased has left a widow, three sons, and one daughter.

FREDERICK JAMES MILLS.—AGED 72.

MR. FREDERICK JAMES MILLS, who died at his residence, 101, Gloucester-ter., Hyde Park, London, on Jan. 12, was at one time one of the prominent manufacturers in the Stourbridge glass trade. Most of the present generation will only remember the name, but many of the older residents in Wordsley and Amblecote will hear with regret of the death of the genial gentleman who upwards of twenty years ago had such a large circle of acquaintances in the glass-making district. The deceased was a son of the late Mr. Richard Mills, a glass manufacturer, who carried on business at the works now occupied by Messrs. Hingley at Amblecote. He was educated locally, and his first step in business was connected with the nail-making industry. After a short experience in that he appears to have associated himself with the firm of Richardson, Mills & Smith, glass manufacturers, of which his father was a partner. When he was 26 years of age he entered into partnership with Mr. W. W. Boulton, who was in business as a flint table-glass manufacturer at Audnam, in works which he had purchased from the Grazebrooks, who had established the business. These two young men traded as Boulton & Mills, founding a firm which has since acquired a high reputation in the Stourbridge glass trade. Mr. Boulton took control of the works, and during very nearly the whole of the partnership, which lasted more than twenty years, Mr. Mills looked after the distribution and exerted himself especially in developing the London trade. He acted as London representative of the firm, and was remarkable for his close application to the business. It was well known that the success of the firm was very largely due to the commercial instinct and enterprise of the junior partner. About 1884 he gave up active association with the works, and retired into private life, though we understand he retained a small monetary interest in the business to the end. On his retirement Mr. Mills was succeeded by his two nephews, Messrs. Harry and William Boulton, who now carry on the business under the same firm name of Boulton & Mills.

The deceased was married twice, first to Miss Webb, and secondly to Miss Grimes. His second wife died some years ago, and there were no children by either marriage. During the early years of his partnership he lived at Ashfield, Wordsley, and subsequently he purchased "The Uplands," Hagley Road, Stourbridge. When he retired from business he sold this residence, and for the greater part of the time since then he lived in London. He was very fond of club life, and was for some years a member of the "Thatched House," "Blenheim," and "Junior Constitutional" Clubs in London, where he made many friends. He took no prominent active part in any public movements, either political, religious, or social, though during his residence in the Stourbridge district he was connected with Wollaston Church, and was one of the managers of the Wollaston Schools. He was too much absorbed in business to devote much time to recreation, but in his early years he hunted a little and was one of the original members of the Sunningdale Golf Club. In politics he was a Conservative, but was too quiet and unostentatious to identify himself with any political association, though he was frequently solicited to do so. He had been ailing for nearly a year, so that his death, though somewhat sudden, was not a great surprise to those intimately connected with him. He has left many friends in London, Stourbridge, and Birmingham. The funeral took place at Wordsley Parish Church on Jan. 17.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Mr. E. R. Goodrich, china and glass dealer, &c., has removed from 63 to 79, Old Kent-rd., S.E.

Hoskin's China and Glass Stores have been transferred from 297 to 317, Green-st., Upton Park, E.

The "Acme" china and glass stores have recently been opened at 310, High-st., Lewisham, S.E.

Mr. H. Greenstreet has opened a china and glass business at 119, High-street, Mile Town, Sheerness, Kent.

The "Bon Marche" china and glass stores are about to be removed from 156 to 187–193, High-st., Hounslow, W.

Mr. R. Randall, china and glass merchant, has transferred his business from 169, Hornsey-rd., to 526, Holloway-rd., N.

Mr. W. Bridge, china and glass dealer, &c., will shortly open premises at 6, Leigh-st., Burton-crescent, W.C.

Mr. E. A. Townsend, Altrincham, has removed his glass and china warehouse from 39 and 41, George-street, to 9, Station-road.

Mr. J. Cox, Junr., china and glass merchant, has opened new premises at 9, Railway-crescent, Station-rd., West Croydon, S.E.

Brown & Mackey, china and glass merchants, have removed from 1, Fenchurch-st., E.C., to 133, in the same thoroughfare.

Watson & Son, pottery and glass dealers, 13, Minster-street, Reading, are opening a branch shop at No. 2, The Arcade in the same town.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Tye have removed from "Hughenden," Westby-rd., to "Delapre," Donoughmore-rd., Boscombe, Bournemouth.

Mr. E. T. Brown, china and glass merchant, in consequence of the expiration of lease, has relinquished the business at 58, High-st., Croydon, S.E.

Antony Gibbs & Sons, Australian merchants, announce that they have admitted into partnership the Hon. Gerald Gibbs, son of Lord Aldenham.

Draper & Son, 67, Great Titchfield-st., W., have purchased the business of Mr. W. M. Nerney, glass and china merchant, 60-62, in the same thoroughfare.

The Royal Art Pottery Co., Ltd., of Longton, inform us that Mr. Brittain will be at the Saracen's Head until Feb. 14, showing samples of their latest productions.

Mr. John Race has resigned his position with a Swedish glass works, and since January 1 has represented Johnsen & Jorgensen, of 45 and 46, Bury-court, for their table glass.

Mr. David Hackney, 37, Irongate, Derby, is continuing successfully the crockery and glass business which was carried on for many years by his parents at the same address.

Barrett & Son, Ltd.—Registered capital, £5,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business of a china and glass merchant, carried on by Catherine S. Barrett, at Market-hill, St. Mary's-passage, St. Andrew's-street, and St. Andrew's-hill, Cambridge, as Barrett & Son.

Calendars, &c.—We have received and acknowledge with thanks: a notably clear and distinct wall calendar from Mr. Warwick Savage, of Burslem; a handsome pictorial wall calendar from the Roessler & Hasslacher Chemical Co., of New York, U.S.A.; an artistic wall calendar from L. Rensche & Co., 6, Park-place, New York, U.S.A.

Wages in the Glass Bottle Trade.—At a meeting of the Yorks and district glass-bottle manufacturers, held at the Métropole Hotel, Leeds, on Jan. 16, it was decided to grant a 5 per cent. advance in wages, which had been asked for by the employees To recoup themselves for this most of the manufacturers have raised their selling prices 7½ or 10 per cent.

Municipal Crockery Hiring.—At a recent meeting of the Accrington T.C., Mr. Crawford asked if it was true that the Town Hall Committee was entering into competition with local tradesmen by loaning out new crockery for other than municipal purposes at a charge of 2d. per dozen sets. Alderman Duckworth, in reply said, that anyone engaging the Town Hall for parties, &c., could hire the crockery from the Council at the rate named.

Chromo Transfer and Potters' Supply Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £50,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to carry on the business of manufacturers of chromo and lithographic transfers, ceramic colours, potters' materials, glazes, and the like, manufacturers and decorators of and dealers in china, earthenware, stoneware, and terracotta, &c. and to adopt an agreement with L. L. Grimwade. The subscribers are L. L. Grimwade, I. Dootson, E. J. Buckley, A. C. Cooper, Jacob Zelinder, J. Bennison, and W. Wade.

Ernest & Co., Ltd., is the title of a new limited liability company, in which are amalgamated the china and glass dealers' businesses of Ernest & Co., 146 to 148, Finchley-road, N.W., and 208, West End-lane, N.W., and Alfred & Co., 2, The Exchange, Muswell Hill. The Company's head office is at 148, Finchley-road, N.W. The late proprietors of the businesses, Mr. A. E. Jacobs, who traded as Ernest & Co., and Mr. J. A. Jacobs, who traded as Alfred & Co., are the managing directors of the new company.

Female Employment.—Forms are now being issued from the Factory Department of the Home Office, for the returns of employment in 1907, and the Home Secretary is asking employers, voluntarily, to furnish particulars as to proportion of married women they employ. Though the return asked for is a perfectly voluntary one it is most desirable it should be as complete as possible. Female employment is such an important factor in pottery manufacture that it is hoped the wishes of the Department asking information will be complied with.

Glassware Contract Open.—The London County Council invites tenders for the supply and delivery of glassware. Standard samples may be seen at the London County Council Furniture Stores, 30, Clerkenwell-close, E.C., between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on any week-day except Saturday. The tenders must be on the official forms, which may be obtained on application to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., and no tender received after 11 a.m. on Feb. 11, 1908, will be considered.

Manchester Bottle Exchange.—The annual report of the Manchester Mineral Water Manufacturers' Association states that 1,464,480 bottles have been received in the Exchange, compared with 1,235,952 in 1906, 1,558,800 in 1905, and 2,652,336 in 1904. There is a very marked reduction in the quantity of bottles coming through "other sources," marine store dealers and non-members. From other sources there is a reduction of 4,362 gross compared with 1904, from marine store dealers the reduction is 1,823 gross, and from non-members 208 gross.

Joseph Lockett & Sons, Ltd.—For purely family reasons, Joseph Lockett & Sons, 55, Hatton-garden, Holborn-circus, E.C., have converted their firm into a company with limited liability. This arrangement will not make any change in their business, which will be carried on exactly as before, and at the same address. No person outside the old firm has any interest in the new company. The registration particulars are as follows:—Registered capital, £6,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of porcelain agents carried on at 55, Hatton-garden, E.C., and elsewhere as Joseph Lockett & Sons. No initial public issue.

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Higher Railway Rates.—The Council of the Railway Companies' Association have advised the Board of Trade that representatives have been appointed to take part in the conference promoted by Mr. Lloyd George on the question of rates, and the restrictions placed on companies by existing legislation. Traders and other interested bodies will be represented at the conference. The meeting is expected to be held in about two weeks. Any changes that may be agreed to will be carried out by amendments to the existing Acts. The China and Glass Dealers' Association of the United Kingdom are making arrangements to be represented at this conference.

Company Liens Registered.—Bodelva China Clay Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Lien registered for £2,476 five per cent. debentures charged on the entire assets of the company.—Dunn, Bennett & Co., Ltd., Burslem. Lien registered for £12,000 five per cent., first mortgage debentures of £100 each charged on the undertaking and all the property and uncalled capital.—British Association of Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Ltd., Leeds. A mortgage to secure, 2,400,000 marks (£120,000), has been registered. The property charged is six-sevenths of the sum of 17s. per share, capital uncalled on 164,730 shares, and of the capital represented by any shares to be subsequently issued. The holders are Owens European Bottle Machine Company, of Toledo, Ohio, U.S.A.

The Late Mr. James Duncan.—The death took place on January 11, at his residence, Porthill, of Mr. James Duncan, glost-oven manager for Booths, Ltd., Tunstall. Mr. Duncan was a nephew of the late Mr. T. G. Booth, and had been connected with the manufactory for ten or twelve years. He was seized with illness at the works about a fortnight before, but his case was not considered serious, till a slight stroke occurred, which was soon followed by fatal consequences. The deceased was deservedly popular, being of a lively, friendly disposition. He was a singer of ability, and took an interest in tennis and politics. He was a corporal in the Yeomanry and a member of the Commercial Travellers' Association. Deceased was only about 30 years of age and leaves a widow and two children.

Death of Mrs. Northwood.—A lady well known and esteemed in Stourbridge and the district, and the bearer of a name that will long be famous in the glass trade throughout the world, has passed away. Mrs. Northwood, the widow of the late Mr. John Northwood, died on January 7 at her residence, Kingswinford, near Stourbridge, in her 71st year. Mr. John Northwood died six years ago, and Mrs. Northwood has been in failing health ever since his death, and lately has been a confirmed invalid. Mr. Northwood will be remembered for his remarkable work as a pioneer in the art of cameo glass cutting. There are six daughters and three sons living. One of the sons is already famous in his father's art of cameo glass cutting, and two of them are principals in the Northwood Glass Co., in the United States. Mr. Harry Northwood some time ago represented his company in London, and he is popular on both sides of the Atlantic. We extend our sympathy to the family on the death of their parent.

An Observation with a Moral.—A correspondent writes:—Herne Hill, a pretty residential suburb in the south of London (with a splendid service of trains to the City, to Victoria, and by main line to the South-East Coast), is rapidly increasing in population. Within the last ten years scores of new streets and hundreds of new villa residences have been built. Three new places of worship have been built and opened. The shops are concentrated in wide and well-lighted thoroughfares forming a compact marketing neighbourhood. (An attempt is being made to introduce shops on the crest of the hill, in the centre of hundreds of pretty private residences, but it is not a success, as residents do not want them there.) There are drapers, grocers (Williamsons, Ltd.), provision dealers (Hudson Brothers), fruiterers, milliners, men's outfitters, lingerie, oil and colourmen, chemists (three), two high-class stationers and several newsvendors, and two jewellers. A second post-office has just been opened—and yet there is not a glass and china shop in the place! The moral is obvious.

Exclusive Information.—It is extraordinary where the halfpenny evening papers get their news from. Of course we have always regretted that the glass trade had left Dudley, but the "Express and Star," of Wolverhampton, tells us where it has gone. A writer in that paper says:—"The glass trade has left Dudley, not for foreign parts, but only to the neighbouring district of Stourbridge, where it is flourishing to a degree which was never dreamt of in the days of the Hawkses and the Badgers of Dudley. Modern firms, by keeping pace with the times, have built up in the Stourbridge district businesses of world-wide fame. The writer on one occasion ventured, in the hearing of a gentleman connected with one of the firms, to mention the keenness of foreign competition in his particular line of business. The gentleman, in reply, enumerated many branches in which certain foreigners formerly had a monopoly, but in which the British workman is now pre-eminent." If this is true the contributor to the "Express and Star" ought to be at this office, for our staff has altogether neglected to keep us in touch with the Stourbridge glass trade as he describes it.

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during December last, was 56, and there were 2 deaths due to this cause in the same month. (The deaths were in connection with coach making.) In addition to the above there were 16 cases of lead poisoning and 5 deaths reported among house painters and plumbers, During the 12 months ending Dec. 31, 1907, the total number of cases of lead poisoning reported under the Acts was 578 as compared with 632 cases reported in 1906. In addition to these, the number of cases reported among house painters and plumbers during 1907 was 174, as compared with 181 cases in 1906. The total number of deaths reported under the Acts in 1907 was 26 as compared with 33 in 1906, and among house painters and plumbers the number of deaths in 1907 was 39 as against 36 deaths in 1906. There were 8 cases of lead poisoning in connection with china and earthenware, in December last, as compared with 9 cases in November. During the 12 months of last year there were 103 reported cases and 9 deaths in connection with the china and earthenware trades, as compared with 107 reported cases and 4 deaths during the year 1906.

"From Sunset to Sunset."—This is a new and artistic devotional work, small 8vo, tastefully printed and bound, and published by Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, E.C., price 1s. It depicts the most momentous hours in Christian history—Christ's last day of suffering being represented in excellent reproductions of fourteen panels, executed in terra-cotta by George Tinworth. The originals are in the collection of Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth, S.E. Mr. Tinworth's best works are those which have been inspired by his reverential acquaintance with Biblical incidents. He has dealt nobly and artistically with subjects from classical and mediæval history, but his favourite themes have all been found in the Bible. Appended to each panel are passages of Scripture referring to the events illustrated, and the prophecies from the Old Testament which relate to them. If we were writing of one (or all) of the terra-cotta panels, it might be permitted to describe the embodiment of the artist's conception of his subject. It would, however, be out of place here in speaking of a book to repeat even the names of the solemn events illustrated in it. Readers who know how successfully he reveals his deep religious feeling in clay will need no other incentive

to peruse this book than the statement that the text has been compiled, and the panels illustrated have been modelled, by George Tinworth.

New Trade Marks which have been applied for during last month include the following :—"*Vesta Venetian*," *British Manufacture*. 297,094. Class 15. Glass vases. John James Walsh, Soho and Vesta Glass Works, Lodge-rd., Birmingham.—*Thermos*. 296,746. Class 14. Bottles, flasks, and other vessels, culinary and domestic utensils ; all being goods included in this class and in which precious metal (including aluminium, nickel, Britannia metal, &c.) predominates ; all being sold independently of any contents. Also 296,747. Class 16. Bottles, flasks, and other vessels, culinary and domestic utensils ; all being goods included in Class 16, and in which porcelain or earthenware predominates ; all being sold independently of any contents. Thermos, Ltd., 8, Long-lane, Aldersgate-st., E.C. —*Institute*. 298,500. Porcelain and earthenware goods included in Class 16. Sharpe Brothers & Co., Ltd., West-st., Swadlincote, Burton-on-Trent.—297,957. Design as illustrated. China and pottery. Class 16. Dennis & Holloway, 82, Newborough-st., Scarborough.—*Apex*. 298,142. Sanitary appliances and drainage contrivvances included in Class 18. Thomas Wragg & Sons, Ltd., Hillside Stoneware Pipe Works, Swadlincote, near Burton-on-Trent.



Old Staffordshire.—Increased attention is being paid to specimens of "Early English" pottery, and sundry pieces of old Staffordshire, have changed hands recently at good prices. It is interesting to trace the various stages of pottery production from the 17th century to the present time by actual examples. That can be done with here and there a few gaps. Probably the labours of enthusiasts like Messrs. Frank Falkner and E. J. Sidebotham will in time fill these blanks. An extensive collection of Staffordshire ware belonging to Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, F.S.A., was sold at Christies' on Jan. 24. There were some interesting pieces. but we do not recognise any rare discovery. A statuette of Franklin, 13 in., in good condition and a smaller edition sold for 30 guineas. Three jugs modelled with rustic figures, by Voyez, 21 guineas, a lady at an altar and a girl with a dove, 29 in., 21 guineas ; two Whieldon groups of lovers with a bird-cage, lamb, and dog, 10 in. and 11 in., 21 guineas ; Alexander the Great, by Enoch Wood, 18 guineas ; Sir Walter Raleigh holding a rose, 21½ in., 18 guineas; Bacchus and Ariadne and a girl with a dove, 25 in., 16 guineas ; an elephant and camel, 8 in., and a lion reclining, 16 guineas ; a horse, 15½ in., and a bull, 11 in., 16 guineas ; two Toby-Filpot jugs, 15½ guineas ; Chaucer and Newton, 11 in., 15 guineas ; a travelling-show, 11 in., and a girl and Cupid, 10½ in., 15 guincas ; the death of Munro, 11 in., and a bull-baiting group, 10 in., 15 guineas ; Cleopatra and three statuettes, 19½ in., 15 guineas ; Shakespeare and Milton, leaning on emblematic pedestals surmounted by books, 18½ in., 15 guineas ; Voltaire and Washington, 8½ in., 14 guineas ; and Antony and Cleopatra reclining, 14 guineas.

Potters and Politics.—No matter which party they belong to, candidates for a Parliamentary seat for Mid-Devon required to be very strong-minded. It is said the recent contest was fought on the clay question. One set of advisers urged the clay men to "stick to the clay" and not let the foreigners have it. The men were asked "if they would not rather work for their own countrymen than for foreigners." The other party said foreigners were the best friends to the clay men, for without foreign orders the men would soon be on short time. Figures and facts from the POTTERY GAZETTE were freely quoted on both sides. We read that the pottery men belonging to each party purchased a crate with the intention of putting the candidate representing the opposing party into it and carrying him round the town! Happily the candidates were saved from this fate, as after the election the opposing factions were fully occupied in attacking each other.

A Clergyman on the Pottery Trade.—In his "Parish Magazine" the rector of Stoke-on-Trent makes judicious reference to the present position of affairs in the pottery trades. He says :—"Shall we pass next Lady Day in industrial peace, and will the suggestions of permanent conciliation and arbitration be given a chance to bring about in the potting trade the good results that have followed in other trades ? Disorganisation has been the bane of the whole trade on the part of both manufacturers and operatives, however well that may have suited individuals. We want more common energy and resource put into our local industry. It is only steady, hard, scientific work that will enable us to hold our own in a competition that is daily growing more widespread throughout the world. Our competitor to-day is Germany, to-morrow it will be Japan, the next day China ; we cannot afford to lose a single advantage. Organisation, technical training, industrial efficiency—our local trade needs it as much as any." The kind offices of the rector (the Rev. Prebendary Stuart) in the settlement of the differences in the sanitary ware trade are gratefully remembered.

Royal Warrant Holders in the Pottery and Glass Trades.—General Sir Dighton Probyn, the Keeper of the Privy Purse, has issued from Buckingham Palace, lists, revised and corrected up to Jan. 1, 1908, of the tradesmen who hold warrants of appointment to His Majesty with authority to use the Royal Arms. The following are the china and glass merchants, &c., in the list :—J. W. Baker, glass and china merchant, Aberdeen ; Pulman & Son, makers of terra cotta and artificial rockwork, London. The following, in the Lord Steward's Department, hold warrants of appointment to His Majesty :—W. T. Copeland & Son, china, Stoke-on-Trent ; John Donald & Co., glass and china, Edinburgh ; Edison & Swan, United Electric Light Co., Ltd., electric lamps, London ; John Ford & Co., glass and china, Edinburgh ; Gibson & Howarth, china and glass, Preston ; Thomas Goode & Co., china and glass, London ; Percival Jones, china and glass, Dublin ; F. & C. Osler, table glass, London ; Phillips Ltd., china and glass, London ; Roberts & Co., glass and china, Windsor ; Daniel St. John Sheehan, china and glass, Cork. The following hold warrants of appointment to His Majesty, from the Lord Chamberlain :—Bellman, Ivey & Carter, manufacturers of pedestals for statuary, and restorers of sculpture, London ; Doulton & Co., Ltd., potters, London ; John Ford & Co., glass manufacturers, Edinburgh ; Minton, Hollins & Co., manufacturers of encaustic tiles, Stoke-on-Trent ; Mintons Ltd., manufacturers of earthenware and china, Stoke-on-Trent ; Apsley, Pellatt & Co., glass and china manufacturers, London ; Perry & Co., lamp and lustre manufacturers, London ; Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Co., Ltd., manufacturers of porcelain, Derby ; Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester porcelain manufacturers, Worcester. The following hold warrants of appointment from the Lord Chamberlain to the Queen :—Thomas Goode & Co., china merchants, London ; Mortlocks, Ltd., china manufacturers, London ; Fredk. Rathbone, dealer in Wedgwood and Old English pottery, London ; Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufacturing Co., porcelain manufacturers, London. The following are permitted to style themselves, "By appointment to the late Queen Victoria" and are entitled to use the Royal Arms :—A. B. Daniell & Sons, china and glass, London ; James Green and nephew, china and glass, London ; Mortlocks Ltd., china and glass, London ; James Richard Whitman, china and glass, Cowes, Isle of Wight.

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NEWSPAPER REVIEWS OF THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN 1907

The Pottery Trades.

THE "Glasgow Herald" says:—"The increase in the price of coals has had a serious effect on the earthenware business. Coal enters into the cost of production of earthenware probably as much, if not more, than in any other manufactured article. Other materials are also dearer. It is well known that all our clays, &c., come from the South of England, and the increased rate of freight alone has this year added to the cost of production. No adequate addition has been made to the selling prices; indeed, nothing appreciable to meet the increased cost. The results, therefore, of the year's business have been poor, though at the same time there has been a fair volume of business throughout the year. It is interesting to note that the clays in the South of England are taken very largely by potters both on the Continent and in the United States, and they get them by water carriage about as cheaply as the British potter. The workmen have been fairly well employed throughout the year, but they will have to adopt the steady, careful, and attentive habits of their Continental neighbours if they are to obtain steady employment. Potters have been stimulated to produce some novelties, and, what is still better, have been introducing new forms and patterns which show a real advance in artistic design. They hope thereby to stimulate demand and secure some improvement in monetary results, and also to increase interest in local productions. One manufacturer has recently added the making of wall tiles to his productions, such as white and cream glazed, also decorated wall tiles, in varied designs, as well as enamelled tiles for interior decoration. This effort has been appreciated and supported by architects and tilelayers in Scotland and abroad, a distinct advantage being the saving of inland carriage as compared with makers south of the Tweed."

The "Manchester Guardian" says:—"An excellent year has been experienced in the potting trade of North Staffordshire, and official figures show that the exports of British ware have constituted a record. One notable feature of the year has been the increase in the price of china and earthenware, due to the greater cost of coal and potters' materials generally. The home market for pottery suffered a great deal in the summer through the bad seaside season, but in the later part of the year it smartened up considerably, and the Christmas trade was the best known for many years past. The shipping trade throughout the year has been busy, and manufacturers for the American market were particularly well employed until the financial crisis in the United States. Since then business has undoubtedly fallen off, but the crisis came too late to affect this year's exports to any appreciable degree." After quoting the figures of the official reports of pottery exports the "Guardian" continues:—"The prospects of the trade are hopeful, but the situation at present requires careful handling, as the workpeople are considering the advisability of giving notice for an all-round 15 per cent. increase in wages and of demanding uniformity in 'counts' and sizes. They complain that the sizes and 'counts' of different articles are increasing, without any corresponding increase in price, and they argue that this amounts to a reduction in wages. A great many employers agree that efforts ought to be made to bring prices and counts to a more uniform level. But if the workpeople pursue their intention to demand a 15 per cent. increase in wages difficulties are likely to arise, for the feeling of the masters appears to be that no such increase can be even contemplated. The questions raised may, however, come within the scope of action of the Board of Trade, which the potting manufacturers have suggested should be re-established."

The "Birmingham Daily Post" says:—"In the china and earthenware trades of the Staffordshire Potteries the year opened with business in a generally satisfactory state, and it has continued to improve steadily. At the present time the trade is active, and it is admitted that there is an encouraging outlook for the coming year. It is always difficult to convey in a general statement an accurate idea of prevailing conditions, because in individual cases a variety of causes may have tended to depress trade. Then again many people are too prone to speak of the export trade as though it represented the whole of the commercial activity of the district. The Board of Trade returns show most conclusively that the export trade has been excellent, but it would be a mistake to infer as a corollary that the home trade has been equally busy. Unfortunately there is no source from which to obtain information as to the actual extent of business in the home market such as there is in the export trade, and we have to trust to such information as is obtainable from other sources. From this it appears that although the home trade has not improved as rapidly as the oversea trade, still it has improved materially, and after a heavy rush of Christmas orders there are fewer operatives unemployed than at the corresponding period for several years. In fact, there is everything to indicate that the home trade is prosperous, and the manufacturers mostly interested in it appear to be sanguine that the improvement will continue. On some hands, however, it is contended that the key to the present activity in the home market is the fact that the Germans are so busy with their own home orders as necessarily to leave this country alone. The potters of Staffordshire are still suffering keenly under the burden of the heavy railway charges from North Staffordshire to different parts of the kingdom. Strong representations have been made to the companies with a view to the reduction of these charges, but the matter is still under negotiation. Speaking of the industry generally, the trade between this country and America in the cheaper class of pottery ware had been brought practically to a standstill by the protective duties, but an improvement was reported last year, and there has been a still more marked improvement during the present year. The weak spot in the local industry has hitherto been the china trade, but it has been much better than for some years past, especially in the home trade. Employment has not only been regular, but in some cases even a shortage of labour has been experienced. Although some of the smaller and more old-fashioned factories had been closed during previous years, several of the more up-to-date places have been enlarged and improved, and the close of the year will show that the output has exceeded any of the past five or six years. The export trade, though decreased to South Africa and one or two other markets, has improved considerably in the East Indies, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, but the British china manufacturer has yet to find a way over the tariff walls of the United States. Strenuous efforts are being made to solve the problems of gas firing in kilns and ovens. The high charges for fuel have been covered to some extent by adding 5 per cent. to prices, but a more united action on the part of makers is necessary if the burden is not to fall altogether on their own shoulders. German competition in this country has been less severely felt than in some previous years, but under existing circumstances it is almost impossible for English makers to get into Germany with their wares. The prospects for the New Year are better than this time last year, and on the whole the china manufacturers of Fenton and Longton are to be congratulated on their experience of the past year. On March 25, the potter's hiring time, a dispute arose in the sanitary trade, and a strike of eight

weeks' duration ensued before matters in difference were amicably settled.

The Glass Trades.

The "Glasgow Herald" says:—"Although there has been an advance in coal and materials during the last year, there has not been a corresponding improvement in the price of manufactured goods, as the demand has not increased. The demand for the better class of flint glass goods has fallen off very much during 1907. The only demand has been for a cheaper class of goods, but unfortunately the bulk of these is supplied by Continental makers at a much cheaper rate, as the output of the day's work of the men is unhampered by trade unions; there is no restriction on the number of hours employees may work, and their protected tariff enables them to have a free market in their own country, where they obtain good prices for their goods, and the overplus they are able to send to our country, which is a free market, so they are able to sell at a lower price than manufacturers in this country. Unfortunately fewer hands are employed in the glass trade in Scotland and England than at this time last year. Two old-established houses in the Midlands have had to close down their furnaces recently, owing to this serious competition. One would think that with furnace after furnace being closed down the remaining few would benefit, but this is not the case, as in every instance the trade has gone abroad. Although many firms use the same system and have the same facilities as foreign manufacturers, they are unable to compete, owing to some extent to the restrictions put upon the men by their unions, and to the fact that they have no free and unhampered market. Glass is one of the oldest industries in the country, some of the existing glass-works tracing their history back for centuries. In Scotland, the North of England, and the Midlands all branches of the trade thrived for many years without rivals. In some instances the raw material is lying at their doors, their furnaces are built near coal beds, limestone, and clay, and their works are built as close as they can conveniently get them to the sand on the beach. There are harbours and other waterways, railway sidings in many instances run into their works, workpeople have been brought up in the industry for generations, and everything seems to indicate that it should be one of the most difficult trades to stamp out. Gradually, however, the imports of all kinds of glass have undermined the British trade, and although there are a few successful works which have substituted remunerative lines for those no longer profitable, the trade already lost can never be brought back under the present conditions. The goods imported into this country are, in many cases, reproductions of our own designs, which the foreigners copy the moment they prove likely to become popular. These reproductions of English patterns are turned out in enormous quantities at a minimum cost to flood the English market, thus effectually killing the trade for the high-class articles after makers here have incurred all expenses of introducing them on the market. For the past twenty years the employment in the glass bottle trade has declined, and foreign competition and the actions of the men are said to be the main cause. There were about twenty-five glass bottle works in Glasgow, employing 1,000 men and boys, in 1870; now there are only three, employing about 200 men and boys. Unfavourable reports come from other leading centres of the glass bottle industry, as well as from the sheet and plate glass trade. Foreigners have an advantage in cheap carriage. They can send glass cheaper from the centre of Austria to London than the Scotch manufacturers can send from Glasgow to London. Many factors purchase foreign glass and decorate it, and export plain and decorated as of English make."

JOSIAH WEDGWOOD AND FOREIGN COMPETITORS.

(BY ONE OF OUR STAFF.)

THE high position Josiah Wedgwood holds as an artistic potter is only one out of his many claims upon our admiration. He was a most generous-minded, sympathetic man. Never was there a more systematic, more methodical manufacturer of pottery, or anything else. This is abundantly proved by that marvellous book of shapes and decorations in which the great potter described, and in many cases illustrated, with his own hands, nearly every novelty produced at the works in his day. He loved beautiful pottery, not so much for the profit he made, as for the intense pleasure he took, in the manufacture of it. And he used his best efforts, and made many personal sacrifices, to improve the pottery trade as a whole. He was proud of the proficiency attained in this important industry, and he was always anxious not only to maintain, but to enhance the fame of British pottery. He could not understand any Englishman, especially any English potter, who did not cherish the same feelings. This last admirable trait in Josiah Wedgwood's character has not been presented to us so clearly as it deserved to be, probably because it was not known so well as it should have been. By an accidental circumstance, we are able to throw a strong light on Wedgwood's jealous regard for the interests of British pottery manufacture—and in Josiah Wedgwood's own words. If all engaged in what should be this great national industry, had been, and were now, influenced as he was by a desire to safeguard potting as a national asset, we should not have the foreign competition that restricts our trade to-day.

We have just seen what is now a very rare small octavo pamphlet of 24 pages. The title page reads:—"An Address to the Workmen in the Pottery on the subject of Entering into the Service of Foreign Manufacturers. By Josiah Wedgwood, F.R.S., Potter to Her Majesty. This was printed by J. Smith, Newcastle, Staffordshire, in 1783, and privately circulated." In confirmation of the statement that the pamphlet is a rare one, we may mention that we recently saw it announced in a dealer's catalogue and priced £4 14s. 6d.—four and a half guineas for what could be reprinted and sold to-day for one penny! We propose to give extracts from the address, and thus let the great master deliver his own message. Circumstances have altered considerably since 1783, but the spirit of the address is as applicable to English potters and to English craftsmen generally to-day as it was to the artisans for whom it was originally intended. We may mention that Wedgwood (I had almost written "Mr." Wedgwood, but I am sure readers of the Pottery Gazette would not tolerate *that*) uses the words "in the Pottery" in the same sense as we say "in the Potteries"—that is, to describe the district. When we remember that he was speaking to working potters—many of them his own employees—the opening phrase in his address will be regarded as characteristic of the man. He says:—

"My Countrymen and Friends,—Attempts are being made to seduce you into the service of foreign manufacturers. It will be contrary to your own interests, and to the interests of your trade, and to the interests of your country, to accept such offers, however tempting they, by false colouring, be made to appear. It may with great truth be asserted that higher wages are given to manufacturers,* particularly potters, and that greater care is taken of the poor when sick and past labour, in England, than in any other part of the world. . . . . People have been enticed into foreign service, the flattering promises held

* "Workers" are evidently meant here.

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forth having got the better of their discretion, but so far from bettering their circumstances, in the end they have found themselves miserably deceived by promises too extravagant to be fulfilled. About seventeen years ago, Mr. Bartlem, a master-potter, unsuccessful here, went to South Carolina, and by offers, prevailed on some of our workmen to come to him. They took ship at Bristol, but after a quarter of a year spent in storms and tempests upon the sea, and many narrow escapes from shipwreck, they at last arrived safe, and began a work at Charlestown.''

Mention is made of a Mr. and Mrs. Lymer and family, who went out to the party, who all fell sick and died. Mr. Bartlem was in time, deprived of his whole colony. He returned to England and took out another party, but after many adversities and unsuccessful attempts, he gave up the work. The people were scattered, and only one ever returned to England. Wedgwood says: ''This was Mr. Wm. Ellis, of Hanley, who informed me that the wages were good enough—a guinea a week and board—but they never received half of it.'' The address continues: ''While this fruitless attempt was made in Carolina, another, equally fruitless, was carried on in Pennsylvania. Here a sort of china-ware was aimed at, and eight men went out at first. The proprietor, finding no chance of succeeding, gave up the undertaking and silenced the complaints of the poor injured men by clapping one of them, Thomas Gale, into prison. The others, who never received half the wages agreed upon, were left to the necessity of begging in the streets for bread.'' . . . Some died of sickness occasioned by their abject poverty. Wedgwood continues: ''Mr. Byrley, a nephew of mine, who was then upon the spot, wrote to the newspapers on behalf of the poor survivors, stating the original agreement upon which they had been brought over, the injustice and cruelty of their employers, and the misery to which they were reduced. This had no effect in softening the hearts of their masters towards them. Like plants removed into a soil unnatural to them, they dwindled and died, and not one was left to return to give us any further particulars. I call upon you to reflect on the fate of those who could not content themselves with the good things of their own land, a land truly flowing with milk and honey.'' . . . . There is then a reference to an attempt just made to entice workmen abroad. It was made by one ''George Shaw, who had left England 10 years ago and was now sent hither from some part of France. He was accompanied by a foreigner, probably because his employers could not trust him alone with the money necessary for the office he had undertaken. This man boasted much, and offered to any man who would go with him, double the wages they could get here. It cannot be supposed that the masters of this George Shaw will concontinue their undertaking without the prospect of being gainers by it. Now they certainly cannot be gainers so long as we are able to send among them a better and a cheaper commodity than they can make themselves, and surely we shall not find it difficult to do this whilst they give double the wages we do.'' . . . . After urging them to ''be content at home, in Old England, in Staffordshire, where they were happily placed amidst populous and thriving towns and manufacturers, among neighbours, relatives and friends,'' he appeals to their patriotism. And here Wedgwood's advice might well have been addressed to some skilled pottery and glass workmen who have left the Old Country in much later times. He says: ''But, supposing for a moment that with regard ''to your own particular persons, there was a real and ''lasting advantage, would it have no weight with you to ''think that you were ruining a trade which had taken ''the united efforts of some thousands of people for more ''than an age to bring to the perfection it has now attained? ''A perfection nowhere else to be found, exciting at once ''the envy and the emulation of all Europe! But they ''will both ever be harmless to us whilst we are true to ''ourselves, for Englishmen in arts and manufactures, ''as well as in arms, can only be conquered by Englishmen. The enemy must first gain over some traitors ''and renegadoes from among ourselves, before they can ''gain any decisive advantage. Is there a man among ''you who will stand forth and acknowledge himself to ''be that traitor to his country and fellow workmen? ''Who will openly avow that for a paltry addition to his ''own wages for a few years, he would betray our interests ''and wantonly throw away into the hands of foreigners ''—perhaps at some time enemies—the superiority we ''have thus laboured for and obtained? I wish to ''entertain a better opinion of my countrymen than to ''suspect that there is a single man who could be so base, ''and am willing to persuade myself it has been owing to ''want of thought, or of proper information, that any ''have thus deserted the cause of their country.''

Wedgwood then points out the criminality, as well as the bad consequences to their trade, their country and themselves, of entering into the service of foreigners, and quotes the Acts of Parliament which at that time made it a crime to do so.

A sort of appendix, written in the third person, follows the quotations from the Acts of Parliament. In this it is explained (by some one other than Wedgwood) that ''as emissaries from abroad are at this instant in the Pottery, and this being the third attempt of the kind in the course of a few months, Mr. Wedgwood drew up this hasty little piece and distributed it through the Pottery, and now encloses it to a few gentlemen to whom he has the honour of being known, hoping that some more general and effective means may be thought of to prevent the mischief threatened to their kingdom by the emigration of its workmen and artificers.''

The conditions of life in all countries have vastly altered since Wedgwood's time. Our country is so small, and our population has increased so rapidly, and other countries are so large, and their population was so comparatively small, that emigration from Britain was not only desirable, but necessary. But even that is no reason why men who had been trained in the arts and secrets of our manufacturing industries should go abroad to place the skill they had acquired in our own factories at the service of our competitors in other countries. This is what Wedgwood deprecated, and what he was most anxious to prevent. He had evidently been thinking of the concluding lines in Shakespeare's ''King John.'' He did not quote them, but they are so appropriate, that I will:—

> ''This England never did (nor never shall)
> Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror,
> But when it first did help to wound itself.
> Come the three corners of the world in arms
> And we shall shock them: nought shall make us rue,
> If England to itself do rest but true.''

Unmanufactured Clay to the weight of 654,758 tons was exported from the United Kingdom last year, as compared with 602,496 tons in 1906, and 563,963 tons in 1905. The value of the export in 1907 was £706,483; in 1906 the value was £653,936, and in 1905 it was £585,774.

''The Hygiene of the Pottery Trade'' is the subject of a lecture to be delivered by Mr. Wm. Burton, F.C.S., before the Royal Society of Arts, at the rooms, John-st., Adelphi, W.C., on Friday evening, February 7. This is one of the Shaw Lectures on Industrial Hygiene.

Legal.

The Use of the Royal Arms.—Royal warrant holders are naturally proud of their privilege and are justified in taking measures to prevent encroachment on it. At their instance an action was brought (with the authority of the Lord Chamberlain) in the Chancery Division of the High Court on Jan. 25, against an infringing firm. This was an action brought under Section 68 of the Trade Marks Act, which provides that if any person, without the authority of the King, used the Royal Arms, or marks or devices so closely resembling as to deceive the public, he might be sued by any person authorised to use the Royal Arms. The defendants, it was asserted, had been using the Royal Arms on labels attached to their goods and on their notepaper. The Association, in addition to their powers under the Act, had the authority of the Lord Chamberlain for taking these proceedings. Mr. Justice Neville granted a perpetual injunction against the defendants, and ordered that they should pay the costs.

Damage by a Tramcar.—At the Longton County Court, on Jan. 7, Thomas Brookfield, glass and earthenware dealer, Longton, claimed from the Potteries Electric Traction Company £11 17s. 6d., damages in respect of injury to his horse and float, caused by the alleged negligence of the defendants' servants. Of the claim £4 4s. was for costs incurred by the plaintiff in defending an action brought against the defendants and himself by A. Lowe, coal merchant, Fenton, which resulted in a judgment against the company and in favour of the present plaintiff. Plaintiff's case was that his horse and float were travelling through Fenton, when a car coming up behind gave warning to have the line cleared, but there was such a congestion of traffic that it was impossible to immediately get out of the way. The car crashed into plaintiff's vehicle, and the horse was thrown down under Lowe's horse and cart, and horse, float, and harness was damaged. For the defence it was stated that the front and middle of the car had passed the plaintiff's float before the accident occurred. It was suggested that the float slewed round, and, colliding with the rear of the car, was cannoned into Lowe's car. His Honour, Judge Ruegg, K.C., gave judgment for the plaintiff for £5 15s. 6d. damages and costs, disallowing the claim for costs in the other case.

An Eastern Agency.—At Southwark County Court on Jan. 14, before Judge Willis, K.C., Hibbert & Co., Ltd., of 51, Bermondsey-st., London, sued Grimwades, Ltd., of Stoke-on-Trent, for £100. Mr. Charles, on behalf of the plaintiffs, said both firms were engaged in trade in the Far East, the defendants being china manufacturers. For the purposes of their businesses they financed an agent, named Mr. Boyd, who traded under the name of the Far Eastern Agency Co., Ltd. He was in China and Japan, and, on behalf of the defendants, plaintiffs advanced Mr. Boyd £100, which defendants would not repay. Mr. Williams for defendants, said there was no request made to the plaintiffs to advance the amount, and that the sum had never been paid to the Far Eastern Agency Co., Ltd. Mr. Hazell, manager to the plaintiffs, said he was also managing director of the Far Eastern Agency Co., Ltd., which was formed to carry on the business conducted by Mr. Boyd. The £100 was paid plaintiffs at defendants' request, and the amount cabled to Hong Kong. For the defence Mr. L. L. Grimwade, managing director of the defendant firm, said the agency was transfered to the Far Eastern Agency Co., Ltd., on the proposition of Mr. Boyd, whom they believed to be a substantial man. They knew nothing of his finances, nor that the company was formed to finance him. They agreed to let him have £100 ignorant of these facts, although they had rumours that a "fishy state of things" existed. Goods to the value of nearly £100 had been sold by Mr. Boyd in Yokohama for defendants, but of this they knew nothing. Mr. H. Hackett, of Birmingham, said he was a director of the Far Eastern Agency Co., Ltd., of which Mr. Hazell was the European representative. Plaintiffs were not scheduled as debtors to Mr. Boyd. He was unaware of any money to be advanced by the defendants, or that plaintiffs had paid on their behalf £100. In Mr. Hazell's cash book there were entries showing that two sums of £50 were sent to Mr. Boyd after he had left this country. The company was in a flourishing condition. His Honour, in giving judgment for the plaintiffs for £100 with costs, said he held that there had been a binding agreement by the defendants to pay £100 to plaintiffs, which they had advanced on their behalf to the Far Eastern Agency Co. The letters were clear on the point, and the only business view they could take of them was that the money was advanced for the defendants. He had heard or seen nothing that justified the slightest charge of fraud.

Railway Companies and Owners' Risk.—Special Report.—In the City of London Court, on Jan. 16, before His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a case of much interest to the trade was heard, in which the London and North-Western Railway Co. sued Mr. Samuel de Saulles, china and glass merchant, 66, Basinghall-st., E.C., to recover the sum of £2 18s. 6d. for conveying glass for him from London to Birmingham. Mr. H. T. Tait, who appeared for the plaintiffs, said they would reduce their claim to £2 12s. 3d., by an arrangement with the defendant. Mr. Ruff (who appeared for the defendant): Because you made a mistake. That is not disputed. Continuing, Mr. Ruff stated that the defendant had raised a counterclaim for £3 5s., because the plaintiff company had damaged a crate of glass which was sent by the defendant through the plaintiffs from London to Birmingham. The damages claimed were the exact value of the glass broken, as the defendant alleged, by the negligence of the plaintiffs' servants. Ernest Hamblett, in the employment of the defendant, gave evidence to the effect that he despatched by the plaintiffs' railway, a crate of glass to Mr. Lloyd, of Birmingham, one of their customers. The defendant gave a receipt for it when the glass was handed to them. When the glass was handed to the plaintiffs in London it was in good and sound condition. In cross-examination, the witness admitted that the glass was sent by him carriage paid, and the receipt bore the letters, "O. R.," which meant that it was sent at owners' risk. Mr. Ruff said that the defendant did not dispute that the glass was sent at owners' risk. But he contended that the railway company were, nevertheless, liable for the damage which had occurred. Mr. Lloyd, of Birmingham, said that when he received the crate of glass in question from the plaintiff company at Birmingham, the goods were practically all smashed. The crate was put on its edge on the plaintiffs' van. It should have been stood only on its end. Instead of keeping the crate on its end the carman removed it on its side. He then removed it to a truck and brought it into the shop on its side. Witness's father remonstrated with the carman for putting the crate on its side and told the man he ought to have kept it on its edge. The plaintiffs' carman said he always delivered glass in the same manner, and his father then said, "That is what you should not do." The lid of the case bore the following words in very large print, "Glass with care; this side up." He had had considerable experience in having glass delivered

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to him. If a case was placed on its side the glass would always break. That was the reason why he refused, on the occasion in question to take in the glass without first examining it. They examined the glass in the presence of the carman and found that it was nearly all broken. It was, therefore, of course absolutely useless to him, and they declined to take it. He had never known crates of glass delivered on their side. They were always delivered on their end, and then the glass always came without being broken. In cross-examination, the witness said he did not know necessarily and as a matter of fact that the damage occurred while the glass was on its way from the Birmingham station to him. It might have occurred in London for all he knew. Judge Lumley Smith : Ought it not to be packed so that it will travel all right any way ? The witness : No ; that is how it is always done. The defendant, Mr. De Saulles, was then called and said he had been in business for a considerable time and had had much to do with the transit of glass. It was always packed with straw, and as long as the case was kept the same way as it was packed, on its end, no damage could take place. That was the reason why all cases were clearly marked "This side up." Directly the case was put on its end, it was bound to be broken by its own weight. Cross-examined, the witness said that none of his assistants told the plaintiffs' carman that the case was to be placed in a particular way. The notice on the case was the only intimation that was given. Witness's own men in London assisted to load the case on to the plaintiffs' van. They generally helped. He did not know whether or not the carman in Birmingham was told to carry the case in on its end. There were thousands of cases of glass carried daily by the plaintiff company, and for the most part, they did not get damaged. Judge Lumley Smith : Is it not possible to pack glass in such a way that it can be carried on its side, or anyhow ? Witness : No ; that is why they are marked as they are. Judge Lumley Smith : I do not know that you have any right to impose that duty on the company. I do not say you have not. What are the rules about carrying at owners' risk ? Mr. Ruff said that the stipulation about owners' risk only exempted liability for goods on the plaintiffs' own railway. He urged that the railway company must use all reasonable precautions in carrying goods, even when they were conveyed at owners' risk. He submitted that the plaintiff company must have been wilfully negligent, and that, therefore, they could not shield themselves behind the owners' risk condition. Judge Lumley Smith said he did not think the plaintiff company could be said to have been wilfully negligent. Mr. Ruff : But they must have seen the notice on the case. After that, the railway company must be liable if they put the case on its side. Judge Lumley Smith remarked that such a contract did not exempt a carrier from liability for delay. The company's contention was that it freed them from all liability whatever in respect of the glass. But of course the company was liable for wilful misconduct if it could be proved. Mr. Tait submitted that the case of Lewis *v.* Great Western Railway, 29 Law Journal, was in point. That was an owners' risk note case and the defence set up by the railway company was that there was no proof of wilful misconduct on the part of their servants. The Lord Chief Justice said that wilful misconduct went far beyond negligence. He urged that there was no evidence of wilful misconduct on the part of the plaintiff company's servants. It was not sufficient to put a notice on the end of the crate as the defendant had done. The specific attention of the railway company's servants must be called to it. Then, if, in spite of having their attention drawn to the notice, they still persisted in putting the case on its side, that might possibly be held to be wilful misconduct. Judge Lumley Smith, after perusing several decided cases on the subject, said that there appeared to be a consensus of judicial opinion that wilful misconduct must be fully proved. Mr. Ruff contended that where a notice was given that the glass must be carried in a particular way and that was not done, it followed that there had been wilful misconduct. It was absurd to contend that the defendant's men must point out to the plaintiffs' men that the glass must be carried in a specific manner. Defendant had done all that he was required to do by marking the case plainly. If the plaintiffs' carman, seeing that, deliberately carried the glass in another way, that must be wilful misconduct. When a man persisted in carelessness that had been held to be misconduct, sufficient to override the owners' risk condition, Judge Lumley Smith thought it rather went to show that the plaintiffs' men did not know that it was important. Mr. Ruff : The company's servants did not require any expert knowledge when they were plainly told on the crate what to do. Judge Lumley Smith said that the defendants' servants packed the glass in such a way that during the transit it was damaged. The plaintiffs' servants did not know that damage would result from the mode in which the glass was packed. The defendant could not expect the plaintiffs' carman to know the circumstances of the packing. He thought that the plaintiff company were protected from any liability. He gave judgment for the plaintiffs on claim and counterclaim, with costs, adding, "You must pay a little more and have the company's responsibility."

Responsibility for Assistant's Damage.—In the City of London Court, on January 10, before His Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., the case of Gent v. Kerry & Morgan, which was fully reported in last month's columns of the POTTERY GAZETTE, was again mentioned. The claim was made by Mr. G. L. Gent, trading as G. L. Gent & Son, china merchants, 4 and 5, Holborn Circus, to recover the sum of £1 13s. 3d. against Messrs. Kerry & Morgan, Upton-lane, Forest Gate, for damage done to some glass vases by one of their assistants named Doree when he called at the plaintiff's warehouse on defendant's behalf with a view to buying some vases in the ordinary way of business. Mr. C. E. Dyer, instructed by Mr. Letts, now appeared as counsel for the plaintiff, and he said that the case was before the Court a few days before Christmas, and it was adjourned to give the parties an opportunity of settling it. Unfortunately that had not been brought about, in spite of the learned Judge's suggestion, which the plaintiff much appreciated, and there was therefore now nothing to do but to call the evidence and prove the case in the ordinary way. Defendant's assistant carelessly and negligently knocked over the plaintiff's vases. Judge Rentoul said he now recollected the case. He received a letter from the defendant two days previously about the matter. The defendant on the last occasion said he would pay £1 and that was accepted by the plaintiff's solicitor, Mr. Letts, who then conducted the case, and that closed the matter. What more could he do ? Mr. Dyer said he quite agreed. Plaintiff was quite willing in deference to the Judge's suggestion to accept, but the defendant, after saying he would pay that amount, imported a new term into the settlement by claiming to be entitled to have the vases. Judge Rentoul : I think he was quite wrong there. I thought so when I got his letter. I had no recollection as to what the vases were worth. Continuing, the Judge said that they might have been worth £10 for all he knew, and the claim was because they were cracked. He suggested at the time that if the case was to be properly decided it would require an expenditure of several pounds in plans and that

sort of thing. Mr. Dyer thought that was perhaps taking rather too high a view of the matter. Judge Rentoul: I thought there would have to be measurements and it would have to be fought out if a decision given was to be worth anything, the same as if there was £50 claimed. Mr. Dyer: If I may say so I have seen the place myself. Judge Rentoul did not think they need go into the merits of the case. He was only explaining what occurred to him at the time that it was too trumpery a matter on which to spend a lot of money, and the plaintiff's solicitor accepted the view he then threw out. He thought Mr. Letts's offer to take £1 was very fair, in fact, very generous altogether. It would have meant that the £1 would have gone towards the expenses of the case, and that in point of fact the plaintiff would get nothing out of it at all. It was a settlement between two business men. He said then it was a pity to fight the case out and he thought so still. Why was the £1 not paid at the time the defendant agreed to pay it? Mr. Dyer said the reason was, because Mr. Kerry, one of the defendants, who conducted the case, happened not to have that coin in his pocket at the time. Otherwise the matter would have been settled. Judge Rentoul said he would have replied to the defendant's letter if he had known the case was coming on so soon, and he would have told the defendant that he was in the wrong in the view that he took. The sum of £1 was to have settled the whole thing. Mr. Dyer pointed out that the position of the matter was this: the defendant having imported a new term into the agreement neither of the parties were apparently at one in the matter. The plaintiff was, therefore, bound to restore the case to the paper and come before the court again with a view to the case being tried on its merits. It was merely a question of fact. Was Doree negligent or not? Judge Rentoul said he would have to know the width of the passage and a number of other things. Mr. Dyer said it was the defendant's fault that they had all been brought to the Court again. Mr. Kerry: Nothing of the kind. If we are going into the case we had better do so. I have been summoned here for £1 13s. 3d., the selling price of two vases, not for damages as stated by the plaintiff's solicitor. Judge Rentoul said he would like to explain the matter to the defendant the same as he would have done had he answered his letter. The plaintiff was really giving up everything in the matter by taking the £1. It was an extremely light offer to take simply £1, because if the case had gone on it would probably have ended in judgment for £1 13s. 3d. and a couple of pounds for costs. He thought it was an uncommonly nice way out of the matter, as the plaintiff did not put a penny into his own pocket. The solicitor would have had most of the £1 and the Court would have had the rest. Mr. Kerry: But I should have been paying more than the actual damage done. Judge Rentoul: That did not matter. If the damage had only been 5s. the costs are sometimes as much as £3 or £4. You were getting out of it uncommonly easily and in an uncommonly pleasant way. The plaintiff was losing entirely. He was not making a farthing out of you. Mr. Kerry: He would have got his cost price and the vases. Judge Rentoul: No, no! If he had given up his vases he would have lost everything everywhere. The settlement was uncommonly generous, and made by the solicitor off-hand in a most proper and pleasant way. I wonder you are back here at all. Now that you are back here, what am I to do? Mr. Kerry: I unfortunately took a very different view to that which your Honour did. I did so because first of all there was no proof that I was liable. Judge Rentoul: Then we must try the case altogether all over again. Mr. Kerry said in that case he would have to ask for an adjournment, because his witnesses were not there. Judge Rentoul: Stop, stop a moment. Look at what that involves. If a man asks for an adjournment, that means on payment of the costs of the day. This matter ought really not to have come before the Court at all. Mr. Kerry said he considered he had done everything in his power to prevent the case coming to court. Mr. Dyer said he could not accept that. Judge Rentoul observed that he was not influenced by that either way. In giving judgment for a small amount he wanted to be as particular as in a large case. Mr. Dyer handed up to the Judge a copy of the POTTERY GAZETTE, for January and said it was evident from that, that his Honour went into the matter very carefully. The plaintiff was prepared to loyally carry out the suggestion which the Judge was kind enough to throw out. Judge Rentoul: Here we are in a very foolish position, counsel brought down here over this matter. Mr. Dyer felt that it was idle for the defendant to say he was not ready. He had known for a week that the case would come on. Judge Rentoul said that was so. It was altogether a question as to whether the plaintiffs displayed their glass in such a way that they might expect it to be knocked down. It was not by any means an easy case to try. Mr. Dyer: I quite agree. These questions of fact are most difficult. Judge Rentoul: Most difficult. Mr. Dyer said he would go on. Plaintiff felt it was all due to Mr. Kerry's attitude. Judge Rentoul: No doubt about it. Mr. Dyer said even now the plaintiff would accept the £1, but he must also be recouped some of the extra expense incurred in coming there a second time. His client did not want to make anything out of the matter. Judge Rentoul said if the case stood over, it would be at the defendant's expense no matter what the ultimate result would be, because the plaintiff was ready and the defendant was not. Mr. Kerry said he had had a notice from the Court saying that he need not bring his witnesses. Judge Rentoul said from inquiries he had made he fancied there had been some sort of expression from the Court that the witnesses would not be required, as there would be nothing to do but enter judgment for the £1. Mr. Kerry: It was in reply to a letter which I sent to the Court. Judge Rentoul asked if he was to adjourn the case or would the defendant settle. Mr. Dyer: We will do anything reasonable. My client is a busy man and it is a considerable loss to him to be here. Mr. Kerry said he was prepared to pay the £1. Mr. Letts wrote to him and said he would hand him the two broken vases. What were the extra costs? Mr. Dyer said he would not ask for more than a guinea, although, of course, that did not cover the expense to which the plaintiff would be put. Judge Rentoul thought that very reasonable. Mr. Kerry said he would sooner defend the case. Judge Rentoul said then it would have to be adjourned. If defendant chose to pay the sum of £2 1s. and be clear of the matter he could do so. When the case came on again it would be better for the defendants to be represented by a lawyer. Mr. Kerry: I think I can defend myself. I know the facts. Judge Rentoul: I am only telling you that men who are experienced in advocacy in Court have a great advantage over any layman, no matter how well he may know the facts. It looks on the face of it as highly probable that the plaintiff will be able to prove that his premises were in a suitable condition, and your man broke the things. If the plaintiff proves to my satisfaction that his premises are reasonably fit and that where the glass was put it was reasonable for men to be able to get through, and not break anything, judgment will go against you, Mr. Kerry. Of course, I know that sometimes people pile up glass and things in an absurd way, and, therefore, if it is broken, it is their own loss. If the plaintiff proves that this glass has been there for years, and no one ever broke it, there will be judgment for the plaintiff. Mr. Dyer said, curiously enough, the learned Judge was anticipating the evidence which he could call. Judge Rentoul: I suspected it. The case will be retried

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unless the defendant pays the £2 1s. Mr. Dyer said plaintiff would be willing to accept that within a reasonable time. Judge Rentoul: I think that is the best way out of it by a long distance. The case had better be tried before another Judge, as I have heard so much of it. Mr. Dyer: This great case! Judge Rentoul: Suspicion might lurk in the human mind. Mr. Kerry: It will not in mine. Your Honour has been so fair. Judge Rentoul: I trust I will not hear of it again. Mr. Dyer: I hope so too. On Jan. 23 the case was again mentioned, when it was stated that the defendants had paid the sum of £2 1s. into Court, and that it had been accepted by the plaintiff. The matter is, therefore, now at last at an end.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE Annual General Meeting of the members and friends of the Pottery and Glass Trades' Benevolent Institution was announced to be held last evening, Jan. 31, at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel. The President, R. P. Copeland, Esq., was expected to preside. We are unable to give any account of the meeting at present, as this number of our GAZETTE will be in the post by the time the meeting commences. A full report of the proceedings will, however, be given next month. We have been favoured with advanced proofs of the report of the Board of Management, and the balance sheet, for the past year:—

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT,

presented at the Annual General Meeting held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, E.C., on Friday, Jan. 31, 1908:—

The Board of Management have pleasure in presenting to the members of the Institution their twenty-sixth Annual Report, being that for the year ended Dec. 31, 1907.

The total number of subscribing members is now 418, 16 of whom joined the Institution during the past year. The Board regret to announce that 69 subscriptions have been allowed to lapse, but they have reason to believe that the majority of these will be renewed.

The Board would again urge on all members the importance of paying their subscriptions early in the year, as by so doing they will avoid the difficulty that often appears to occur towards the end of the year in providing for the payment, and at the same time they will be helping the financial resources of the Institution.

The Board have pleasure in announcing that by a donation of £25, Mr. J. H. Hart has qualified as a Vice-President of the Institution, and they desire to express the best thanks of the members for this and other amounts received during the year.

There are now 28 annuitants on the books of the Institution, viz., 9 members and 19 widows of members. Five annuitants have been elected during the year, and temporary relief has been granted to 6 applicants. The sum of £517 19s. has been paid in annuities and relief, making a total sum of £6,198 disbursed since the foundation of the Institution in 1881.

Two applications for annuities have been received and approved, but the Board, after a careful consideration of the funds of the Institution, have reluctantly decided that the election of these applicants must, for the present, be deferred. The Board would point out that, year after year, they have done all in their power to raise funds by means of festival dinners, entertainments and other extraneous means, and, while it is their intention to continue those efforts without relaxation, they feel that the time has arrived when they must make the strongest appeal to the members themselves to further the interests of the Institution and increase its funds by the introduction of new subscribers, and they earnestly hope that the coming year will witness a very considerable increase in the number of members.

From the accounts presented herewith it will be seen that the sum of £106 9s. has been realised by concerts held during the year on behalf of the funds of the Institution. Both entertainments proved of a most enjoyable character, and the Board desire to express their best thanks to the members of Mr. Herbert E. Sherwin's Orchestral Society (combined with the Hanley Philharmonic Society) who most ably rendered the programme of the concert held in the Potteries, and to all who rendered most valuable assistance in promoting the success of these entertainments by the disposal of tickets, &c.

The following members of the Board of Management offer themselves for re-election:—Messrs. John Brock, junr., Frederick Cox, F. Currie, C. J. Dale, Orrok M. Doulton, Ronald D. Doulton, G. D. Francis, Charles Green, Henry Green, J. H. Hart, J. E. Heath, A. Overton Jones, J. Kendall, Edwin Lawson, Robert Lawson, J. Lockett, J. T. Mogridge, Frank E. Spiers, S. Stanley, W. Thomson and A. W. Tinsley.

Messrs. Louis W. Hadley, D. Nestle and John Porter have consented, and been duly nominated, for membership of the Board.

In conclusion, the Board have again to express their thanks to Messrs. John Ellinger and Henry F. Heybourn for kindly auditing the accounts, to the proprietors of THE POTTERY GAZETTE for advancing the interests of the Institution by various means, and to the management of the Holborn Viaduct Hotel for again granting the free use of rooms for the general meetings of the Institution.

Signed by order of the Board,

RONALD D. DOULTON,
Chairman.

January 14, 1908.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1907.

(1906) £ s. d.	*Dr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	To Balance at Bank, Jan. 1, 1907	114 19 1	
	Cash in hands of Secretaries	4 8 6	
			119 7 7
40 14 6	Annual Subscriptions (1906)	35 9 0	
351 8 6	Annual Subscriptions (1907)	312 2 6	
612 8 0	Donations	41 19 0	
			389 10 6
	Dividends—		
121 7 4	Indian Government 3½ per cent. Stock ..	121 7 4	
—	Metropolitan Consolidated 3½ per cent. Stock ..	8 6 4	
13 6 0	New Zealand Government 3½ per cent. Stock	13 6 0	
4 2 4	National War Loan 2¾ per cent. Stock ..	4 2 4	
30 5 0	Great Western Railway 4 per cent. Deben. Stock	30 5 0	
5 14 0	Great Northern Railway 3 per cent. Pref. Stock, 1899	5 14 0	
3 8 11	Interest on Deposit ..	7 10 7	
			190 11 7
8 17 9	Income Tax refunded to April 5, 1907	8 19 6	
			8 19 6
2 8 11	Proceeds of Collection Boxes	2 9 6	
			2 9 6
—	Proceeds of Concert, Victoria Hall, Hanley, April 25, 1907	29 0 0	
			29 0 0
—	Proceeds of Concert, King's Hall, Holborn, Nov. 28, 1907	77 9 0	
			77 9 0
—	Transferred from Deposit..	500 0 0	
			500 0 0
			£1,317 7 8

(1906) £ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20 5 0	By Rent of Offices (*less* £3 15s. contributed by the Fragile Club)	27 10 0	
5 10 3	Office Expenses	4 7 5	
31 19 11	Printing, Stationery and Advertising	9 9 4	
9 9 1	Postage	6 0 0	
2 8 1	Sundries	1 15 6	
—	Expenses of Secretary's visit to Potteries.. ..	4 7 4	
105 0 0	Secretary's Salary	105 0 0	
10 10 0	Local Hon. Secretary in Potteries Honorarium ..	10 10 0	
			168 19 7
451 8 4	Annuities and Relief ..	517 19 0	
			517 19 0
—	Investment— Purchase of £500 Metropolitan Consolidated 3½ per cent. Stock ..	495 1 0	
			495 1 0
	Cash in hands of Secretaries	2 17 5	
	Balance at Bank, Dec. 31, 1907	132 10 8	
			135 8 1
			£1,317 7 8

BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Dr.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6,411 4 4	To Capital Account	6,422 5 10	
			6,422 5 10

Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash in hand	135 8 1	
		135 8 1
Investments—		
£3,650 Indian Government 3½ per cent. Stock	4,116 11 3	
£500 Metropolitan Consolidated 3½ per cent. Stock	495 1 0	
£400 New Zealand Government 3½ per cent. Stock	414 17 0	
£150 National War Loan 2¾ per cent. Stock	146 2 3	
£796 G. W. Ry. 4 per cent. Debenture Stock	934 13 4	
£200 G. N. Ry. 3 per cent. Preference Stock, 1899	179 12 11	
		6,286 17 9
		£6,422 5 10

Examined with the books and vouchers and found correct, January 13, 1908.

(Signed) JOHN ELLINGER,
HENRY F. HEYBOURN,
Hon. Auditors.

CANALS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

AN important and suggestive paper by Alderman Sir John Turney on "Canals and Waterways" was read recently before the Nottingham section of the Society of Chemical Industry. There was a good attendance, and the paper was read by the hon. secretary (Mr. S. R. Trotman), in the absence of the author. Sir John was one of the witnesses called before the Royal Commission on the subject last summer, and his paper was based upon the evidence he then gave. The paper contended that, just as the King's highway or turnpike has been cleared of the cumbrous tolls system, made free to all, and charged on the State or its local deputies, the rate-levying authorities, so should the waterways and their connecting-links, the canals, be taken over by the State. Why should water transit be throttled in toy boats and ditches, and made the sport of a dozen different companies in as many dozen miles? The multiplicity of proprietors, not always inclined to facilitate each other's action, and the control by the railways of important links in the canal system, has done more to discourage the use of artificial waterways than their narrow gauge and shallowness. Paltry as these eighteenth-century canals are compared with Continental undertakings, they would be profitably used to the utmost of their capacity at the present day if a well-organised system of through connections and rates could be put in force. But the Great Western Railway holds the key to the East and West traffic by its possession of the Avon navigation and Kennet and Avon Canals. Some of the South Wales and Somerset canals are similarly held. The London and North Western Railway owns nearly all the canals running north from Birmingham and the Shropshire Union Canal. The North Staffordshire Railway owns the Trent and Mersey Canal. Altogether, railways possess 1,139 miles out of 3,907 miles of canals in England, which they scarcely keep in repair, and hardly pretend to earn a dividend out of. The companies have a right to bury their capital if they like. The evil is not so much in the waste of these railway-owned waterways as in the paralysis of the other 2,768 miles, which they divide and isolate. There are some few sections of canal, and especially some canalised river navigations, which railways cannot touch for cheap transit. Such are the Weaver Navigation in Cheshire and the Aire and Calder Navigation, which begins at Goole. Under the old conditions transport of heavy traffic can be effected on canals for less than $\frac{1}{6}$d. per ton per mile—not that any such low rate is actually charged. But the prevailing rates of about 3-10ths of a penny per ton per mile are far below railway charges, only the volume of traffic that can be accommodated is so limited and conveyance so slow that the railways get the preference, and most canal undertakings and the old river navigations not enough traffic to justify their existence. The success of the Weaver, Aire and Calder, and Severn navigations in England, and of the great inland waterways in France, Germany, and Belgium, shows what dredging and locking, with the use of large barges and steam haulage, can do to make national highways of rivers. . . . Between 1880 and 1893 Germany spent nearly £18,000,000 for the improvement of old and construction of new waterways, whose length in 1895 was 6,214 miles. The State owns 88 per cent. of Belgian waterways. France, whose Languedoc Canal of 100 locks and 50 aqueducts, joining the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean, was made as early as the seventeenth century, is just as progressive in its modern undertakings. Out of 7,459 miles of waterways all but 158 belong to the State. There are two classes of navigation—main, with a minimum depth of 6½ ft., and locks 126 ft. by 17 ft.; secondary, of smaller dimensions. In 1897 there were nearly 3,000 miles of the first class of waterway, on which the saving in cost of carriage is due to the fact that a barge of 200 to 300 tons is worked on almost the same expenses as one half its size. M. Freycinet, when French Minister of Public Works, emphasised in a report the important part rivers and canals played in the production of a country's wealth. He stated that "navigable waterways and railways are not destined to supplant, but to support one another. Each has its particular attributes. Railways take the least cumbrous traffic—that which requires speed and regularity and bears most easily the cost of carriage. Waterways take heavy goods of low value, and their mere existence checks and moderates the rates on goods which are sent by railway." An interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper.

Glass Brushes.—It is reported that a Vienna firm has recently placed on the market brushes made of glass, which are to replace emery cloth for cleaning and polishing the commutators of dynamos and motors. These brushes are said to clean the commutators without scoring the metal, and their use avoids the inconvenience and dangers of emery cloth.

The Beauty of Modern Stained Glass.—On Jan. 24, Mr. J. Dudley Forsyth gave an address to the members of the Architectural Association at their rooms, Tufton-st., Westminster, on the Purpose of Stained Glass in Architecture. In the course of it he said in these days we have the greatest assortment of material ever known. Glass blowers gave us many beautiful specimens which had never been equalled for richness of colour and brilliance of texture. Great progress had also been made in the method of glass painting, which was greatly superior to much of the earlier style of Gothic church work, in which all expressions were portrayed in the same way, with a crude heavy line. He considered that enamelling to a certain degree was permissible and correct, and should be allowed to be classed with stained glass. After remarking that treatment and colouring should be in accord with the requirements of the situation, "as the art of stained glass was the most vivid form of decoration the treatment of it should be characterised by correctness." While appreciating the work of old craftsmen, his own plea was for modern style, with full opportunity for the employment of the varied materials and processes of the modern glass blower.

LIBRARY U. OF I., URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Review.

Transfer Printing on Enamels, Porcelain, and Pottery.—By WILLIAM TURNER, F.S.S., author of "Ceramics of Swansea and Nantgarw," &c. London: Chapman & Hall, Ltd. 25s. net.*

MANY persons, and amongst them some who are handling pottery either as manufacturers or distributors all the year round, speak rather contemptuously of "printed ware." There are manufacturers even who, in submitting their



FIG. 1.—PLATE OF "JESUIT CHINA" (CHINESE).

decorations, lay great stress on the fact that they are hand-painted. There is more excuse for dealers who like to label their wares "all hand-painted." The public seem to take it for granted that, in ornamentations of pottery, hand-work must necessarily be more artistic than mechanically produced decorations. Pope's warning that "A little learning is a dangerous thing" is very applicable to a knowledge of pottery decoration, though we do not agree with his dictum that those who cannot "drink deep" should "not taste" the spring. The mischief is that dealers in our trade who know a little about pottery decoration sometimes speak as though they knew it all. The public take their cue from them, and thus the little learning ostentatiously displayed by a salesman spreads mistaken notions as to pottery decoration which are injurious to the trade in better class goods. This is also, and especially, applicable to manufacturers' representatives. One of them a short time ago drew our attention to "beautiful hand-painted decorations" on some new vases his firm were producing at a remarkably low price: "as cheap as printed," was his remark. If I could have said so without offending him, I should have added "but not nearly so nice as good printed patterns." It is an immense advantage to a salesman of pottery and glass to have some knowledge of their manufacture and ornamentation. Those who have had no experience in a factory cannot hope to become acquainted with all the arts and details of manufacture and embellishments, but there is an abundance of literature on the subject which will enable any earnest seeker of knowledge to obtain without much trouble, a great deal of information that will be useful to him. With all deference to Pope, the "little learning" is *not* a dangerous thing when its possessor knows that he has but little. The danger is when people attempt to talk grandiloquently on a subject with which they are not perfectly acquainted. They not only display their ignorance to those who happen to be better informed, but they do harm when others who want information take them seriously.

The present work will correct many errors as to the artistic value of transfer printing. Joseph Mayer (whose jewellery and curio shop, in Lord-street, Liverpool, we well remember) said transfer printing had made English pottery famous throughout the world, and the author quotes R. W. Binn's statement that "it did almost as much for British pottery as the discovery of printing itself had done for literature." It is singular that so little has been written about this effective method of printing on pottery, and that no attempt has been made to collect what has been published. The present work makes no pretension to cover the great historic field of transfer printing; it is principally an inquiry into its origin, and a commentary on the leading features in its development as applied to pottery. In the endeavour to settle the question as to the origin of the art, the author has been most energetic, and has been assisted by capable enthusiasts (amongst them Mr. E. Haywood, of Worcester, and Mr. Percy W. L. Adams, of Wolstanton). Though opinions will be divided as to the conclusion he has arrived at, he has dispelled the accepted belief that it was the invention of John Sadler, of Liverpool. Amongst many other claims to the honour of the invention that are examined by Mr. Turner is that of Dr. Pott, the famous chemist of Berlin. "The works bearing on the question from the German point of view had to be examined at the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries, and a correspondence was also opened with Berlin before it could be proved absolutely that there was no justification for this claim." Thirteen persons at different places had been mentioned as entitled to the honour of having discovered, invented, or introduced, transfer printing into England. All writers on the subject



FIG. 2.—PORCELAIN PLATE, RED PRINT (BOW).

are agreed that it took place about the middle of the eighteenth century. The author explains how he took the cases of places and persons and examined each claim in the light of facts acquired. and then sums up the

* Can be obtained from "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" Offices at 25s. 6d. post free inland, 25s. 9d. abroad.

evidence at length. He says he started with the hope of discovering the origin in a positive sense, but admits that "that satisfaction is denied. Nevertheless, the circumstantial evidence is so strong that we can get sufficiently near to the point of identification to convince all unbiassed minds."

We have no bias on the subject, but we frankly confess we are not absolutely "convinced" that the conclusion of the author is correct. He gives the names of the thirteen persons above referred to as the alleged inventors, discoverers, or introducers of transfer printing into England. Amongst them he includes Harry Baker, and as his authority for so doing, he refers us to Dr. "Simeon Shaw's History of the Staffordshire Potteries." Shaw claims for Baker that he introduced the novelty into Staffordshire. He says: "The first black printer in the district is said to have been Harry Baker, of Hanley, prior to Sadler & Green practising it, and from some plates borrowed from and belonging to a book printer."* On the same page, however, Mr. Shaw refers to Mr. Carver (another of the thirteen alleged inventors named by the author) as "an engraver employed by Messrs. Sadler & Green, of Liverpool, having invented a method by which devices from engraved copper plates can be printed upon the glaze (now called *black printing*)." The most interesting of the accounts of these thirteen alleged inventors are those relating to Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen and Simon François Ravenet. For these accounts our readers must consult Mr. Turner's book. We may summarise the author's conclusions thus (and in his own words): "Liverpool must be considered first for printing on earthenware." . . . "Worcester had the honour of being undoubtedly first for underglaze work." . . . "We are brought to the crucial question of, Who is the man? All the facts that can be gathered, so far, about Ravenet, are stated, and they cannot be refuted. The question is, how far do they carry us in the line which has been taken in stating circumstantially that he was, most probably, the man we are looking for?" With all respect for the opinion of the author, he still leaves us with a very pretty problem, presented in a fascinating manner.



FIG. 3.—PORCELAIN MUG, BLACK PRINT (WORCESTER).



FIG. 4.—BELL-SHAPED MUG, BLACK TRANSFER (DERBY).

* See "History of the Staffordshire Potteries," published by Scott, Greenwood & Son, London, page 192.

As a very brief history of the introduction of transfer printing, we reproduce some of the illustrations given in the book. The blocks for this purpose have been kindly lent us by the publishers, Messrs. Chapman & Hall, Ltd.

Fig. 1, a plate 4¾in. diameter. "The Crucifixion," painted by a Chinese artist, in imitation of a European line engraving. The original is in the Liverpool Museum, and belongs to the sixteenth and seventeenth century. The author says: "The incipient idea of transfer printing was most undoubtedly suggested and stimulated by the so-called 'Jesuit China' imported from the East, and which was painted in imitation of and from European engravings."*

Fig. 2, a Bow Porcelain plate 7½in. diameter. "The Tea Party." Red transfer print, engraved by Robert Hancock, 1750-1756—the border painted with blue, yellow and red colours—usually termed the Bow Japan pattern. Hancock acquired the art of line engraving under Ravenet, at Battersea.

Fig. 3, Worcester Porcelain mug 3⅜in. high, black transfer print inscribed "1757, King of Prussia." The portrait is that of the King, engraved by Robert Hancock, after Pesne. The victories of Frederick the Great in 1757 made him popular. Hence his portraits printed on British wares and enamels. (A very pretty discussion has taken place as to whether the monogram R.H., with an anchor, refers to R. Hancock, or are the initials and rebus of Richard Holdship, managing director at Worcester in 1762.)

Fig. 4, a Porcelain mug, bell shape, of the old china factory, Derby, 1764-1769. Portrait of George III.

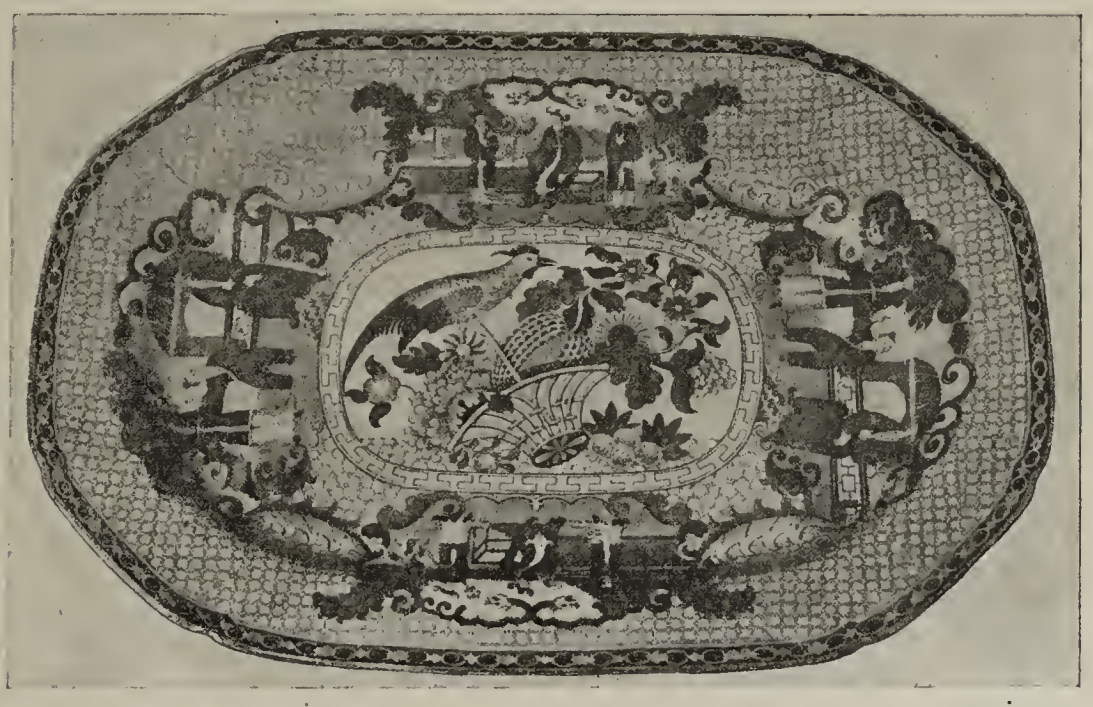


FIG. 5.—EARTHENWARE DISH, BLUE PRINT (WILLIAM ADAMS).

Printed in black transfer, with a winged figure above blowing a trumpet and conferring a crown.. This is in the Museum at the Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester. This is marked with the anchor and the word "Derby" under it. The date given embraces the time Richard Holdship worked at Derby. The catalogue at Worcester says: "This specimen shows the attempt of Holdship to introduce printing at Derby."

* See "History of Chinese Porcelain," by Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse.

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Fig. 5, a dish 20½in. long. Earthenware. William Adams, Greengates Pottery, Tunstall. Medium blue, printed under glaze, with basket of fruit and pheasant in centre, surrounded by four medallions of Japanese subjects. Designed and engraved by Mr. Brooke about 1787. Brooke was an artistic engraver. An account of a border of paperhangings is given in "Shaw s History," page 226.

The book under review is full of interest to manufacturers, connoisseurs, and, indeed, to all lovers of pottery. It is profusely illustrated and well printed. Mr. Turner has dealt in a most interesting manner with the whole history of transfer printing on pottery.

[Although not mentioned by the author, we may refer to a fine—possibly a unique—specimen of printing on pottery now in the museum at Stoke-on-Trent. This is aseribed to William Brooke, the famous potters' engraver, who worked for most of the principal potters of his time. It was he who engraved the dish for William Adams, illustrated in our Fig. 5. The specimen at Stoke is an early piece, printed in colours under glaze, and richly gilt. It has been lent to the museum authorities by Councillor E. Brooke, a descendant—grandson, we believe—of the engraver.]

THE SOUTH DEVON CHINA CLAY TRADE—V.

(*Continued from* , *January* 1, 1908.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

NO human remains have yet been discovered on the clay field, but traces of former dwellers in the district are sometimes met with. Stone moulds have been found, supposed to have been used by the old tinners, and much more ancient moulds for casting bronze weapons, together with bronze spear heads, have been unearthed, as well as fossil wood that has the appearance of having been shaped. In 1881, at a depth of about 20 feet, an ancient canoe, supposed to have been of glacial age, was found in a clay pit at Heathfield. On exposure to the air it crumbled away. Forty years ago, in a clay pit near Newton, a small image was discovered, a rough wooden study in the nude of a male figure. It has been suggested that this had originally formed part of the prow, or adorned the head, of a canoe. Some consider that this image, cut from a tree that would not rot, and graven by a cunning workman, was a god, and worshipped some thousands of years B.C. Zitherixon was the name of the field in which it was found, which is close to Teignbridge, and half-way between Tor Bay and the moor.

Although clay has been proved over so extensive an area, the actual workings occupy a comparatively small portion of the clay lands, and are confined within a narrow compass. In many fields known to contain clay, the body lies too deep to pay for lifting, or, if shallow, it is too thin to work with profit. In some parts the clay has been built upon. The building of a house upon clay is an undertaking not so wise as building upon rock, nor so foolish as building upon sand, and does not appear to have been confined to any particular age. In 1610, on a great bed of stoneware clay, Sir Richard Reynell, of Ogwell, erected his stately mansion of Forde, E shaped (in memory of Elizabeth, they say). Charles I. and the Duke of Buckingham were entertained here, on their way to Plymouth, in 1625, and again on the return journey. In fact, Forde has been the scene of many a merry meeting. The stewards' returns give a list of drinks consumed at some of these banquets, and the cost, but not, what would have been far more interesting, a short description of the cups, goblets, and drinking vessels (containing the tea, beer, and spiced canary and white wines) that remained intact after the feast. William of Orange also stayed at Forde, and for many years it was the residence of a wealthy clay merchant, since whose death the house has remained untenanted. When the "corner" in the "ball" and "china" clay markets was projected by the Americans, who, with ten millions of money, wished to buy up thirty china clay firms in Cornwall, and twelve ball clay firms in Devon and Dorset, it was said that after these enterprising people had worked the rest of the spare ground in the district, including the churchyards, then the lawn and grounds of Forde would be cut, and the mansion exported and re-erected in one or other of the pottery towns of the States.

Adjoining Forde, and on fields full of gannister and clay, the G.W. authorities, in their wisdom, dumped their station and works. The clay works up under rails and roads, and has caused endless trouble and no small expense, so many people would have preferred that the waste ground near the river, which affording a harder and surer foundation, had been chosen. The site had this additional recommendation that, after exhaustive trials, the ground had been found worthless for use in manufacturing even the coarsest description of brick. Clay land, when lying low, as it generally does, is not an



CLAY PITS NEAR TORRINGTON, DEVON.

ideal site for a building of any sort, yet during the past few years some hundreds of small dwelling houses have been erected, the landowner gaining in ground rents a much larger sum than was lost in clay dues. Much of the ground that has been built upon would have produeed better clay than some that has been worked, and would have been better for building on.

Most of the unworked or spare lands are leased by the merchants, and at high rentals, not for the purpose of mining, but with the laudable object of preventing anyone else from doing so. Merchants seem reluctant to open up new fields and cut fresh ground, aiming at getting as much clay as possible from the old works. The old roads on the ground are worked, not only private roads, but even the King's highway. These main roads afford many a long strip of nice clay. The shaft is sunk near the edge of the road, and levels driven across and up and down. The upkeep of a main road is considerable, but the clay is of the best quality. Another plan is to rework the long rows of old pits. When these pits were first cut the clay men saved but a small proportion of their "get," and the pit when "cut" was filled with clay which, though useless then, is to-day eagerly sought

after. Some of these old pits had been cut in shelves, and ledges of clay still remained. Some had been mere surface workings, a horse and cart had been driven down an incline after the clay, and "legs" of clay had been left for supports. Now ledges and legs are all cut and shipped. At the present day the best clay is heaped at the pits' mouth, on a bed-place formed of a few slabs of wood, easily moved from pit to pit. Once, the bed places were made of good clay, two balls thick, and containing perhaps twenty tons of clay, and a fresh bed place was made for every pit. These old bed places are also searched out. Some of the old pits had been only cut a few feet, and so small a quantity taken that it seems strange they should have been cut at all. In some cases the first "batch" has been cut half-way across. That the remaining half is "corney," or that there is "iron in the clay," throws some light on why the pit was not cut right down, but does not prevent it from being worked now.

On each side of their big pits the old miners left about twelve feet of clay, partly for safety, and partly to keep their pits clean. These four sides of the old pits are now worked. The ingenuity that is shown in tracing out a "foreside" is really wonderful. The position of the old pit must be accurately determined. This is important, for, if a half of one side and a half of another side is mistaken for a complete side and worked, a true foreside might be cut in half and a good patch of clay spoilt. The old pit is usually traced by the "wreathe" that has been used in its sides. In some of the older pits the "wreathe" was largely willow, &c. This has taken root, and many pits are marked by curious square hedges. It is in the foresides, hard to find, and harder still to work, that the best clay is found, edging the large pits, for the old workers took their largest bites in the very best of the clay. Those who work the foresides have the discomfort of old works around them.

The auctioneer who advertised good clay lands for sale, "easy to work," exercised an auctioneer's privilege of drawing on his imagination. Like most things worth having, good clay is hard to get, and clay-working something of a lottery, with some prizes, but many blanks. Would-be clay merchants bore fields that never produce enough clay to pay for the boring, and some have saved (?) the money they should have spent in boring, and sold best potters' clay as brick land. Even experts have sometimes been known to get on the wrong track. One deep body was mined at great expense, and in due course the ground was relinquished. Others took over the rights, and discovered in another part of the same field, and only two feet from the surface, some of the best original Devon potters' clay which had been missed by their predecessors. This was infinitely of more value than the bottom body, and worked at a quarter the cost. There is always the possibility that clay land held in reserve, and looked upon by the owner as a gilt-edged investment, may, after all, not "turn up trumps." Land supposed to be sound was purchased at a high figure. Although it was not known to have been worked within living memory, an old clay man said the field contained ancient works, and pointed out several lots of mushrooms marking the site of former horse whims, and in the growing grass the faint outline of a clay works with its shafts, pits, and roads, just as the site of some long-buried Roman town has been traced in a cornfield. Sometimes old pits have been pumped out and large quantities of clay found. They have been deserted in consequence of water troubles, and decrepit water wheels and rotten ladders still in position show how hurriedly the workings had been left.

(*To be continued.*)

Empire Notes.

Drain and Sewer pipes are needed in the vicinity of Vancouver, British Columbia. A U.S. Consul writing from that city, says that a plant on Vancouver Island is the only one on the coast, and the authorities of the city have been obliged to suspend work several times because of the inability to secure sewer pipe. He has been informed that there is an abundance of good clay in the vicinity adapted to the manufacture of drain and sewer pipe.

Mr. W. J. Simpson, late manager of the earthenware, china and hardware sections of Robinson & Co.'s department store at Winnipeg, Canada, has commenced business on his own account under favourable conditions at 262, Portage-avenue, Winnipeg. Mr. Simpson caters almost exclusively for the supply of the better grades of British china and earthenware, and vitrified hotel ware. Mr. Simpson is well versed in these special lines, and as the sale of British crockery in Western Canada is increasing rapidly his prospects are promising. We wish him success in his enterprise.

R. E. Davis & Co., 206, Dundas-street, London, Canada, are wholesale importers of glass, china, and earthenware, They are an enterprising, up-to-date firm, and in addition to a large stock of useful domestic pottery and glass, they import many special lines. Amongst several novelties for the Christmas season they have been showing a fine "Delft" plaque. This is an oval, about 15 inches by 12½ inches, with scalloped edge, enamelled earthenware, painted in polychrome in the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century style. There is a large centre panel, with conventional tree and exotic birds on light ground, and four small panels formed by embossments.

The New Zealand Tariff.—The new tariff adopted by the New Zealand Government is a matter of considerable importance to British manufacturers and traders. In a Blue Book issued by the British Board of Trade on January 8, the effects of tariff on British trade are incidentally dealt with. The Tariff Commission has therefore issued a memorandum in which a detailed analysis is made of each group of New Zealand imports showing the incidence of the old and new duties and the existing prospective areas of preference. The Empire share of the import trade of New Zealand is 84 per cent. of the whole, made up of United Kingdom 62 per cent., and the rest of the Empire 22 per cent. Comparing 1890 with 1906 the imports from the United Kingdom and from the rest of the Empire have each doubled, while the imports from foreign countries have more than quadrupled. The official tariff is divided into groups. In that devoted to china, glass, and earthenware, the transference of window glass from the dutiable to the free list reduces the average duty for the whole group by 3·1 per cent. There has been a remarkable growth of the importation of window glass from foreign countries. The general increase is £23,000, while the increase in British trade is only £2,400. In china and earthenware the United Kingdom had in 1897 nineteen-twentieths of the whole importation, and in 1906 about seven-eighths of the whole. The average duties on window glass, plate glass, flint glass, china and earthenware, under the old tariff was 15·7 on British goods, and 25·7 per cent. on foreign goods. The average duties under the new tariff, are 14·3 per cent. on British Empire goods, and 19·5 per cent. on goods from foreign countries.

Bankruptcy statistics just published show that 22 china, glass and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during 1907, as compared with 14 gazetted in 1906.

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EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (BRITISH PRODUCTS) FOR DECEMBER, 1907.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	Month ended December.		Twelve Months ended December.		Month ended December.		Twelve Months ended December.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
To Germany ..... cwts.	7,704	6,978	72,693	101,895	£7,074	£6,210	£77,354	£88,632
„ France ..... „	7,911	2,779	62,895	52,110	4,699	5,340	60,138	66,505
„ United States of America ..... „	33,081	35,022	471,726	508,447	42,222	42,304	572,465	614,144
„ Brazil ..... „	9,912	11,178	167,351	199,168	11,015	10,075	119,698	150,500
„ Argentine Republic ..... „	43,753	42,629	448,205	361,038	18,816	19,688	184,883	178,949
„ British South Africa ..... „	9,432	4,692	199,653	111,486	7,967	5,697	112,272	83,832
„ British East Indies..... „	22,226	23,989	288,420	302,123	14,441	12,550	160,493	165,200
„ Australia ..... „	12,304	15,543	187,634	213,085	11,583	18,565	178,733	242,094
„ New Zealand ..... „	5,071	10,249	72,904	90,725	6,768	11,843	98,405	126,587
„ Canada ..... „	26,033	26,964	325,332	338,682	21,472	26,684	251,519	305,372
„ Other Countries ..... „	80,243	86,494	952,001	1,035,682	52,779	47,126	565,703	628,054
Made up as follows:								
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian .. „	1,503	1,753	23,871	21,460	15,678	15,190	174,819	194,680
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles).. „	115,448	127,072	1,332,571	1,582,120	142,186	157,087	1,666,402	1,978,370
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	29	89	1,107	2,563	70	302	2,109	3,386
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	128,508	129,309	1,727,502	1,561,500	24,794	23,084	326,378	292,710
Other Sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	12,182	8,294	163,763	146,798	16,108	10,419	211,955	180,723
Glass.								
To British South Africa.....value £	—	—	—	—	4,867	5,478	87,918	66,438
„ Other Countries ..... „	—	—	—	—	95,005	100,319	1,189,927	1,334,033
Made up as follows:								
Plate Glass .....cwts.	9,711	12,143	139,331	153,291	16,627	19,727	206,295	252,603
Flint Glass ..... „	6,054	4,863	63,867	70,816	19,133	15,746	209,267	216,242
Glass Bottles .....gross	61,833	61,737	762,268	849,820	39,189	42,771	486,239	554,412
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	30,319	31,834	442,881	463,406	24,923	27,553	376,044	377,214

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR DECEMBER.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian..cwts.	4,426	4,593	51,319	55,389	£22,397	£22,991	£247,228	£267,200
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles).. „	33,787	33,233	343,471	347,348	60,740	66,083	652,920	687,410
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	39	5	6,975	206	112	25	2,579	651
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	12,270	4,597	69,487	77,674	1,397	1,451	12,458	15,272
Other sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	1,739	2,309	22,505	24,813	2,807	3,209	34,784	33,097
Window and German Sheet Glass „	121,887	111,968	1,388,784	1,290,410	66,247	64,847	778,188	730,795
Plate Glass ..... „	25,930	31,592	390,408	405,643	33,029	39,729	508,899	500,566
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	69,969	70,663	837,043	796,269	104,647	107,595	1,304,592	1,181,851
Glass Bottles.....gross	125,813	136,322	1,462,334	1,476,427	53,125	58,672	615,185	619,074
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	1,441	962	39,943	13,087	2,016	1,297	62,329	16,475

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE) FOR DECEMBER.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ...cwts.	2,102	1,668	19,979	19,382	£9,019	£8,226	£85,628	£92,651
Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Tiles) „	539	698	8,103	14,382	1,414	1,970	17,549	30,763
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	—	—	40	32	—	2	174	72
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	581	—	1,008	570	145	—	1,055	176
Other sorts (including Electrical and Chemical Ware) ..... „	—	—	81	127	—	—	400	252
Window and German Sheet Glass „	317	83	14,879	7,742	191	86	7,622	3,676
Plate Glass ..... „	146	126	3,511	4,377	273	172	4,782	5,023
Flint, plain, cut or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	705	419	15,188	6,669	1,412	1,620	31,074	16,240
Glass Bottles .....gross	2,934	5,335	32,698	58,476	1,367	3,250	18,129	33,180
Glass Manufactures of other sorts ..cwts.	672	592	6,732	7,750	1,448	1,278	17,052	19,105

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, November 28 to December 31, 1907. Paekages.	Corresponding period, 1906. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to December 31, 1907. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1906. Packages.
To Boston	405	540	6,512	7,111
,, New York	621	545	7,697	6,915
,, Baltimore	1,299	1,195	19,667	14,638
,, Philadelphia	371	162	2,611	1,194
,, New Orleans	532	502	7,354	4,848
,, Newport News	—	11	1,827	1,167
,, San Franciseo	—	228	556	1,711
,, Portland, Me.	763	578	6,533	1,966
,, Galveston	196	28	2,263	1,405
,, Portland, Or.	—	80	109	1,048
,, Inland Points	18	100	942	9,979
Total	4,205	3,969	56,071	51,982

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AT STOURBRIDGE.

ON January 6, the annual distribution of awards to the students of the classes held under the Stourbridge Higher Education Committee took place at the Stourbridge Technical Institute. Mr. J. S. Williams-Thomas, chairman of the Education Committee, presided over a well-attended meeting. The annual report of the chairman of the committee was read by Mr. W. M. Robins, the clerk. In the course of the report it was said that special attention had been given to the application of drawing and design to glass manufacture, and some of these had been carried out in material at one of the glass works in the neighbourhood. The annual grant had been increased by the Board of Education from £100 to £160 per annum. Examinations were held under the regulations of the Board of Education in all subjects of art, and the results were very satisfactory, the percentages of failures being small. In the national competition, Frederick Noke was awarded a silver medal for designs of wine glasses and finger bowls. This was the highest distinction conferred in the national competition for glass, and was the fifth distinction awarded in recent years to students of the Art School in connection with the glass industry. J. F. Moore also submitted designs of glass and manufactured specimens. The scienee classes were well attended, and satisfactory progress was made by the students.

The Chairman said they were fortunate in having with them Professor T. Turner, of the Birmingham University, who was well qualified to give them advice. Alluding to the scope of instruction covered by the various classes, he said the committee introduced wherever they could the practice as well as the theory. In a district like this, where many industries were carried on within a small radius, it was of great advantage both to pupils and the manufacturers to have higher education classes which wedded practice with theory. This year two additional classes had been started. He pointed out the responsibilities that rested on parents. Failure to continue the education of their sons after they left the elementary schools was an injury to the boys, to their employers, and to the reputation of the country. England must prepare herself to face increasingly severe competition from Germany, France, and America, unless she wished to descend to the position of a second-rate power, and it was the duty of parents to their country to see that the rising generation took advantage of all its opportunities. The youth of to-day had magnificent chances of developing any talents they might possess. Nothing would delight the County Council or the Board of Education more than to have to increase Stourbridge Technical School to find accommodation for all who desired to enter.

Professor Turner, before distributing the awards, said the report showed the school to be in a flourishing condition. He was glad the work was now under the Higher Education Committee. Under the new Act, they now recognised that all forms of instruction, whether elementary, secondary, higher, or technical, were branches of education. The education of the particular kind with which they had to do that evening dealt with three difficulties which the nation had to meet, the difficulties of maintaining England's position among the nations of the world, of maintaining the prosperity of the locality in which they dwelt, and of developing the intellect and promoting the happiness of the individuals in whom they were interested. We must remember that while fifty years ago we had, broadly speaking, all the machinery, and all the ideas, and were the trading people of the world, we now had to acknowledge ourselves in a number of important particulars second to some other countries. We need not necessarily be pessimistic, for it must be remembered we were only one small part of the British Empire, and the population of the British Isles only represented a tithe of the population and a small part of the wealth of the Empire. But we were the heart of the Empire, and unless we kept England strong, prosperous, and happy, we could not hope that the Empire, as a whole, would be united, strong and great as in the past. We did not now depend for the chief source of our income, as we did centuries ago, upon wool, or raw products such as crude copper or pig iron; we depended chiefly upon manufactured articles, in which labour and its eost formed a very important part. Hence we now absolutely required for the progress of our country skilled artisans and well-trained leaders of industry. If we were to have these it would not do to allow our boys and girls to leave the elementary schools at the age, say, of 13, and discontinue their education.

He was glad the school applied itself to meet the needs of local industries, dealing, for instance, with glass and tile work, modelling, repoussé work, and work in copper, and he was very glad to hear of the metal class at the Lye. He had k own very good results in other places from the proper teaching of sheet metal work. He noticed, however, that they gave no instruction in regard to the staple industry for which Stourbridge was known the world over, the fire-brick and fire-clay industry. He would hope that in some form or other they would be able to introduce instruction dealing with clays, their position, treatment, testing, baking, working, &c., and such subjects as resistance, corrosion, expansion, cracking and other matters of importance. He urged the students not to be discouraged and said further study would become increasingly interesting. The Professor afterwards distributed the awards, and votes of thanks to him and to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

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THE ENGLISH CERAMIC SOCIETY.

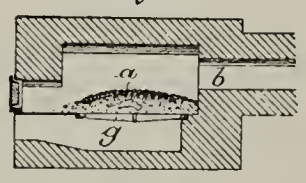
ON January 18, Mr. Solon presided over a numerously attended meeting of the English Ceramic Society, held in the Municipal School, Hanley. Dr. Mellor gave a short explanation of a new method of finding a body recipe by analysis.

Mr. Solon introduced Mr. Ernst Schmatolla, from Berlin. He said that for a considerable timo this gentleman had been an authority on gas firing. Foreigners had learned much from Englishmen, in days past, but we had much to learn yet, before we could equal them in this matter. He then asked their visitor to address then on

The Gas Firing of Kilns.

Mr. E. Schmatolla then read his paper, of which the following is an abstract. :—My experience on the Continent has taught me that in some industries, including the ceramic industry, the gas-generating system is not as yet properly understood, and, therefore, not as freely in use as in other industries, as, for instance, the steel industry. Many people believe that gas generating and gas firing for heating large kilns is somewhat the same as the production of the illuminating gas. This gas is produced by heating a gassy coal in retorts, whereby the gas is ejected from the coal, and coke is the residuum. To show you clearly the difference between an ordinary furnace and a generator, I beg to draw your kind attention to the little drawings in your hands.

—Fig. 1.—



—Fig. 2.—

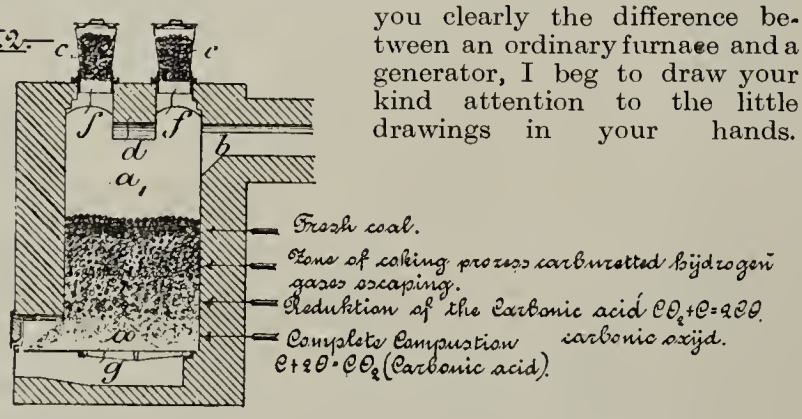


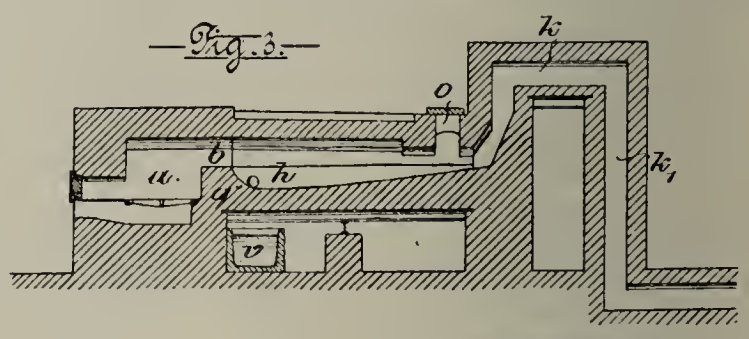
Fig. 1 represents an ordinary furnace and Fig. 2 the corresponding generator, which may have been originally an ordinary furnace, and has been reconstructed into a generator. The essential feature of this reconstruction is the heightening of chamber *a* of the ordinary furnace, together with flue *b*, and also the providing of one or more feeding funnels *c* in the arch *d*. In the ordinary furnace the coal is kept in a thin layer on the grate and a complete combustion of the coal takes place in chamber *a*. The fire gases are led through flue *b* direct into the kiln or chamber to be heated. In the gas producer, however, the coal is placed in a thick layer, about 3 ft. high, or even more, on the grate, and the coal is not transformed into combusted fire gases but into a burning gas. This gas can be conducted by a long channel *b* to a kiln which may be some distance from the generator, and hero in the kiln the gas will be burnt.

The generating process is essentially as follows :—In the first layer, immediately above the grate *g*, the rest of the carbon is transformed into carbonic acid (CO_2), corresponding with chemical formula $C + 2O = CO_2$ and the ashes and slacks remaining as residuum on the grate are removed from time to time by specially adapted iron hooks. Not far above the grate the oxygen of the air is consumed and the glowing coal is acting chemically on the carbonic acid. This acid is reduced by the carbon and transformed into carbonic oxide CO, which is a burning gas (according to the formula $CO_2 + C = 2CO$). By this process most of the heat produced on the grate is consumed, and the heat gradually diminishes the greater the distance is from the grate, but in a distance of 2 ft. above the grate the heat is large enough to eject the gases from the coal which are there in form of carburated hydrogen gas, tar, and the like. In this zone of the generator the coking process takes place and also the hydrogen gases escape. On the top of this zone a fresh layer of coal is placed. The charging takes place by means of the feeding-funnels at equal intervals of time of about ½ to 1 hour. The feeding-funnels *c* are arranged in a manner that, during the charging process, no gas can escape through the openings *f*.

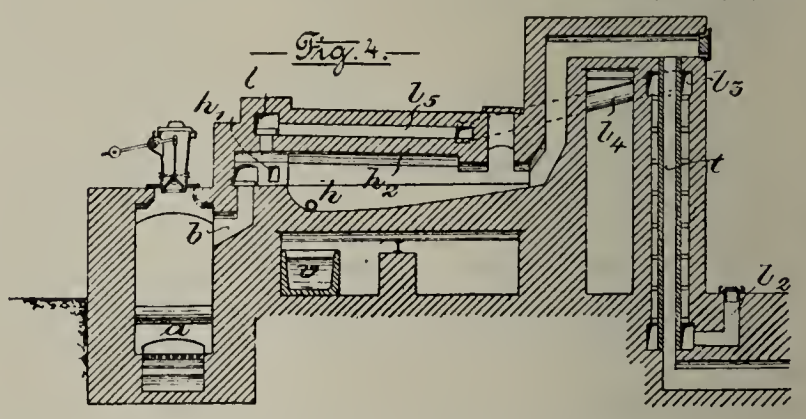
It is evident from what I have said, so far, that the generator gas leaving the generator by the flue *b* consists essentially of carbonic oxide, carburated hydrogen, gas and nitrogen gas, which is contained in the air, and which has not been changed by the process in the generator. If steam is introduced under the grate, together with the air, the gas also contains hydrogen from the decomposition of the steam $CH_2O = H_2CO$. After having now shortly explained the gas produeing, I come to the next point, the gas firing.

Gas Firing.—To explain the gas firing I have chosen as an instructive example a flame-kiln, which is also used in ceramic industries for melting frits, glazes, and the like. Fig. 3 illustrates such a kiln, having an ordinary furnace *a*. The fire gases which escape from the furnace by flue *b*, heat the hearth or sole *h*, upon which the frit material is to be placed to be melted. The charging of the raw material takes place by means of the openings *o*, and the melted frit flows out through the opening *q* into a vessel *v*, which is filled with water.

—Fig. 3.—



—Fig. 4.—



The flame, after having heated the hearth is escaping through the flues k^1 to the chimney. It is to be understood that the fire gases leave the kiln *h* in a high temperature, and that the heat contained in such gases represents large quantities of coal, which are not utilised. Fig. 4 illustrates the same kiln fired by generator gas, and is a reconstruction of the kiln shown on Fig. 3. On Fig. 4, the generator gas is conducted into the combusting chamber h^1 by channel *b* of the hearth *h*, which can be regulated by a damper or plate of fire-proof material ; by this damper the quantity of gas entering into the kiln can be regulated. In chamber h^1 or at the nearest end of the hearth *h* the gas is mixed with air which enters through openings or flues *l*. The gas burns together with the air immediately above the hearth, whilst in the kiln illustrated in Fig. 3 the heat is developed in the furnace *a*, and it is partially lost through the arches of the furnace, and only part of it is utilised on the hearth. The channel k^1 of the kiln illustrated in Fig. 3, through which the flame is escaping to the chimney is in Fig. 4 transformod into a recuperator, which is a system of tubes *t*, surrounded by air channels. The air needed for the combustion of the gas enters by one or more openings l^2 (provided with regulating dampers), rises in the channels surrounding the tubes *t*, and assimilates most of the heat contained in the fire gases. From the upper end l^3 of the air channols l^1, where the air arrives in a high temperature, it is conducted by tubes l^4 into air channels l^5, which are arranged abovo the arch of the hearth. In the channels l^5 the air also takes up the heat radiated from the arch h^2 of the kiln, and enters at last through the openings *l* into the combustion chamber h^1 in a very high temperature. It is evident that by this air the greater part of the heat which is lost and wasted in the kiln illustrated in Feg. 3 is here reconducted into the kiln, and by this reconducting process a largo economy in fuel is obtained. I have made several reconstructions of kilns as shown in Fig. 3 into gas-fired kilns as shown in Fig. 4, and have stated a saving of fuel of 30 to 50 per cent. A similar system can be used for firing the chamber kilns which are used in the ceramic industries.

—Fig. 5.—

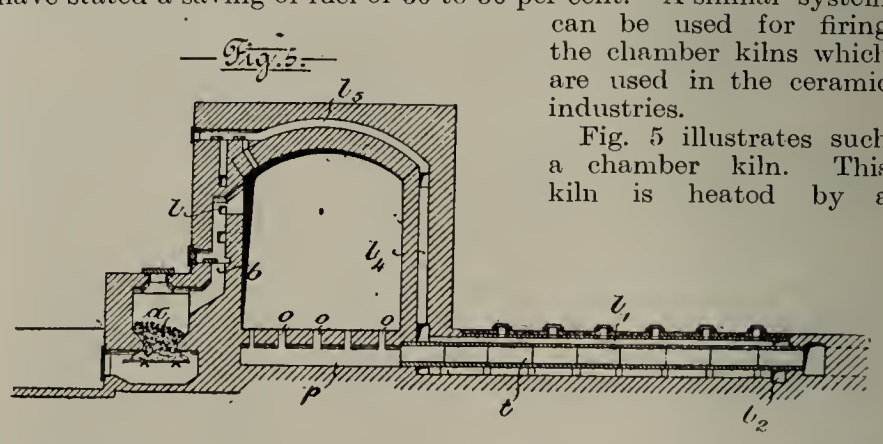
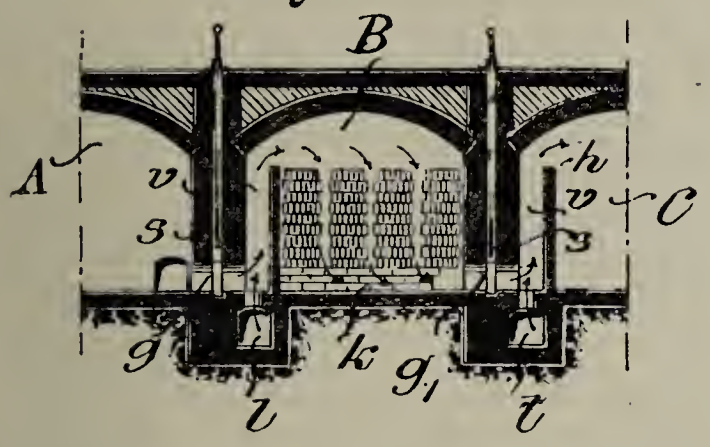


Fig. 5 illustrates such a chamber kiln. This kiln is heatod by a flame not flowing from tho bottom to the top, but, on the contrary, from the arch of the chamber to the sole of it, where it escapes through several openings *o* and channels *p* to the chimney. The furnace *a* of the kiln shown in Fig. 5 is constructed in a manner so as to work in the beginning of the burning proccss with direct firing by keeping on the grate only a thin layer of coal. The flame enters by ehannels *b* into the burning chamber K. If the contents

of the chamber show already a red heat, the layer of coal in the furnaco is gradually increased, and generator gas is producod in the furnace. This gas rises also in the channels *b*, and is mixed beforc entering the chambers K and *l* with hot air, which has been heated in the recuperator k^1, placed horizontally beneath the sole, but

Fig. 6.



similarly constructed as the rccuperator of the kiln in Fig. 4. The air needed for the combustion of the generator gas is entering at l^2 heated in the channels l^1, which surround the tubes *t*, and, after having been led through channels l^4 and l^5 as well as openings *l*, meets the gas, as already explained. Therefore, the flame is not developed in the furnace *a*, but immcdiately in the chamber K. It is evident that a kiln constructed in such a manner gives a similar economy in fuel as the reconstructed kiln shown in Fig. 4. Instead of leading the waste heat from a chamber through a recuperator, as shown in Fig. 5, several chambers can bc combined in such a manner that the heat from one chamber is conducted into the next chamber, and the air that is necessary to burn the gas is heated in the chamber, which has been burnt previously. This is explained by Fig. 6.

Chamber Gas Kilns.—The drawing show; three chambers which may be thought of as broken out of a row or of a ring of chambers. This kiln is similar substantially to a directly fired chamber-kiln, combinated to a ring system with flames beating downwards. The chamber *v* between the first side-wall, to the left hand on the drawing, and the fire-wall *h* is being connected through a channel *l*, arranged in the bottom of the kiln, with a channel supplying gas from a producer-gas plant. The channels in the bottom of the kiln for conveying the flames or hot air from one chamber to the next are not provided in the chamber-kiln represented in the drawing,

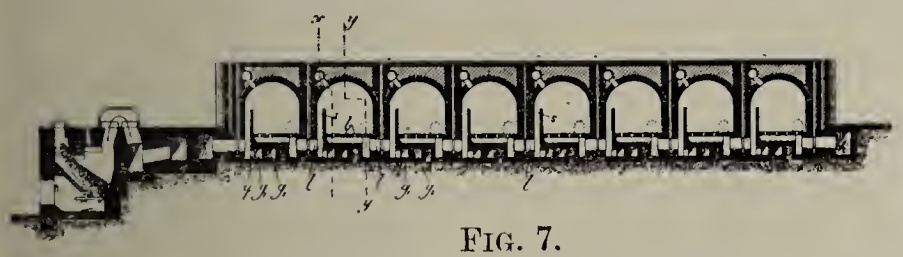


Fig. 7.

in order to cheapen and simplify the construction ; the same can bc constructed out of many kinds of the goods when placing in position the bodies or stones which are to be burnt. Namely, when placing in position the goods which are to be burnt, these channels are left open, as is rcpresented in the chamber B in the drawing. We will suppose that the producer-gas flows into the combustion slot *v* of chamber B, through the channel *l*, whilst the gas channels *l* leading to the other chambers are closed. The chamber A is filled with already burnt glowing bricks or burnt goods, and the air necessary for the combustion of the producer-gas enters into one of the previous chambers, so that it takes up the heat in the chamber A from the incandescent contents of the same, and is highly heated. When the dampers *s* are opened, thc air thus highly heated then flows through the connecting channels *g*, which connect the individual chambers with one another and passes out of the chamber A into the combustion slot *v* of chamber B. The admitted producer-gas then mixes with the hot air ; the gas is consumed, and the flame at first rises upwards ; it is then distributed under the arching of the chamber B and flows downwards through the spaces between the inserted goods, or through the vertical channels which have been left clear, to the horizontal channels *k* which have been left free on the bottom of the kiln. These horizontal channels *k* are connected with the outlets g^1 leading to the chamber C. The flame coming from the chamber B therefore enters into the compartment *v* of chamber C, beats over in this also, and goes the same way as in chamber B in the following chambers also.

A continuously working chamber gas-kiln forming an annular system with flame beating over from one side is shown in Fig. 4 in longitudinal section, in Fig. 8 in plan. In this kiln each chamber is connected with the gas-main channel *k* by means of two valves v^1 and v^2. The valves v_1 enable the gas to enter into tho gas-channels g^1, and the valves v^2 admit it to the gas-channels g^2. From the channels g^1 the producer-gas passes, when the valve v^1 is open, through two branch channels *q* into the combustion slot *s*, and out of the channels g^2 through the two branch channels *p*. By means of the double or separate gas supply it is possible to regulate the admission of the gas or the fire at the two ends of the chamber. The hot air necessary for the combustion of the producer-gas comes from the previously heated chamber, through the connecting channels *l*, which can be regulated by mcans of dampers. Combustion takes place in the combustion slot *s*, the flame rises up, is distributed under the arch, and then flows downwards through the goods or material to be burnt to the openings *b* in the bottom, through which it enters into the channels *c* in the bottom of the kiln. In the construction represented in the drawing, 4 of each of the latter are connected with the following chamber by means of the short openings *l* in the dividing walls. Thc fire gases, therefore, first rise up again in the next chamber, and then flow downwards again, thus travelling the same path as in the previous chambcr. In like manner they also pass through the following chambers until they are sucked away to the chimney through one of the flues *f* and the smoke collector R.

The Annular Gas Kiln.—It is obvious that Hoffmann's annular kiln can be provided with gas-firing with comparatively small alterations. The principal change is that vertical tubes closed above (burners) are built in, instead of the vertical shafts for the fuel arranged under the feeding holes and generally built out of the materials which are to be burned ; these vertical tubes are provided with rows of numerous orifices or slots for the emission of gas, and

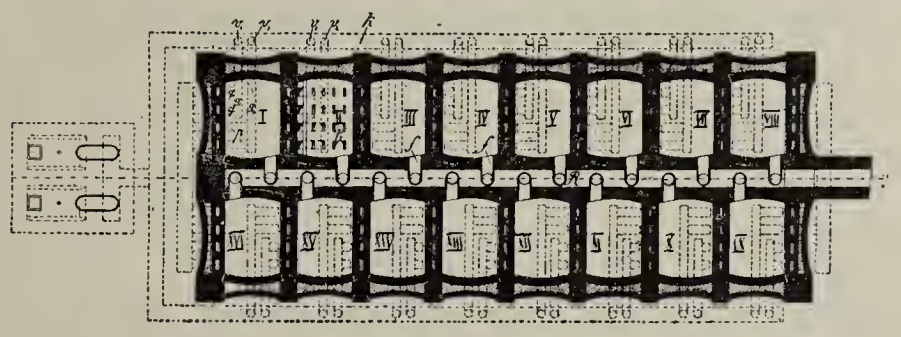


Fig. 8.

these are connected with a gas-producer plant by channels arranged in the bottom of the kiln, and a principal gas channel running round the annular kiln. This is represented in the annular kiln shown in cross section in Fig. 9, and in plan in Fig. 10. As may be seen from the drawing, there is arranged round the kiln a c annel *k*, which is fed with gas from a generator plant not shown in the drawing. Under each feed hole *o*, or under each fire-hole *o*, there are built in vertically fire-clay tubes *r*, closed above, which open with their lower ends into channels *q* in the bottom of the burning chamber and are likewise arranged under the rows of stoke-holes. The channels can be connected with the principal gas-channel *k* by opening the valves *v* at the extreme end of the same channels; consequently, when the valve is open, the producer-gas flows into the channel *q* connected with it, and from this into the combustion channel of the annular kiln through the burner tubes *r*. The streams of gas emitted from the numerous holes of these tubes are at once met by the air coming from the previously burnt and still glowing chamber, and the combustion of the gases takes place uniformly over the entire cross-section of the combustion channel. Otherwise, the construction and operation of the annular kiln plant is similar to those in directly fired Hoffmann kilns.

The temperature that can be got in such gas-fired kilns is very high, but for several purposes it is not high enough, or it could be higher for getting better goods. The temperature is limit d by



Fig. 9.

the fact that in the long channels through which the gas is conveyed from the generator to the chamber to be heated it is cooled, and enters—almost in a cold state also the quantity of heat that is accumulated in the previous chambers—is limited, so that after a certain time also the air is entering with lower tempe ature. This is amended by a kiln which I have constructed for very high temperatures, in which air and gas both enter with a very high temperature into the gas chamber, and this temperature can be increasing

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for any time as necessary. This kiln (shown in Fig. 11) is based on the Siemens system, which had been in use a long time, for example, in the steel industry. The system chiefly consists in the particular connection of the heating chamber *a* with two or more heat collectors or accumulators *b*, and a generator *c*, which is arranged between

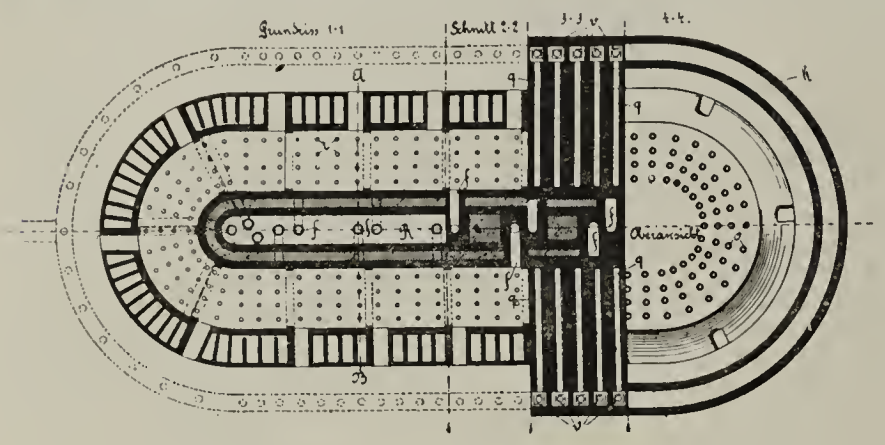


FIG. 10.

the heating chamber and the regenerating chambers in such manner as to form a single block of masonry with the former, and with the latter, so that losses of heat from the generator or in the gas conduits or flues are quite impossible. The furnace *c* is constructed in such manner that it can be first used as a directly fired chamber furnace, and then gradually changed to gas firing from the same furnace *c*. The gas generator *c*, which is built in a similar way as a grate furnace, but with a higher shaft, is arranged below the burning chamber *a*, and the two heat collectors or accumulators reach approximately from the bottom end of the gas generator to the upper end of the heating or burning chamber. The gas generator is connected to the chamber at both sides by means of conduits or flues *d e*, between which are arranged dampers *f*, the latter enabling to close the one or the other of the flues *d*. The two heat collectors *b* are connected to the heating or burning chamber *a* by means of conduits *g* and openings *h*. The heat collectors, which are provided with a grating of refractory stones or other material, are connected at the bottom end to conduits b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4, which can be brought into communication either with the chimney channel b^5, or with the outer air, by means of a device consisting of a box *k*, shown in the lower part of Fig. 11. Assuming that the damper *f* on the left-hand side is closed, the corresponding damper *f* on the right-hand side being open, and the box stands as shown in the drawing, Fig. 11, the conduit b^4 on the right-hand side is in connection with the outer air, and the conduit b^4 on the left-hand side is connected with the chimney; and, assuming further that the generator is filled with coal and that the whole furnace is already incandescent. the generator-gas will then pass through the right-hand conduit system *d e* into the heating chamber *a*, and the air through the right-hand conduit system b^4, b^3, b^2, b^1, the grating of the right-hand

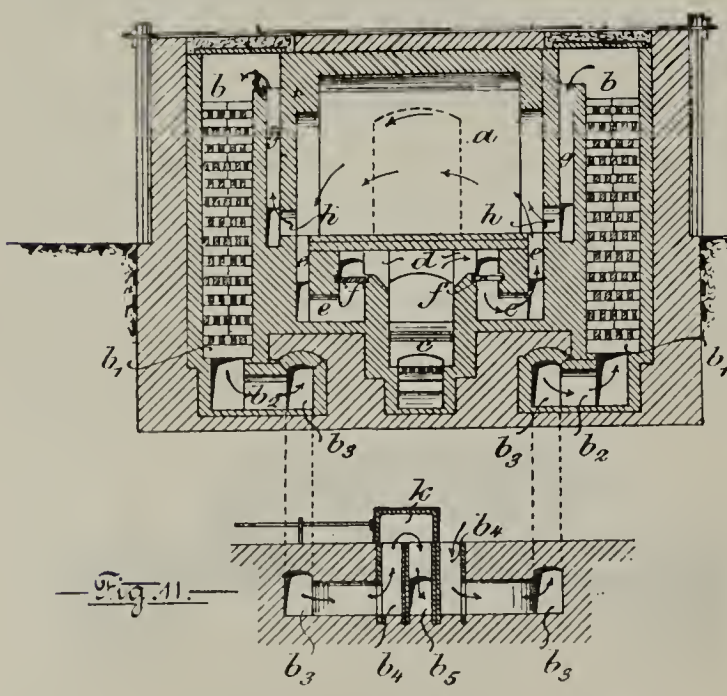


FIG. 11.

heat collector and the conduits *g h* also into the heating chamber. Gas and air become mixed at the right-hand end of the chamber, burn in the interior of the chamber *a*, and pass at the other end through the conduits *h g* and the heat collectors *h*, as well as the conduits b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4 on the left hand into the chimney. The combustion gases escaping from the chamber give off the greatest portion of their heat to the grating of the heat collector arranged on the left-hand side. When the latter is saturated with heat, that is to say, already highly heated, so that the combustion gases begin to escape through the flues b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4, with a high temperature, the box *k* is drawn to the right side, so that the left channel b^4 be open and right channels b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4, with the chimney are closed, whilst the right-hand flue system b^1, b^2, b^3, b^4, is connected to the chimney. If, then, the right-hand damper *f* be closed, and if thereupon the left-hand damper *f* is opened, the generator gas will pass through the left-hand side flues *e* and *g* into the chamber, and the air will pass through the left-hand side flues b^4, b^3, b^2, b^1, the grating of the left-hand side heat collector *b*, and the left-hand side flues *g*, *h* into the chamber a^1. The flame in the latter will follow the opposite path as before, and pass on the other side through the flues *g*, *h*, the grating of the heat collector, and, after having given off to the latter the greatest portion of its heat, through the right-hand flues b^1, b^2, b^3, into the chimney. The air is, of course, highly heated on the way by the previously highly heated grating of the left-hand side heat accumulator and passes into the chamber with a very high temperature. Assuming that coal or some other high-grade fuel is used, the generator gas will pass into the heating chamber with a very high temperature, since it has to traverse only a short conduit, and thus it is possible to increase the temperature in the said chamber to a much higher degree than was hitherto possible in the furnaces generally used in various industries, for instance, for burning or heating highly refractory materials. As the direction of the flames can be altered at given time intervals. the temperature in the chamber can be raised as much as desired up to the limit of the dissociation temperature of carbonic gas, that is to say, up to 2,000 deg. Celsius.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Schmatolla for his interesting address and was duly acknowledged by that gentleman.

WESLEY BUSTS IN POTTERY.

UNDER the above heading the following letter appeared in the "Wednesbury Herald" of Jan. 11 :—

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of Dec. 14th you have an interesting contribution concerning the representations of John Wesley in Staffordshire Pottery. Your correspondent says : "The potter . . . whose name will always be associated with that of Wesley, was Enoch Wood of Burslem. . . . Of him Ward says in his "History of the Staffordshire Potteries" (edition printed at Hanley in 1829—now a rare book), 'There are still proofs of his skill in the more ingenious departments ; and his ability as a modeller and sculptor has long been widely indicated in the very correct bust he produced of the late Rev. John Wesley.'"

Permit us to point out that your contributor is mistaken in attributing the work from which he quotes to "Ward." The passage occurs in "Shaw's History of the Staffordshire Potteries" (pp. 223, 224), an exact reprint of which was published by ourselves in 1900, and can be obtained at these offices.—Yours truly,

SCOTT, GREENWOOD & SON,
"Pottery Gazette" Offices, London, E.C.

Russian Railway Robberies.—A journalist who has recently visited Russia draws a striking picture of how railway officials help each other—at the cost to those who entrust their property to the company. In a big city, and a most important centre of traffic, Irkutsk, no freight, no goods of any kind are accepted or delivered during dinner or the tea that comes after. Everybody waits. Lunch-time is observed in like manner. When the samovar is "boiling," and tea is ready, there generally are no cups or glasses. One of the workmen goes up to a wagon-load of something, knocks out the bottom, or wrenches off the lid of a box, seizes an object, looks, and throws it back in disgust. It is not what he wants. He then tries another and another. Finally he comes upon what he was looking for, and pulls out a lot of tumblers from the packing-cases. Another labourer approaches a barrel with herrings, breaks the bottom with a stone, plunges his horny hand into the contents, and draws out a number of herrings. The herrings and the tumblers, which belong to private individuals, are being conveyed by the company, but the company's servants blithely break open the boxes and the barrels and help themselves freely.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

XII.—COBALT BLUE COLOURS.*

By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc.

This paper records some old and some new observations on the troubles which attend the manufacture of mazarine and cobalt blue pottery colours.

1.—*Mazarine Blue Stain.*

MAZARINE blue is commonly employed as a band on the edges of plates. The colour is prepared by mixing cobalt oxide with flint and stone, with or without the addition of glaze or flux. The proportions of the different constituents depend upon the particular tint desired, on tho character of the glaze and body, and on the method by which the colour is applied to the ware. As a typical recipe—not a particularly good one—calcine an intimate mixture of—

Cobalt oxide	68
Cornish stone	16
Flint	12
Whiting	4

in flinted vessels in the earthenware biscuit oven. After calcination the mixture is ground with water to an impalpable powder, so as to pass a 200's sieve. The "stain" is then dried and mixed with the necessary oils for painting, &c. The whiting may, in some cases, be advantageously replaced with barium carbonate; and ground earthenware or bone china pitchers may be introduced as well.

2.—"*Scummed*" *or* "*Milky*" *Blue.*

If used as an on-glaze or under-glaze blue band, unsightly white patches are sometimes developed when the decorated ware is fired. The defect is commonly known as "milkiness" or "scumming" of the blue. It has been suggested that the "scum" is a kind of froth, consisting of a great number of small bubbles of gas. I have not met an example of this "frothing." I have examined scores of "scummed" or "milky" pieces, and all could be classed in one of three groups.

(1) *Scumming due to presence of particles of undissolved pitchers.*—The microscopic examination of one type shows the presence of a great number of particles of what appear to be undissolved pitchers. This is shown in Fig. 1 magnified about 500 diameters. This defect is comparatively easy to deal with. Better fritting of the colour, with or without the addition of more flux, is the remedy. A second very common type is



FIG. 1.—Section scummed mazarine blue (Type 1),

(2) *Scumming due to devitrification of glaze or enamel.*—A microscopic examination of this type of milkiness shows that the glaze or enamel in the vicinity of the colour has developed, in the oven or kiln, a great number of needle-like crystals, very much resembling the wollastonite crystals discussed in earlier communications. The appearance of this type of scumming, under a magnification of about 80 diameters, is shown in Fig. 2, and under a 1,000 diameters, Fig. 3. This devitrification is particularly liable to occur with glazes rich in lime, or lime present as whiting, or impurities in flint or stone in the stain. The type recipe is an illustration. The natural remedy is to eliminate all lime from the colour, and, if it be impracticable, to reduce the amount of lime in the glaze. The blue stain should be charged with as much alumina as it will carry without interfering with the tint of the colour. The alumina may be added in the form of china clay, or, in preference, as calcined aluminium hydroxide or calcined ammonia alum. The alumina here, as indicated in previous papers, rotards tho tendency of glazes rich in lime to devitrification. The alumina will also be found to intensify the blue tint, so that less cobalt oxide is needed to produce the same colouring effect. A little alumina appears to augment the solubility of tho cobalt oxide in glaze and enamel. The addition of 5 to 15 per cent. of alumina to the mixture indicated above is usually sufficient. Excess of alumina, of course, inclines the colour to a sky blue, or "matte" bluo tint. It might also be added that an excess of alumina in a glaze inclines the glaze to "matte." Only a small amount of alumina dissolves in the glaze, and it is the soluble portion which retards devitrification. The explanation probably turns on the dual acid and basic function of alumina in a glaze. That portion of alumina which functions as acid, acts like an excess of silica, and promotes devitrification, that portion of alumina which acts as a base retards devitrification.

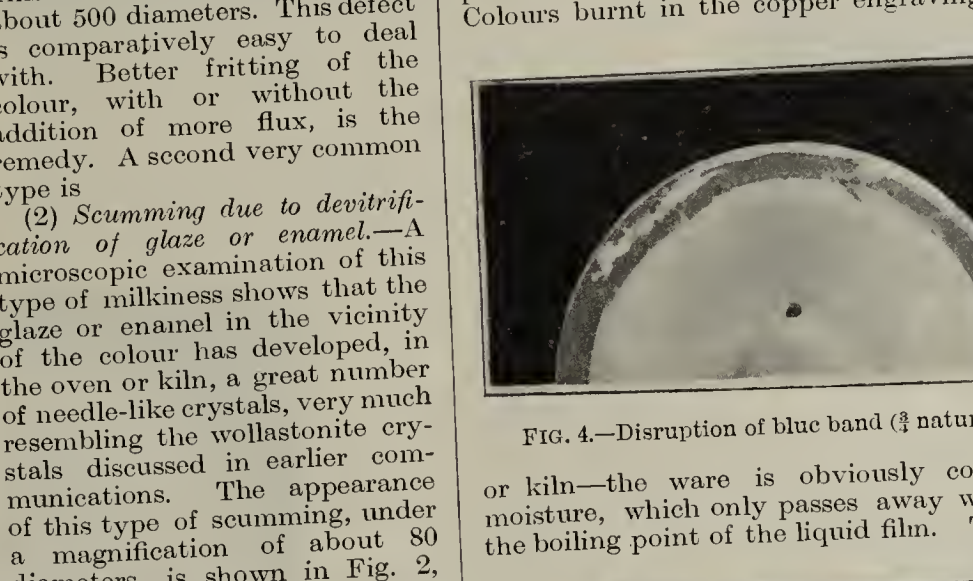


FIG. 2.—Section scummed mazarine blue (Type 2),



FIG. 3.—Crystals causing scumming of mazarine blue (X1,000).

(3) *Scumming due to the formation of "glass gall."* This type is comparatively rare. I have only met one example of a scum which does not fall into one of the two preceding types, and I have not had facilities for following up the subject. The scum resembles the opalescence frequently noticed in "leadless" glazes. Flint glass makers usually consider the formation of "gall" to be favoured by the use of impure alkalies in making glass. The deleterious impurity is supposed to be sodium sulphate, which may also be developed during the fluxing of the glass by the reaction of the molten glass with sulphurous fumes from the coal. But this is all supposition.

3.—"*Floating*" *and Displacement of the Pattern.*

Fig. 4 shows an on-glaze blue band, which has been broken up during the firing in the kiln. The defect may be produced by the presence of moisture and grease on the glaze beneath the band. Colours burnt in the copper engraving are also liable to displacement. In firing, the moisture or grease may splutter and break up the band. A sudden burst of steam or of oil vapour may have blown the shamrock leaf from the border to the central part of the plate, in Fig. 5. But there is another agency at work. In the earlier stages of the firing—oven or kiln—the ware is obviously covered with a thin film of moisture, which only passes away when the ware is heated above the boiling point of the liquid film. The phenomenon is seen every

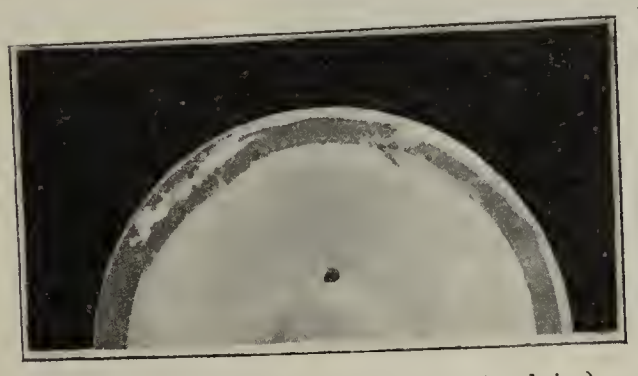


FIG. 4.—Disruption of blue band (¾ natural size).



FIG. 5.—Floating of part of pattern (¾ natural size).

* From a forthcoming number of the *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6, 1907

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day when a lamp is lighted. A film of moisture condenses on the lamp glass at a distance from the flame, and only passes away when the lamp glass is warmed.

If the rate of heating of the oven or kiln be very slow, at a temperature below the boiling point of the liquid, enough moisture may be deposited on the ware to trickle down the side of the plate to the lowest level. This stream may float the pattern, or part of the pattern, down to the bottom of the plate, as shown in Fig. 5. This shifting of the pattern is most common with colours which do not amalgamate well with the oils, and consequently do not adhere tenaciously to the glaze.



FIG. 6.—Blue ring on bottom of plate developed in blue kiln (½ natural size).

We have abundant evidence of these streams of liquid. Sometimes, when sulphuric fumes are present, the film of water absorbs these gases, forming a solution of sulphuric acid. This volatilises at a much higher temperature than water, and it also attacks the "stain" itself, forming a solution of cobalt sulphate. Later on, the solution of cobalt sulphate trickles to the bottom of the plate, and there evaporates, leaving behind curious blue rings, &c., illustrated in Fig. 6. One of these rings was formed on firing a blue-banded plate in an oven whose atmosphere was charged with sulphurous fumes by using coal containing a large quantity of iron pyrites. Fig. 7 illustrates an aggravated example, which was formed, as a painful dispensation of Providence, in the ordinary course of manufacture. This example is particularly instructive, because we can trace the trickling of the film of liquid in its path from the blue band to the bottom of the plate.

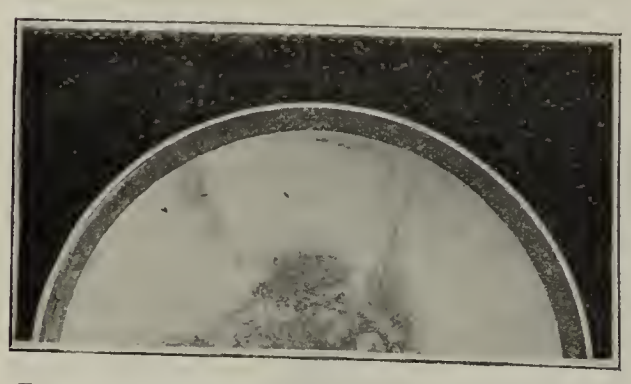


FIG. 7.—Plate showing the effect of the deposition of a film of sulphuric acid on the ware during the early stages of the firing (¾ natural size).

4.—"*Ironing*" *of Cobalt Blue.*

Ironing is a defect which presents itself in the form of reddish or grey crystalline or metallic looking patches on the surface of the colour. The defect is supposed to be produced (1) by the reduction of the cobalt oxide, or (2) by the separation of some compound of cobalt from the colour, owing to the glaze or enamel being charged with more "stain" than it can hold in solution. The addition of alumina or china clay to the colour before calcination retards the reduction of the cobalt oxide, and also renders it more soluble in the glaze as indicated above. The alumina may act on the cobalt oxide in the same way as it does on iron oxide. Alumina renders the "iron reds" more stable at high temperatures, and retards the reduction of red ferric oxide to black ferrous oxide, or black magnetic oxide. The addition of a little rutile or titanium oxide to mazarine blue has also stopped the tendency of cobalt blue to "ironing." It is, however, difficult to make certain whether the cure was really due to the presence of titanium oxide. Some other unrecognized influence may have been at work. It is very easy to draw wrong inferences, and a wrong inference is particularly harmful. It hampers pro ress. A man with an *idée fixe* has frequently no room for the ingress of other ideas. The guiding theory in trying the effect of titanium oxide was as follows:—Assuming the ironing to be caused by reduction, the presence of a small amount of titanium oxide—TiO_2—may furnish sufficient oxygen to prevent the reduction of cobalt oxide in the same way that H. A. Seger (*Collected Works*, Amer. trans., Easton, 2,736, 1902) supposes stannic oxide oxidises reduced copper oxide in the formation of Chinese copper red glazes. Tin oxide, however, in cobalt colours, is dangerous, because it is very liable to form opalescent and milk-white patches, probably due to the separation of stannic oxide. Stannic oxide, like almuina, may act both as an acid and as a base.

An "ironed" patch may frequently be righted with a coating of red lead, or No. 8 flux, and refiring. Although W. Scheffler (*Sprechsaal*, 38, 2117, 1905) and G. Steinbrecht (*Sprechsaal*, 17, 534, 1884) have advocated the reduction theory of ironing, I am of the opinion that nearly all the cases which have come under my notice have been caused by insufficient glaze or flux with the colour, or, in case of unglazed blues, by covering the colour with too thin a coating of glaze. A magnified section of an ironed blue is shown in Fig. 8 (× 80 diam.).

5.—*Blistering of Cobalt Blue.*

There is a very simple theory of blistering which attributes the defect to irregular firing or to the use of imperfectly calcined colour. There is supposed to be a play between the higher and lower oxides of cobalt—Co_2O_3, Co_3O_4, or CoO. If Co_2O_3 is present just before the glaze is matured, then the formation CoO, as the cobalt oxide enters into combination with silica, is attended with the evolution of oxygen gas. If the cobalt can be combined with alumina or silica before it is placed in the oven the formation of Co_2O_3 may be prevented. The use of cobalt phosphate—$Co_3(PO_4)_2$, in place of cobalt oxide, is supposed to render the "stain" less liable to blister, but the tint of cobalt blues with cobalt phosphate is not the same as the tint of cobat blues from cobalt oxide.



FIG. 8.—Section through "ironed" mazarine blue (× 80).

As a matter of fact, the theory just outlined is too simple, and does not cover all the cases which have been observed. This subject must, therefore, be investigated anew without an *idée fixe*.

The blisters may or may not have had time to settle down to a smooth surface in oven or kiln. If they have settled down to a smooth surface the blue may have dark spots, surrounded by a lighter coloured halo. The edge of the pattern may be more or less blurred where a blister has been formed near the edge of the blue band, and carried the colour beyond the limits assigned by the painter. All these phenomena can be seen by examining the dark band of the half-size photograph, Fig. 9, with a small hand lens.



FIG. 9.—Effects of early blistering of blue band (½ natural size).

I am very much indebted to Mr. Bernard Moore for many valuable hints in the course of the above work, and Mr. F. Austin for help with the photography.

[ERRATUM.—The diagrams were unfortunately transposed in November POTTERY GAZETTE. The photograph over "Fig. 1" belongs to Fig. 2, &c.]

AMERICAN POTTERY AND THE BUYER.

MAKERS of American china and semi-porcelain general ware recently held two meetings, the details of which are given in "The Glass and Pottery World" of Chicago. The matters of chief interest to dealers are summarised, and from that summary we extract the following.

It may be well to remind English readers that in pottery circles in America, the word "domestic" is used to describe articles of home production.

(1) No immediate advance in prices of standard table and toilet ware. China products and specialities, such as vases, &c., are valued by each manufacturer as heretofore. (2) While no selling price combination has existed for years, the American potteries pledged anew strict adherence to figures established in the "Gentlemen's Agreement" of January, 1907. (3) A general determination to raise quality of domestic ware, partly rendered necessary by increasing imports and decreasing demands for the cheap scheme and premium goods. (4) A continued fight to be made against alleged undervalued foreign ware. This will advance prices on some import lines.

Better American goods at unchanged prices should materially increase sales. Prompt deliveries, smaller shipments, and the advantages of immediate response to re-orders of popular sellers are pertinent arguments to-day. Business conditions do not now justify the placing of heavy import orders for distant delivery. It is a golden opportunity for the domestic potter to obtain and hold new trade. For these reasons it is the more regrettable that the report of the Hon. Wm. Burgess, chairman of the executive committee of the U.S. Potters' Association, cannot be given, at least in part, as it might dispel some wrong impressions as to delayed import deliveries, &c. Mr. Burgess asserted that delays were largely caused by certain importers' attorneys in order to create a public sentiment unfavourable to domestic potters. Systematic and skilful publicity on the part of several large importing firms have kept controverted matters constantly before the trade. Some heavy buyers say that these investigations have lost the American potteries orders and friends without a particle of gain in volume of their business or price of product.

This viewpoint was given to Mr. Burgess and his associates, who replied in substance as follows :—

"The policy of silence is purely to curtail controversy while the real points at issue are in process of adjustment. There is another and a very strong side in these matters. If those interested will await events with a fair and open mind the absolute justice of our contention will be amply proven. Most of the importers are men of highest character and know that the work of obtaining a better enforcement of custom laws will in the end be helpful to the entire pottery trade.

"Wrong does now exist in certain directions, and all that the American potters ask is that the wrong shall be righted; nothing more. We have asked the Government to use their best endeavour to have the duty collected on the proper dutiable value of imported merchandise, and have called their attention to several gross violations of the law; the Government has found such to be the case, and values have been advanced; immediately the cry of 'persecution' goes up. Those who wish to know the facts can find them; they are matters of record."

The visit of the American commissioners to the foreign potteries and markets is said to be one excellent result of these investigations, and when once a perfect understanding of the words "dutiable value" is reached there will be a basis to work upon that will destroy the present friction. The importations of pottery are likely to increase with America's growth in wealth and culture, regardless of the price and quality of the domestic product.

One feature of the domestic pottery conventions as reported in the public press is incorrect. "All potteries are now practically running at no profit, or worse." Such concerns as the Onondaga, Lamberton, Greenwood, Cook, Mercer, Buffalo, Pope-Gosser Company, Warwick, East Palestine, Crooksville, Sebring plants, and several others, have established a name attractive to dealers, and are paying excellent dividends to the owners. American potters do not need sympathy so much as a closer union between themselves in matters of making and marketing ware.

BETTER GOODS, THEN BETTER PRICES.—American potters decline to advance prices on staple ware. They also show a strong desire to advance quality of their product. The American buyer finds no quarrel in either proposition. Possibly the dealer can aid the manufacturer when he inquires just how and where domestic table pottery can be bettered. The body and glaze are now excellent at most plants. Original or distinctive shapes are scarce, and decorations as a rule far below the average work on foreign goods that supply about 55 per cent. of America's consumption. Why this is so will bear frequent repetition. The working men of Europe are made familiar with the masterpieces of art from their childhood, and this art influence creates a refined taste and an artistic touch in the most humble artisan which have a great pecuniary value. Many European industries owe their success to this artistic sense, so assiduously cultivated by their governments.

The President realises the necessity of surrounding our own people with the best art of all ages in order that this artistic sense may be cultivated in this country, which is at a distinct disadvantage in this respect as compared with the countries of the Old World, because it has not received an art heritage from the past. He says in his message, "So far from there being a tariff on works of art brought into the country, their importation should be encouraged in every way."

A free art Bill should be passed at this session of Congress. It can be done without precipitating a general tariff discussion. A tax on works of art is a stigma on the intelligence of any nation. The potters, to be consistent with their recent utterances, should take it up with vigour. Their powerful Washington influence and the initiative coming from such a source could put the Bill through where other recommendations would die in committee rooms. To cultivate a public taste is to aid the sale of more and better goods at a wider profit. From motives of patriotism and commercial advancement a potter can well afford to urge the passage of a free art Bill, approved by McKinley and now desired by every man who has taken the time to investigate the subject.

Glass-Making in Japan.—A U.S. Consular report states that the great Osaka factory of the Oriental Glass Manufacturing Company, established with Japanese, French, and Belgian capital, was finished and was to start in the manufacture of glass bottles about the end of November. It expects to be able to turn out about 60,000 bottles a day, which figure corresponds to the current average number of the imported articles.

Broken Glass at a London Restaurant.—The finish of a New Year's Eve supper-party at a well-known London West-End restaurant is described thus by an eye-witness :—"Tipsy men stood upon chairs and sang foolishly while others raced about the hall. Women assisted in the noise, and helped to throw bread, corks, napkins, and menu cards at all and sundry. One man sat breaking glasses, the centre of an admiring throng. When we left, the women of our party were compelled to lift their petticoats and carefully pick their way over broken glass and the other litter with which the floor was strewn from end to end."

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Foreign Notes.

Herr A. Weissbach is carrying on under his own name the "Keramische Schmelzfarben Fabrik" at Lössitz-i-Erzgeb, Austria, formerly known by the name of Fischer & Co., Nachf. Herr Grille has retired from the firm.

Russian Glass Works Extension.—The Muxanoff Glass Factory of Uspensk is about to be bought up so as to further develop its business. Its specialities are medicine bottles, electric light globes, and the superior sorts of glass ware.

Continental China Combine.—An agency cable from Carlsbad announces that 83 German and 23 Austrian china-manufacturing firms, whose total annual production amounts to 120,000,000 marks, formed a china trust at a meeting in Berlin for the purpose of regulating export prices to the United States and Canada.

Pottery and Glass Making are mentioned in a recent report of the British Vice-Consul at Sofia as being among the native industries to which decided impetus has been given to the development of native industries in Bulgaria by the introduction of the new Customs tariff. Numerous applications have been made to the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture for concessions for exclusive rights over certain districts, as well as for the special privileges to be enjoyed by industrial establishments under the law for the encouragement of native industries.

A 3,000 gallon Teapot.—During the recent visit of the Tibetan Envoys to Calcutta to discuss the details of the new trade convention, the Shape, or chief of the party, was invited to inspeet some local pottery and porcelain works. He expressed his desire to purchase a teapot, and this is what followed. The representative of the firm expressed his readiness to present a teapot direct from the potteries with the Tibetan's monogram inscribed thereon. "That is very good of you," responded the Shape. "What might be the capacity of such a teapot?" "Any size you may prefer," was the reply. "A pint? A quart? They look neater when they are small." "Possibly," said the Shape, "but I want one to hold three thousand gallons." When the firm's representative had his breath again he ventured to ask the reason for so large a size. "Well," replied the Shape, "there are a good many of us in the monastery, and we entertain visitors, and on such occasions the teapot would be handier if convertible into a soup tureen. It would be more convenient to have a vessel to hold enough for three thousand people." The affair was accordingly arranged, and the firm are, it is reported, constructing a vast metal tank which will be built into the walls of the monastery.

Japanese Pottery Schools.—The Japanese Government, to make a single new plate, is expending large sums of money and employing scores of technical and chemical experts, says the "New York Evening Post." This plate is not a huge steel affair, which, as armour on battleships, will resist the high explosives and hardened shells of other nations. It is possibly an eighth of an inch thick and so fragile that a shot from a bean shooter would smash it into fragments, and yet the making of the plate, Japan believes, is all that interferes with her supremacy in one of the greatest commercial lines. The plate is not in any sense a secret—millions of them are made openly at Trenton and in New York State, and turned out by thousands of tons in Germany. It is simply the ordinary china ware dinner plate, from which most of the 80,000,000 of Americans eat their daily meals. Yet Japan, although her potteries can turn out the most delicate of eggshell porcelains, the most beautiful of glazes, the most shapely of vessels, decorated with exquisite colouring, is baffled by the ordinary kitchen plate. The scientists of Japan know just what that plate is made of, how its glaze is applied, how it is fired and decorated. All that they lack, they think, is the right sort of earth in Japan to duplicate it at a price which would give them the foreign market. And the Japanese Government, because it believes that the right sort of clay can be found, or made by combining known pottery material, has followed its usual course of establishing Government pottery schools and elaborate clay laboratories. This lack of proper clay is irritating to the Japanese manufacturer. The Japanese ceramic chemists, try as they will, cannot mix native earths into a mixture which will give the durability of American and German clay pits. When Japan wants a particular thing in an industrial line she relies to obtain it almost wholly on one method—the industrial education of her own people to make that thing. First, the Japanese Government sends experts all over the world. These experts, often Japan's leading technologists, serve as mere labourers or as unskilled draftsmen in factories of Europe and America, simply to gain information about industrial methods. The next step is to use this information in the Government industrial schools and, with this knowledge as a beginning, to encourage the students and scientists to go ahead in the national shops and laboratories and discover for themselves improvements which trade rivals have not hit upon. The clay problem in its application to making common crockery ware to compete with foreign potteries has been one of Japan's hardest nuts to crack. The work of investigating Japanese clays and experimenting with different combinations of them is now going on under Government assistance in the wonderful laboratories and shops of the department of ceramics in the Tokio Higher Technical Schools, in the ceramic section of the Arita Art and Industrial School at Saga, and in the plant of the Pottery School at Ishikawaken. According to Professor C. R. Richards, of Teachers' College, secretary of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, the Tokio school is one of the few places in the world where the study of pottery on a highly scientific basis is possible. On the side of chemical investigation of ceramics, this school ranks with the best of American or European institutions. In its courses full instruction is given in the technology of clays and earths, glazes, pigments, and firing. Especial attention is given also to the development of new wares, and to the combination of earths and compounds for this purpose. At the same time, the pupils receive ample shop training in designing, making, decorating and firing porcelain. In other words, Japan is doing for her pottery interests what she is doing for her fisheries, breweries, agriculture, stock-raising, chemical and engineering industries—enabling those industries to learn at home at the hands of the State the best of European and American discovery. In the United States, with twice as many people as Japan, and with a far greater market for ceramic products, there are few schools which teach more than pottery handicraft and decoration. As far as it is known, there are only two universities in the country which pay attention to the industrial chemistry of ceramics. One is Ohio State University, at Columbus, where Professor Orton is giving courses dealing principally with the technology of fire brick and encaustic tile, which are local industries. The other is at Alfred University, Alfred, N.Y., where Professor Binns is carrying on advanced work in ceramics. Most of the experimenting is done in the private laboratories of the manufacturing concerns which are searching mainly for new glazes for ornamental pottery. The pottery industry of this country, like many other industrial activities, seems to be behind Japan in recognising the importance of industrial education, and has made little effort to induce State Legislatures to make grants for schools to develop State pottery deposits.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES.

THE POTTERY TRADE.—Employment in December showed a decline as compared with both a month and a year ago. Employment in Staffordshire was not so good as a month ago and was affected to some extent towards the end of the month by extended holidays; in Devonshire, however, it was fairly good; it was fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bristol and Swadlincote; in Scotland it was moderate, some short time being worked. With makers of china at Longton employment was moderate. With stoneware throwers in Scotland it was fair; it was bad with insulator turners and throwers in the potteries. Packers reported employment as fair. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester, very fair at Glasgow, and moderate at Gateshead.

THE GLASS TRADE.—Employment in December was good on the whole, and in the glass bottle-making industry was better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,774 work people in the week ended December 21, and paying £10,935 in wages, showed an increase of 1·2 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 3·8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago, the increases being entirely in the glass bottle-making branch. As compared with a year ago there was an increase of 7·9 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 9·9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the improvement being mainly in the glass bottle-making branch.

Employment with glass bottle makers in Yorkshire showed considerable improvement as compared with the previous month, but it continued dull at Mexborough and Barnsley; at St. Helens and Bristol it was good; it was fair in the North of England, and dull at Dublin. With medical glass bottle makers employment continued good at Rotherham, but was only moderate at Leeds. With flint glass makers employment was fairly good. With cutters it was very fair; at Wordsley, it was good. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was moderate, and showed a slight decline. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens employment was affected by a dispute, which caused much short time to be worked. Employment was fairly good with London glass blowers. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear it was moderate, and the improvement recorded last month was not maintained. With decorative glass workers at Manchester employment was fair.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid to them in the week ending December 21, 1907 :—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,767	£7,594
Plate Glass	172	175
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	2,493	2,783
Other Branches	342	383
Total	8,774	£10,935

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid to them in the week ending December 21, 1907 :—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	1,097	£1,267
Yorkshire	4,565	5,999
Lancashire	763	860
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,165	1,397
Scotland	861	1,082
Other parts of United Kingdom	323	330
Total	8,774	£10,935

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE present position of the potting trade in this district is none too reassuring. The New Year has not started any too well, and, making due allowance for the slump which always follows Christmas, business is still far from good. Orders which were still incompleted at the end of the year have found the factors sufficient work to keep them going, but fresh business has been coming in more slowly, and, unless things pick up speedily, some of the works, both in the china and earthenware trade, will need to be placed on shorter time. The effect of the disturbance in the American market is still being felt, and though confidence has, to a certain extent, been restored in commercial circles in the United States, no improvement has yet been felt in the demand for pottery from this centre. The shipping trade, in fact, is less brisk in several markets, and only in Canada and the Antipodes does it continue to be really buoyant. A better tone pervades the South American market, but thus far the upward movement is slight. Manufacturers here who have trade interests in Canada have discussed not a little the special report upon the conditions and prospects of British trade in the Dominion by Mr. Richard Grigg, Special Commissioner of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence, which will be summarised in a later issue. The more enterprising firms in this district repudiate the suggestion that they are "too conservative," but there is probably more than a little truth in what the Commissioner says as applied to other firms. For instance, with regard to one of his chief points, "better advertising," it is really remarkable how chary some firms are in letting the world know of the merits of their goods through the medium of their trade journal. It is so evidently of importance in business to keep one's name before the dealers. The manufacturer and merchant who advertises not only draws trade away from the man who does not, but he opens up new channels of business altogether. A few days ago the writer was talking to a potting manufacturer who, in the course of less than a decade, has built up a business employing several hundreds of hands and remarked to him, "You must keep several representatives on the road?" "Not a bit of it," he replied. "I advertise well, and do my own travelling, and—the business comes." That gentleman's advertisement appears regularly in THE POTTERY GAZETTE every month, and his trade announcements thus come under the notice of not only the principal dealers in the United Kingdom, but also those of America, Canada, South Africa, and all the other English speaking colonies, besides reaching also the leading potting centres on the Continent of Europe. Obviously, the man who does advertise has a big advantage over the man who does not; this is one of the morals of Mr. Grigg's striking report which needs most to be taken to heart.

The Board of Trade returns were examined so fully in last month's notes, that no more than a very brief reference to them is needed here. The full returns for the year are now available, showing that the total value of British ware exported in 1907 was £2,649,869, compared with £2,381,663 during the previous year, and £2,098,223 the year before. Last month the exports in 1906 were referred to as having been £2,382,819, but this was the uncorrected total; the final figures were as above stated, being something over £1,000 less than the total first given. Thus the exports for the year just ended were £268,206 in excess of those of 1906, and £551,646 in advance of 1905. In round figures the United States took £42,000 more ware from us in 1907 than in 1906, and £106,000 more than in 1905. Canada took £54,000 more than in 1906, and £116,000 more than in 1905. Australia took £64,000 more than in 1906, and £79,000 more than in 1905. Brazil took £31,000 more than in 1906, and £46,000 more than in 1905. The East Indies took £5,000 more than in 1906, and £27,000 more than in 1905. New Zealand took £28,000 more than in 1906, and £49,000 more than in 1905. There were also increases in Germany and France. The Argentine took £6,000 less than in 1906, but £45,000 more than in 1905. South Africa is the only country which shows a decline for both years, the exports having been £29,000 less than in 1906, and £66,000 less than in 1905. The exports to minor countries, not specifically set out in the returns, were £63,000 more than in 1906, and £126,000 more than in 1905, these latter figures being especially satisfactory as showing that our manufacturers are paying due attention to markets which though, comparatively speaking, small, are frequently very remunerative. Before leaving the subject of the exports, we ought to remind those who are interested in the figures, that the whole of the

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increase does not represent new business ; it is partially accounted for by the higher prices charged for ware during the past four months. It is a pity that there are no means of estimating what is the value of the home market in the same way that the Board of Trade returns enable us to judge of the shipping trade. All accounts agree, however, that, with one or two intervals of slackness, the home trade for pottery kept up very well last year, and though, owing to the high prices of fuel and materials, the profits of the masters have been much smaller than appearances otherwise indicate, the year, taken as a whole, was a satisfactory one for both masters and workpeople.

Last month we referred at some length to the proposal of the workpeople employed in the potting trade to demand an increase of 15 per cent in wages on settling day (March 25). Our comments were couched in terms of sufficient moderation, but, notwithstanding, they do not seem to have been welcomed by the officials of the Union, who have been preaching long sermons, using THE POTTERY GAZETTE as their text, at Tunstall, Burslem, and Hanley during the past few days. We have never denied feeling considerable sympathy with the aims and objects of the Potters' Union. If the Union were as strong as it ought to be, it would be better for both masters and men, and many of the anomalies which unquestionably exist in the trade at the present time would be removed, if the workpeople were as strongly organised as they are in, say, the coal and cotton trades. But our remarks last month were prompted by a strong feeling that, in putting forward their present demand for a 15 per cent. increase of wages, the men were asking for that which it is an impossibility to concede. To that contention we adhere, and it is a position which we are quite prepared to defend. To every question there is more than one side, and the officials of the Union, in their enthusiasm for the cause of their members, are apt to overlook the point of view of the masters. Mr. Clowes, the president of the Potters' Union, speaking at Hanley on Jan. 24, stated that we said last month that "the reason they, as potters, were going in for an advance, was because they lived next to the miners, who had received advances, and were jealous of them." Really, we said nothing of the sort. We merely pointed out, in passing, that this was a district where miners and colliers lived and fraternised together, and that it was not unnatural when members of one section of the industrial army saw another section increasing its emoluments without doing any extra work, that they should examine closely their own position. We certainly did "not" say that the potters were jealous of the miners. Again, Mr. Clowes was scarcely justified in dealing with the recent advance in the selling prices of china and earthenware in the way that he did. We remarked, last month, that although the 5 per cent. increase was now being generally enforced, and although the volume of business had been heavier, "the manufacturers declare that the extra profit derived from the larger amount of business transacted scarcely recoups them for the extra prices they have had to pay for coal and materials." This is how Mr. Clowes deals with it : "The masters," he said, "have already agreed to an increase of 5 per cent. in their selling prices. Some say they get it, others that they don't. The men, however, are not responsible for blackleg masters. It is their own fault if they have not received the increase. The masters tell us that this 5 per cent. just covers the extra cost of coal. According to Mr. Leonard Grimwade, the output of crockery is about £6,000,000 per annum. Five per cent. on this means £300,000 a year. I question very much whether the whole of the coal used for the production of pottery ware comes to this amount. I, for one, want some of that £300,000." This sort of statement is calculated to go down very well with a meeting which is tempted by the bait of 15 per cent. increase, but, really, it is astonishingly misleading. Does Mr. Clowes seriously suggest that the 5 per cent. increase in selling prices has brought in to the employers £300,000 ? Nobody knows better than Mr. Clowes himself that the increase has only been in force for four months, so that even taking his own figures, and assuming that the increase was obtained throughout the trade—which is far from being the case—the masters could not possibly have received, so far, more than £100,000.

Again, coal is only one material which has increased in price. The speaker ignored the enhanced prices at which blue ball clay, china clay and stone, flint, felspar, cobalt, lead, potters' chemicals, colours and sundries, stand. He did not tell the men, either, that the masters have been paying the increases in the prices of these goods for eighteen months out of their own pockets, and that consequently if they are now receiving more for their goods, they are only "getting some of their own back." Again, Mr. Clowes says that he wants "some of that £300,000." But it appears that he wants it all, and a good deal more as well. The potters demand a 15 per cent. increase in wages. Taking the entire production of the Potteries at £6,000,000 per annum, and the wages received by the workers at half that amount, 15 per cent. on £3,000,000 would work out at £450,000 per annum. What would be the effect on the American market, one wonders, if an extra 15 per cent. had to be placed on the goods exported from Staffordshire to the United States, to Canada, to the Argentine, and to Brazil ? Manufacturers are aware that the 5 per cent. which they have already had to add, owing to the increased cost of production, has had the effect of restricting trade in oversea markets, and to put a further 15 per cent. on the prices would be to give our German competitors, who are fighting so keenly for the trade, an enormous advantage. Loss of custom would be inevitable, and the workers would soon be led to regret their action by the unemployment which would be created as a consequence. To read some of the speeches which have been made by the men's leaders, one would imagine that the workpeople have not derived any benefit at all from the good times through which we have been passing, whereas, in point of fact, they have received very considerable benefit. If our foreign trade has increased over £500,000 during the last two years, the workers must have drawn about £250,000 more in wages on that account alone, to say nothing of the better trade in the home market. There has been more employment, and operatives, having more work to do, have naturally drawn higher wages. At the same time, we do not say that there are not some factories where the operatives ought to receive advances in wages, in order to secure more uniformity in the trade, but this is a matter for the Union. It seems that what is required most, at the present time, is not a general advance of wages, but some rearrangement of prices to secure so far as possible uniformity in counts and sizes. An 8-inch plate ought to measure eight inches, and a "potters' dozen" ought to be a potters' dozen, whether 36 be counted to it, or more, or less. These are things which might very well be discussed by the masters and men at a round table conference, arranged by the Board of Arbitration, the re-establishment of which is now suggested.

Some of the speakers at the Tunstall and Burslem meetings of the Union, last week, made statements which are calculated to convey a false impression to the outside world. One remark was to the effect that there were women in the Potteries earning as little as the shirt makers in London. Another was that there are journeymen at some factories earning 7s. and 8s. per week. A third statement was to the effect that there are "skilled artisans in the potting trade who are receiving 7s. or 8s. a week, and if they receive 15s. they may thank the Lord they have a happy place." From another speech, the uninitiated reader might conclude that it was the custom, in the Potteries, for people to serve 16 years' apprenticeship, while the chairman of the Burslem meeting suggested that some of the potters were driven to drink because the wages they earned were so small that they had not the courage to take them home to their wives. Utterances of this kind can only be regarded as products of the exuberant imaginations of the speakers rather than as sober statements of fact. In all trades, owing to physical infirmity, or exceptional circumstances, isolated cases may be found in which persons can earn but small wages, but it would be unreasonable to suggest that such cases are typical of the whole industry. The workers in the Potteries are, as a body, as well paid and well off as those of any other industrial centre, and while sympathising with all legitimate efforts to improve their circumstances, we cannot but protest against general statements of the kind quoted. One can hardly wonder at outside critics being sometimes severe upon the Potteries when speeches like those referred to are made by people who themselves live and work in the district.

It is good news that the representatives of the workpeople have accepted the invitation of the masters, to confer with them as to the desirability of establishing a permanent Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the trade. A meeting was held at the Stoke Hotel on Friday, Jan. 24, when Mr. J. C. Bailey (Doulton & Co., Ltd.) presided, and after a prolonged discussion, it was announced that the interview had been of a satisfactory character, and that another conference would take place shortly. It is to be hoped that such progress will have been made by the next meeting that the Board will be brought into existence forthwith, so that the questions of wages, counts and sizes, and also the substitution of the "good from hand" system for the "good from oven" system, may be referred to it and settled without any stoppage of work. Although the operatives have embarked this year upon a very big programme, the relations existing between the masters and men are, at present, so good that, with tact, and forbearance on both sides, a repetition of last year's troubles ought to be avoided.

Last month will always be memorable in the history of North Staffordshire, for it witnessed the penultimate step in the great movement which has for its object the welding of the six Pottery towns into one great united city. The Local Government Board inquiry on the representations presented by Longton, Stoke and Hanley in favour of this proposal, took place on Wednesday, Jan. 8, and the two following days, and the proceedings were naturally followed with the most intense interest. The conference room at the North Stafford Hotel was packed to suffocation throughout the inquiry, and when it concluded there was a general feeling of confidence that Mr. Burns will make a provisional order. The

first two days were negative in their results. Burslem's counsel retired from the proceedings, being dissatisfied with the impartiality of the inspector; while so many theories and counter theories were laid before the inquiry, that at one time the prospects for federation looked very black indeed. It looked as though, after a great expenditure of time and trouble, the horse had been brought to the water, but that he was now going to refuse to drink. The trouble was entirely in connection with the financial adjustments which would have to be made between town and town in the event of federation becoming an accomplished fact. Several rival schemes were investigated, but none seemed to meet with favour until, on the Friday morning, Hanley came forward with an entirely new proposal on broad and statesmanlike lines. This was immediately agreed to by Tunstall, while Longton, which had been previously supporting a scheme introduced by Stoke, was also practically won over. Major Norton, the inspector, has now been released by Mr. John Burns from all other duties in order that he may formulate his report, which, it is understood, will embody financial proposals on wide lines, taking in the whole of the liabilities and assets of each of the towns concerned. The decision of the Local Government Board will probably be delayed for some little time yet. Of course, if the order is made, there is always the possibility that one or more of the towns may carry its opposition to Parliament, but it is not considered likely that any one town would care to take such a responsibility upon itself alone. The opponents of federation often refer to the case of Bootle, which, by Parliamentary action, successfully prevented Liverpool absorbing her; but Bootle was already a county borough, and the present case is quite different. There has never before been a case in which the amalgamation of a county borough (Hanley), three non-county boroughs (Burslem, Stoke and Longton), and two urban districts (Tunstall and Fenton), has been proposed.

A singular point in compensation law arose at the Stoke County Court, last month, when Judge Ruegg was asked to apportion a sum of £261 paid into Court by the Potters' Insurance Company, as compensation in respect of the death from lead poisoning of a Longton man named Austin James Smith. Smith, it transpired, was married 25 years ago, but after six years he separated from his wife, to whose support he continued to contribute up to the time of his death. After the separation he formed an attachment to a Miss Lockett, and the couple lived together, there being two children, both under age. His Honour ordered that Mrs. Smith should receive 12s. 6d. per week from the invested funds, and Miss Lockett 8s. 6d. per week, and further directed that £8 should be paid out forthwith for funeral expenses, that £25 should be paid to Mrs. Smith to enable her to clear off certain debts, and that £5 should be paid to Miss Lockett for maintaining the deceased's two children since his death.——Some curious evidence was heard at the Hanley County Court on Jan. 23, when a Newcastle man named Cooper claimed compensation from Messrs. Wenger, Ltd., potters' colour manufacturers, of Etruria, in respect of an accident which he alleged that he had sustained whilst in the employ of the respondents. The testimony showed that it was part of the applicant's duty to charge a cylinder which grinds certain stone materials in a process carried out by Messrs. Wenger. In June last he as engaged in lifting boxes of the stone and pouring them into the cylinder, when, upon raising a box whieh was heavier than the others, he felt a "tear" in the left side of his chest. He dropped the box at once and eommenced to spit blood, it being afterwards found that he had sustained a rupture of the left lung. He had been unable to work since. The defence was that the illness from which the applicant suffered was not due to the aeeident, but to disease of long standing. As to this, there was a confliet of medieal evidence, but ultimately his Honour said he was satisfied the respondents were liable for compensation, and consequently he awarded the applicant 9s. per week from a fortnight after the accident to the present time, and 6s. per week henceforth until a further order.

Miss M. Vines, the lady factory inspector, has been favouring the Potteries with another visit lately, and with more zeal, it is to be feared, than discretion, has been haling a number of firms before the Stipendiary for offences against the Truek Act which, in the majority of cases, were quite trivial. Doulton & Co.. Ltd., were summoned on Jan. 7. at Burslem, and were fined 20s. and eosts in several cases for receiving certain payments of 1½d. from three girls, in respect of gas, without supplying particulars in writing to the girls. Yet the evidence showed that the firm, in doing what they did, were anxious to treat the girls with more consideration than they would have been treated had they been dealt with on the lines of the majority of the employees. Some time ago Mr. Redgrave, one of the chief inspectors of factories, visited the district and discussed with the manufacturers the question of stoppages. As a result of his visit, the manufacturers decided, wherever possible, to do away with stoppages, and to make a deduction of a percentage from the operatives' wagos instead. Doulton & Co., Ltd., did away with the stoppages under an arrangement by which, in most cases, 2½ per cent. was stopped from the wages. But to have stopped that percentage from the wages of these girls, who were enamellers and only used gas in the winter months, would have been unfair, as it would have amounted to nearly four times 1½d. per week. Therefore it was arranged that the girls should receive their full wages, and that they should repay the actual cost of the gas in the winter months. Unfortunately this was a contravention of the Act which had escaped the notice of the defendant company. When Miss Vines called attention to this, the defendants explained that any infringement had been due to a misunderstanding, and he abolished the stoppages altogether, but it was suggested that the summonses were issued after Miss Vines had received a letter announcing the discontinuance of the stoppages. It was quite evident that Mr. Bailey, of Messrs. Doulton, fell into a technical error simply through trying to safeguard the interests of the girls, and there is a feeling among many manufacturers approaching indignation, that the Home Office should carry cases into court under such circumstances. Amongst other prosecutions during the month was one against Wild Bros., of Longton, for employing a number of workpeople on Sunday, Nov. 17, contrary to the provisions of the Factory Act. The Stipendiary, in imposing the maximum penalty—£3—in each case, with costs, said he hoped this was not only an exceptional case in Longton, but an exceptional case throughout the district.

We are very sorry to learn that there is a possibility of this district losing the services of Dr. Mellor, the able conductor of the local pottery classes. It is understood that Dr. Mellor has been offered two important chairs of chemistry, one in Sydney and the other at Manchester. Strenuous efforts are being made to induce him to remain in the Potteries, where he is carrying on an invaluable work. Dr. Mellor's plans for the future, at the time of writing, were undecided.——Another local gentleman who may possibly be departing from us shortly is Mr. A. J. Caddie, Curator of the Stoke Municipal Museum, who is one of three candidates left in the field from whom a selection will be made to fill an important post at the Albert Institute and Victoria Galleries, Dundee, the stipend attached to which is £350 per annum. For many yoars Mr. Caddie has given the closest attention to the study of pottery, upon which he is now regarded as an expert, so much so that the South Kensington authorities have trusted him to make purchases on their behalf. He has been instrumental in securing for the Stoke museum some excellent specimens of early English pottery, including some representative Staffordshire ware, and he has visited every considerable museum in the country in order to make notes on the collections of English ware they contain.

The circumstances attending the death of Albert Crutchley, a glost placer, aged 55, of Fenton, were investigated by the North-West Staffordshire coroner on Jan. 4, there being a suggestion that the cause of death was lead poisoning. Mr. J. A. Redgrave, Superintendent Inspector of Factories, of Birmingham, and Mr. G. Shuter, the new inspector for North Staffordshire, were present. Evidence was given to the effect that Crutchley had been employed as a glost placer by H. Aynsley & Co., of Longton, for 36 years. For the last two years he had only been marked by the certifying surgeon as being in a "fair" condition of health, but when interrogated as to his condition, he strongly repudiated any susceptibility to lead. At one time he was in the habit of smoking in the glost house (an extremely dangerous practice for workers who handle lead in any form). While denying susceptibility to lead to the works manager, it transpired that for 18 months or two years deceased had suffered, at home, from sickness. Sir weeks ago he was taken ill, and he died on New Year's Day. Three days before death "dropped wrist" became pronounced, and towards the end of the illness there was partial paralysis of the face. Dr. Arlidge, the certifying surgeon, informed the coroner that Crutchley had told him on several occasions that he had never suffered from his work in any way, adding, in reply to the coroner, that he was afraid workpeople sometimes said they did not suffer from their work when, as a matter of fact, they did. The doctor proceeded to say that during Crutchley's last illness there were no symptoms of lead, and special tests of the wrists were quite satisfactory. There was no definite "blue line" on the gums, but a blue line, said the witness, was more an indication of the trade a man worked in than an indication that he was suffering from lead. He gave it as his opinion that deceased's illness was not due to lead. Dr. Hopwood, another witness, said that while attending Crutchley in his last illness he never noticed any wrist drop, and the facial paralysis was due to uremia. The witness then described the results of a post-mortem whieh he had made, and gave it as his opinion that the cause of death was kidney trouble, set up by lead. He admitted, however, that he might have found a condition absolutely tho same as that of deceased in a man who had never worked in lead in his life. The jury found that death was due to kidney disease, "accelerated by the deceased having worked in the lead." This is another of those unfortunate cases in which the foundation of the disease had evidently been laid long before the special rules for the protection of lead workers came into operation. When the periodical medical inspection was instituted, he neglected to

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tell the certifying surgeon his true condition of health, and the cumulative effect of the lead eventually brought a sudden finish.

Much regret has been occasioned by the death of Mr. James Duncan, of Porthill, manager of the glost oven department of Booths, Ltd., Tunstall, which occurred three weeks ago. Mr. Duncan was a nephew of Mr. T. G. Booth, who introduced him to the manufactory as a youth of eighteen. He was taken ill at the works soon after Christmas, but it was not suspected that his illness was serious. Unfortunately a stroke supervened, and he died on Jan. 11. Mr. Duncan was at one time a member of the Commercial Travellers' Association, the members of which body entertained a sincere affection for him. He not only possessed that spirit of camaraderie which is the hall mark of the commercial traveller, but, incidentally, he was a humorous singer of exceptional ability, and his services as a vocalist were often requisitioned by his colleagues. Mr. Duncan, who was only 30 years of age, leaves a widow and two children.——A well respected inhabitant of Tunstall has passed away during the past month in Mr. Thomas Minshall, who for the past thirty-six years had been in the employ of Messrs. Peake, at their Tileries. Mr. Minshall, who had reached the age of 80 years, was a great favourite with his fellow workers, by whom he was affectonately styled "Old Thomas." He was a cheery and hearty old gentleman, who retained an overflowing fund of geniality right up to his last illness. Only a year ago Mr. and Mrs. Minshall celebrated their golden wedding, and Mrs. Minshall, who survives her husband, is 76 years of age.

As time goes on, more attention than ever is being given in this district to the subject of gas firing. The English Ceramic Society has been performing a real service to the trade by bringing down, from time to time, various experts to explain the latest developments of the process, and on Saturday, Jan. 18, it added to these obligations by introducing to the district Mr. Schmatolla, of Berlin, who is one of the world's principal authorities on gas firing. A crowded meeting assembled at the Municipal Secondary School, Hanley, to hear an address by Mr. Schmatolla, and a profitable evening was spent in listening to an explanation of the lecturer's own process. An illustrated abstract of Mr. Schmatolla's paper appears elsewhere in this issue. He showed, by means of a series of excellent diagrams, how kilns and ovens of the old system could be adapted to gas firing, and he quoted figures to show how extensive economies in fuel consumption would be effected by the alteration. The gas-fired kilns, he said, were much less expensive than those fired in the old way, because the continuous kiln system could be adopted, so that the waste heat from one kiln could be used to partly heat up the next kiln to be fired. Several speeches were made at the close of the lecture, one of the speakers being the Mayor of Burslem (Ald. Malkin, of the Malkin Tile Works), who said that he had been very fortunate in seeing something of the gas firing to which Mr. Schmatolla had referred. He was particularly interested, in going through the Royal Porcelain Works in Berlin, to see that by their simple one-mouth method they were able to control the whole series of kilns.

Another event of much interest in connection with gas firing, during the past month, has been the extension of the experiments at the Royal Art Pottery Company, Longton, to trials with china bisque ware. An oven was fired up on Tuesday, Jan. 14, and the firing was continued for 46 hours. Ware for the test was supplied by numerous Longton manufacturers, and by Messrs Minton and George Jones & Sons, of Stoke. The process, which is that of Messrs. Woolley & Fell, has already been fully described in THE POTTERY GAZETTE. The gas is generated in producers fitted to the mouths of an ordinary potter's oven, and the heat, which is said to be under perfect control, is regulated as desired. The producers are charged with ordinary coal about every hour and a half, and no more smoke is emitted from the oven than in the case of an ordinary dwelling-house chimney. As the producers are not all baited simultaneously, no dark clouds of smoke are sent out at all, and the difference between this condition of affairs and an ordinary coal fired oven is very striking. Messrs. Woolley & Fell state that their process is very economical, because the consumption of coal is less, the wear and tear of oven and saggers is reduced, and an appreciable saving of time is effected, both in the firing and in the cooling of an oven. Biscuit earthenware has been fired by gas for some time at the Royal Art Pottery, but the firing of china biscuit was a new departure. The oven was drawn on Monday, the 20th ult., when numerous manufacturers visited the works and examined the ware as it came from the oven. The results were considered eminently satisfactory. The firm have now adapted a third oven to the gas firing process, and it is their intention, ultimately, to dispense entirely with ordinary coal firing. Mr. H. Aynsley, who has been associated with Messrs. Woolley & Fell in the experiments, states that gas firing has been proved to be a practical and commercial success. A singular difference of opinion seems to exist as to whether the producers for the making of the gas should be erected as a separate chamber, or whether the producers should be constructed as part of the oven. In Messrs. Woolley & Fell's method a producer is fitted to each of the mouths of the oven, and the inventors claim that this system possesses a distinct advantage over that which involves a separate producer; but Mr. Alfred Meakin, who has adopted gas firing with so much success at the Royal Albert and Victoria Potteries and the Highgate Tile Works, Tunstall, does not seem to share this view. Two glost ovens at the Royal Albert and Victoria factories have been adapted to gas firing. In the first one the producers were built as portions of the oven-mouth, the oven having ten producers. Difficulties, however, were found to arise with this system, and the separate producer system has been applied to the second oven, the gas being led to the oven by a flue, from which there are branches into each oven-mouth. It is claimed by Mr. Meakin that the results attained by this method are more satisfactory than those achieved by the oven-mouth producer. Messrs. Woolley & Fell, on the other hand, seem to be equally positive as to the advantages of their method. Probably there is a good deal to be urged in favour of each. It is stated that since the separate producer oven has been at work at Messrs. Meakin's potteries, records in economy have been established. There is said to be a 40 per cent. economy of fuel on the oven, while wear and tear is also less, dirt is diminished, and time is saved. Mr. Meakin has had four enamel kilns at work on the producer gas system for 2½ years, and the firm are preparing to build two new kilns. A fritt kiln, with a producer in the mouth, has also been at work for nine months, with excellent results, while at the Highgate tile factory six majolica kilns are fired with gas. At his various works Mr. Meakin employs 1,300 hands, and it cannot be regarded as other than significant that a business carried on upon so large a scale is giving so much attention to the new method of firing. Maw & Co., Ltd., encaustie tile manufacturers, of Benthall Works, Jackfield, have installed a majolica gas kiln under an arrangement with Mr. Meakin, of Tunstall, who has acquired patent rights in connection with his system, and in a letter to Mr. Meakin, dated Jan. 23 last, they say:—"We are pleased to inform you that we have now fired three times the majolica gas kiln erected under the agreement entered into between us. The results are enirely satisfactory, and show that a considerable economy in fuel will result as compared with our present type of kiln. . . . We shall proceed as rapidly as circumstances permit to alter all our kilns to this system."

The fourth annual staff dinner in connection with Booths, Ltd., of Tunstall, took place at the Sneyd Arms Hotel on Jan. 2, when a company of about sixty persons, representing the management and officials, sat down to an excellent repast. Mr. Chas. H. Bowers, managing director, was the chairman, and his supporters included Mr. C. E. Green (chairman of the Board), Mr. H. Green and Mr. W. Hollinshead (directors), Mr. A. Sherwin (secretary), and others. The after dinner oratory reached a more than usually high standard, several speeches being exceedingly interesting. Mr. T. B. Duncan spoke very much to the point when proposing the good old toast of "Town and Trade." He mentioned that the firm had passed through a very successful year, and remarked upon it as a happy circumstance that, at the present time, they had not one of the factories empty in Tunstall. He added that he understood that a new factory was going to be built in the town within a short period. Mr. J. W. Dean, in replying, aptly alluded to the great service rendered by the late Mr. T. G. Booth to both "town and trade." He was glad to say that the public spirit manifested by the late chairman of the company was also displayed by some of his successors, for Mr. Charles Bowers, their managing director, was now, as he pointed out, chairman of the Wolstanton U.D.C. The toast of "The Firm" was introduced by Mr. Geo. Wilks, and was acknowledged by Mr. C. E. Green, chairman of the directors, who paid a high tribute to the able leadership of Mr. Bowers. The latter gentleman's extraordinary energy and grasp of business, he said, materially lightened the work of his co-directors, and was responsible for much of the company's present success, and of the vast increase of business which had come to it. The company was to-day absolutely the most important business in the earthenware trade making goods for the home market. Mr. Green referred in complimentary terms to the excellent work performed by Mr. A. Sherwin, the secretary of the company, and also acknowledged the loyal services of the other officials. The toast list was varied by a really admirable musical programme, selections being given by the leading vocalists of the district, Miss Nancy Shirley, Miss Maud Gibbons, and Messrs. Frost and Barker.——The workpeople of the china department of Charles Allerton & Sons, Park Works, Longton, held their annual dinner recently at the King's Arms Hotel, at the Meir, when a large company enjoyed a very jolly evening's entertainment. Songs and instrumental selections were contributed by a number of the guests, and dancing was also indulged in. In the course of the evening Mr. J. Allin proposed the toast of "The Firm," speaking of the increase of trade which had taken place during the last twelve months, and of the efforts made by the firm to ensure constant employment for the workpeople. Mr. W. D. Chappell, manager, responded; and Mr. Chappell's health was also honoured.——Wengers, Ltd., ceramic colour and chemical manufacturers, of Etruria, entertained their em-

ployees to their annual dinner on Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Borough Arms Hotel, Newcastle. Mr. A. F. Wenger, chairman of the directors, presided, supported by Mr. A. H. C. Wenger and Mr. F. E. Wenger, directors. The secretary, auditors, and other officials were also present. After an excellent dinner, several toasts, including that of "Success to the Firm," were proposed and honoured, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to a smoking concert, which was contributed to by members of the staff, a very enjoyable time being spent.

Mr. George Gough has left the employ of Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-st. Works, Burslem, after 20 years' service as art warehouseman. To mark the esteem in which they hold him, his fellow employees presented him on Jan. 11 with a large travelling trunk, a pair of handsome blue and gold china vases, and a fine picture of some orchids, painted by Mr. H. Betteley, who was the donor. The presentation was made by Mr. A. Llewellyn, and speeches were also made by Mr. G. Jones and Mr. E. Lucas, Mr. Gough briefly responding.——Alderman Aaron Edwards (Cartwright & Edwards), in spite of his advanced years, has not allowed the grass to grow under his feet since he accepted office as Mayor of Longton for the sixth time. Already he has accomplished much in the cause of charity, and now it is announced that he intends, at his own expense, to carry out a little addition to the decoration at the Sutherland Institute, which has long been desirable. Last month Mr. Edwards dispensed civic hospitality with a generous hand, entertaining to dinner on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 14 and 15, large gatherings of town's officials and others in honour of his mayoralty. Needless to say that, among the many toasts honoured, that of "His Worship" was received with greatest heartiness.——On Monday, Jan. 6, an exceptionally interesting trade gathering took place at the Town Hall, Longton, when Mr. Herbert J. Colclough, the enterprising head of the Vale Pottery Works, entertained the whole of his employees, together with a number of his personal friends, to dinner. Mr. Colclough himself presided over a company of nearly 300 persons, and among those also present were Mrs. Colclough and several members of the host's family. There was a little after dinner speaking, in the course of which a number of those present spoke in high terms of Mr. Colclough's characteristics as an employer.

The members of the English China Manufacturers' Association held their annual dinner on Wednesday, Jan. 8, but the occasion was somewhat overshadowed by the Local Government Board's inquiry on federation, which opened on the same day, and kept many leading manufacturers away. Nevertheless, the proceedings were very interesting, and the after dinner speeches provided plenty of food for reflection. The chair was occupied by Mr. E. Brain, the president of the Association, and there were about 40 members present. Mr. R. Jamieson, the secretary, presented an exhaustive report, commenting upon the principal subjects dealt with by the Association during the year, and afterwards various toasts were honoured. The chief topic developed by the speakers was the desirability of improved technical and scientific education in the potting trade, and to this debate both Dr. Mellor, the county pottery instructor, and Mr. Bernard Moore, the well-known potter-chemist, made contributions. Dr. Mellor declared that investigations on proper lines could discover the cause of many of the troubles with which manufacturers now had to contend. It stood to reason, he went on to say, that a pottery school ought not to set to work to find out how one firm produced their china body, or another, their colour. That would not be fair. What they wanted to get at was the underlying principle by which a student would know how a particular result, or effect, was produced, how the proper constituents of the china body were balanced, and how they worked in the oven—they would then have all the grounding for starting investigations of their own. No manufacturer, said the speaker, could give support to a pottery school if he thought it would make public what he reasonably regarded as his own property, but there were many "secrets" which a manufacturer thought were his own property, which were not secrets at all, but were known quite generally. Dr. Mellor concluded with a plea for one central and important school of potting for the whole district in preference to a number of smaller scattered laboratories.—Mr. Bernard Moore made reference to the fact that Dr. Mellor had been offered a position of very much more importance than that which he held now, and added that the whole of the manufacturers ought to band themselves together to see whether Dr. Mellor could not be retained for the district. Referring to technical education, Mr. Moore said that many manufacturers seemed to think that a boy ought to go to a potting class and, after five or six months, come back with a lot of receipts which would enable him to make this or that colour or body, But this was a lot of nonsense. "What was needed was to train the students to observe, to use their brains, and nor merely to make pots." Reference was made by other speakers to the good trade of the past year, and to the question of "deductions" from workers' wages, Mr. H. J. Colclough stating that he had it on the best authority that the Home Office intended to stamp out deductions altogether. Personally he had no deductions whatever at his factory, and he believed it would only be a reasonable proceeding for manufacturers, as a body, to see if they could not adopt some scheme whereby deductions would be done away with. Mr. Elijah Brain, the genial president of the Association, reported that they had now a balance in hand of nearly £120, which encouraged them to work for the benefit of the trade.

Mr. John Rhodes, the manager of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's china and earthenware warehouse, at the Foley, Longton, has just completed 21 years' service, and the fact was duly recognised at the annual social gathering of the staff a few nights ago, when the employees presented him with a valuable 18 ct. gold albert and pendant. Mr. A. R. Reaney, the cashier, Mr. P. Bailey representing the office staff, and Mr. J. Edwards, on behalf of the warehouse employees, made speeches testifying to the good feeling entertained for them all by Mr. Rhodes; and the latter gentleman, in acknowledging the gift, said that he had always tried to make the lot of the employees as comfortable as possible. The conditions of their employment, he remarked, were second to none in the district; work was always assured, and no deductions were made for holidays or illness in any department. After the presentation a social evening was spent.——The Mayor of Burslem, Alderman S. Malkin, has given a subscription of twenty guineas towards the equipment of a stall representing Burslem, at a great charity bazaar on behalf of the cripple children of the Potteries, which the Duchess of Sutherland is arranging to hold at Trentham in July. The ex-Mayor, Ald. S. Gibson, has also contributed a similar sum.——Councillor Noah Parkes, one of the organisers of the Potters' Union, has been on a visit to Glasgow during the past month. Over 200 turners and jam jar makers there, who were locked-out, have been receiving strike pay from the Union.——The members of the National Amalgamated Society of Male and Female Pottery Workers have arranged to hold their first annual dinner on Feb. 4 at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Hanley.——A fire occurred at the Anchor Porcelain Company's works, Sutherland-rd., Longton, on Jan. 19, doing damage estimated at from £300 to £400. It is supposed to have been caused by an over-heated oven.——The late Mr. John Aynsley, J.P., of Longton, left estate valued at £27,610.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

THE general outcome of the little extra push occasioned by the Christmas and New Year celebrations proved to be in this quarter pretty much as had been expected. Purchases for presents were no doubt a good deal in evidence, and the total, so far as mere numbers go, was considerable; but all through quite the cheaper classes of goods were affected, so that the value fell very much below that of earlier occasions, for which better times, by the way, we have to go back now more years than we care to think of. It has been evident that the money available for such purchases as these—purchases that are not compulsory—has this year been smaller than ever. Since the somewhat indifferent preparation for the Christmas and New Year extra trade, the retail houses in glass, china, and crockery ware generally have been quiet indeed. January is hardly, with them, anything but a dull month, but this year the neglect of the retail counter has been rather more marked than usual.

Reports from the wholesale merchants, and from the makers, always furnish a more or less reliable index of what the retail distributors think of the chances of trade two or three months ahead, and on the present occasion these reports are the reverse of hopeful. Travellers on the road, during January, have experienced a continuance of the apathy which was a mark of the close of the year. Orders are difficult to get, and when got are found to have been restricted in scope very much more than is the case when trade is only ordinarily dull. For at present things are extraordinarily dull—a dulness that is felt in town and country alike. The deplorable cereal harvest no doubt accounts for much of the country dulness, while throughout the towns employment is at a very low ebb, with much suffering and destitution. Added to this is a crop of wage

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disturbances, so that the adverse pressure of the whole on an industry so sensitive as our own can be readily realised. A large number of the hands of the shipbuilding yards are idle and are earning no wages, because there is no work for them; and, what is almost incomprehensible, a number of the same hands are out on strike for more money than the masters can give them. There is also a stoppage of ironworkers in the Bo'ness district, and a strike over the slate quarries of Easdale. The great works of the Singer's Sewing Machine Co., near Glasgow, are down to little more than half time working, and many of the hands have been discharged altogether.

During the past month there has been no change—that is, no open change—in the marketing of any of the lines within our category, although there may have been some little extra cutting, done in secret. Orders are so difficult to secure, that the temptation to something of this kind is very great, and it is not always withstood. Although times are so very slack for our industries, that has not hindered the outbreak of a sort of strike. At the time of writing it is no great affair, but of course there is always the chance of a little flame growing into a big fire. Part of the hands of one pottery (stoneware, teapots, &c.) in the vicinity of Glasgow have come out on a question of piecework wages, the men's contention practically amounting to this, that they stick out for a rate higher than that paid by the rest of the Scottish potteries. It is to be hoped that they will speedily come to see that the present is the very worst time for the prospects of a contention of the sort, and will return to work.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, ONTARIO.

BRITISH manufacturers of pottery may doubt the assertion, but there are upwards of twenty thousand retail dealers in Canada handling more or less china and earthenware. During the year one hundred and thirty-seven new crockery stores or crockery departments in stores already established were opened. Most of these have been opened in New Ontario and the North-West, but several important china stores have been established during the same period in some of the larger Eastern cities. There is evidence that some of the British manufacturers are awake to the situation; but they will be compelled to adopt altogether different methods if they secure their legitimate share of the trade that is to be. It is not enough for them to be represented in Canada by a New York importer. The latter, as a rule, has had no desire to cultivate the Canadian market. His anxiety to add the word "Canada" to his contract is merely to exalt himself in the eyes of those Canadian merchants who travel to New York annually to look over the markets. Latterly, however, there has been a marked change in this respect. The United States importers and manufacturers are beginning to bid strongly for some of the increasing crockery and glassware trade, and, in the case of the latter, are taking into their employ some of the keenest and some of the most successful available commercial travellers. They want the best salesmen, and they are offering seductive salaries to the right individuals. A thousand pounds and expenses recently took a Canadian traveller of high reputation from his firm, and I know of half a dozen travellers who are negotiating with American manufacturers. The china and crockery field is being covered, thus far, by the brightest of the New York salesmen. They only work the large cities, as a rule, but they have been having such good success that another season will see them here in large numbers. One of them went over the ground close upon the heels of the Canadian travellers, making the final trip of the season, and surprised himself with the considerable amount of business that he booked for spring delivery. This goes to show that Canada is prepared to buy higher-priced goods than the Canadian importers and agents are offering. He carried a very fine line of Russian and other European china, ware, and he satisfied himself that in older Canada there is an uncultivated field for the highest grades of wares.

British goods are not featured here as they should be. The Canadian importer or agent carries a line of samples which might have been chosen for New York or Boston, or any large American city. There is not an exclusively British import salesroom in Canada, where there should be a score. But there is hope. Some of the British manufacturers are alive to the situation. During December there were two notable visitors to Toronto, in the persons of J. J. Hancock, of S. Hancock & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; and Colley A. Shorter, of A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Burslem. Both of these gentlemen announced that they were here for the one purpose of studying conditions in the crockery trade, and their visit cannot but open their eyes to the vast potentialities of the Canadian market. Unfortunately, the surplus of immigrants has clogged the Government machinery to such an extent that hundreds of Englishmen are walking the streets, footsore and hungry and half-frozen, but this condition will probably be modified by the early spring; and when these get settled in new and old communities they will create a new demand for English ware if it is available. I have not been able to find a potter among the thousands who have been shipped in here by unwise Salvationists and unscrupulous or overzealous emigration and steamship agents. Canada does not want the class of men and women that is being sent here. They are mostly city-bred, and Canadian cities are unable to provide work for their own unemployed. It is a steady-going, industrious rural class that is needed here, and only that class will succeed. Those here cannot, nor do they try, to adapt themselves to Canadian rural conditions. They go into the country for a week or so and return to the city to join the army of shiftless, workless, helpless, half-starved creatures that no one knows what will happen to them before spring. Of those, however, who are not afraid of work, and who have enough means to get started on a small farm, Canada cannot have too many. And there is happiness and prosperity and contentment for each one of them. That is the class that will promote the anglicization of Canada, and the popularity of British-made goods and wares of every description.

There are no potteries in Canada to attract potters from Staffordshire, as yet. There may be some day. It is claimed that in the vast rocky areas of New Ontario beds of the finest kaolin have been discovered, and verification of this claim appears to have been established by the application of a man, whose reputation is vouched for, but whose name is withheld, by the Ontario Minister of Mines, for information concerning the feasibility of importing Japanese potters in the event of the establishment of a pottery in this province. He intimated that it was his purpose to erect a large manufactory in the vicinity of Sudbury, providing the deposits of clay and kaolin, which he would carry to France for testing, proved to be as fine as he conceived them to be. A recently issued official report on the clays of Manitoba states that "some of the richer fusible clays mixed with the Pierre shales are suitable for terra cotta fireproofing material, for which there is a considerable demand. Some of the richer clays will make satisfactory chimney blocks, and experiments are being made in still finer lines of clay manufacture. When the demand for ornamental floor, wall, chimney and roofing tile increases it may prove profitable to manufacture glazed and encaustic tiles from the Pierre

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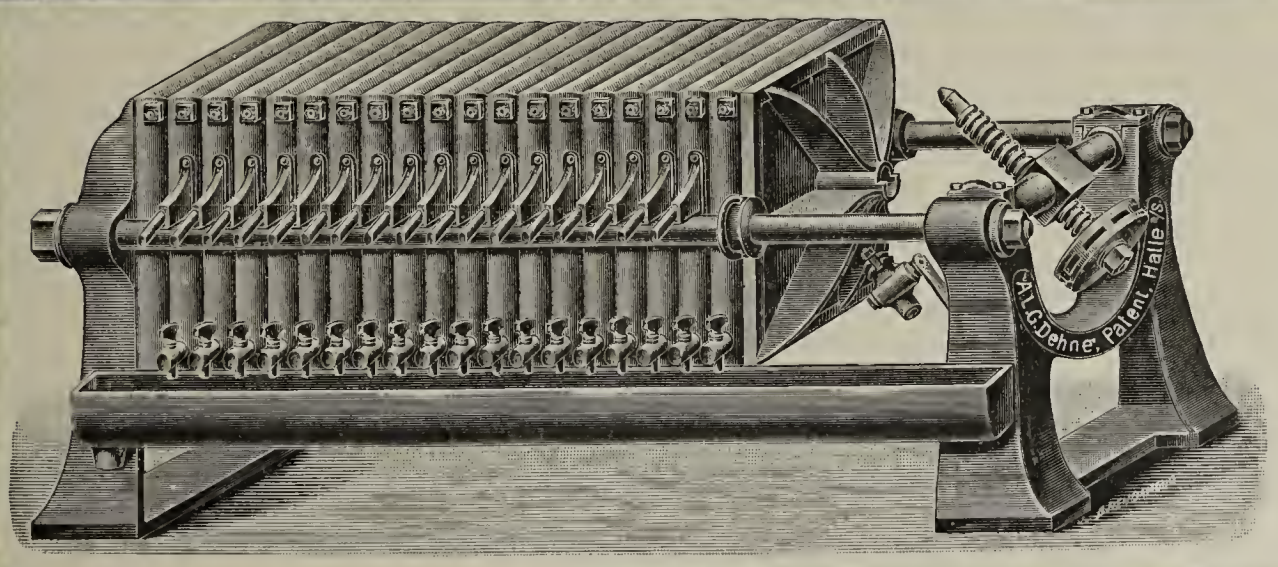
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shales mixed with suitable clay. Coarse, unglazed products, such as flower pots, vases, &c., are now made at a pottery in East Selkirk, Manitoba, from local clay. Salt glazed pottery, such as stoneware jugs, are also made from a mixture of the local clay with Moose Jaw fireclay.'' These are but the beginnings. It is surely within the bounds of probability that in all the marvellous mineral areas of Canada there are deposits of all the various grades of clay and kaolin. It is equally certain that Canada will not long be permitted to depend upon all of the outside world for pottery which can be manufactured more cheaply at home. United States potters are denied the Canadian market by the high tariff. There are 130 branch factories of United States concerns now in operation in Canada, using American patterns and material and evading the duties. Upwards of 300 potteries in the United States are engaged in the manufacture of more or less fine ware. When their supply is equal to the American demand they will turn to Canada for an enlarged field, unless the field is preempted. Perhaps then there will be work here for English potters, but not now.

AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, December 10.

THE new tariff proposals which have been before Parliament for final consideration are now nearly all definitely fixed, and the following items of interest to your readers have been decided upon :—Portland cement, plaster of Paris, and other like preparations having magnesia or sulphate of lime as a basis, also gypsum, general tariff, 1s. per cwt. ; preferential to the United Kingdom, 9d. China, parian, and porcelain ware, ad valorem, 25 per cent., general ; preferential, 20 per cent. Scientific apparatus, porcelain, viz., crucibles, tubes, pressure filters, and evaporating dishes for laboratory use, free. Earthenware, brownware, and stoneware, n.e.i., general, 25 per cent. ; preferential, 20 per cent. Roofing tiles, flooring tiles, and Mosaic flooring and tiles, n.e.i., of all materials, ad valorem, 20 per cent. Asphalte, mastic, ad val., 15 per cent. Earthenware, viz., spurs, stilts, and thimbles, free. Fire and glazed bricks, fire lamps, fibre-cement, fire-clay manufactures, n.e.i., and asphalt tiles, ad val., 15 per cent. Roasting dishes, assay furnaces, crucibles, scorifiers and muffles, free. Slate slabs, sdlit and with rough edges, ad val., 15 per cent. Slate slabs, sawn or chiselled on one or more faces or edges, ad val., 20 per cent. Wrought slate, n.e.i., ad val., 30 per cent. Prepared glazes for pottery, general 5 per cent. ; preferential, free. Roofing slate, general, 35 per cent. ; preferential, 20 per cent. Bath bricks, free. Oil and whet stones, lithographic and emery stones, free. Pestles and mortars, agate, free. Stone, viz., in the rough, n.e.i., free.

Our Federal Customs authorities have just received intimation that the whole of the quarry owners in North Wales have petitioned Mr. Lloyd-George, President British Board of Trade, asking him to make representations to our Government on their behalf in protest against the proposal in the new Australian tariff to increase the duty on roofing tiles. As will be seen from the above table, this duty has now been finally determined upon, and will not be altered in any way.

During last week a matter came before the Victorian Legislative Assembly,wherein it was shown that the tiles required for a large new provincial railway station in that State were to be imported from Marseilles, althoughi t was stipulated in the contract for the building that locally-manufactured tiles would be used. When the contractor endeavoured to give effect to this condition, he found that there was only one make of Australian tile available in Melbourne which could be accepted for the purpose. These he found would cost 10s. per 1,000 more than the best Marseilles make, nevertheless, despite this fact, the manufacturer was informed that his tiles would be accepted. As 7,000 were required the acceptance meant an additional £3 10s. Then the local manufacturer refused to sell his tiles unless he were allowed to fix them himself upon the building, meaning, together with the increased cost of the tiles, a further expense from the original £3 10s. to £16. The Railway department objected to such a manifestly unfair stipulation, and ordered Marseilles tiles of the best quality. In a special report to the House, the Department justified its action and silenced the critics, asserting that if they were compelled to accept such conditions from local manufacturers the position would become intolerable.

Serious attention is being directed to the long-known abundance of deposits in Australia of the materials for making general pottery. Materials for producing porcelain and chinaware exist in plentitude in New South Wales particularly, while the calcic phosphate can be easily obtained in the same State. Local manufacturers are watching keenly the experiments now being conducted in England by some of your leading potters to prove the possibility of "producer gas firing" in pottery work. They recognise that if the experiments are successful the adoption of the method in Australia would accelerate the successful production of all kinds of pottery, while the industry would be less liable to the uncertainties arising from fluctuating conditions of the coal markets. The appearance in a section of the Victorian press of an interesting article by Sir John Quick, who acted as chairman of the recent Tariff Commission, entitled "The Tariff Commission and Its Work,'' allusion is made to the various kinds of pottery now being produced in the various States, and the writer says that "experiments have been made in the direction of chinaware at a Sydney pottery, but up to the present very little has been done in that direction.'' The experiments referred to in the article in question were conducted primarily for the purpose of demonstrating the possibility of producing chinaware, partly from the china stone deposits found on Kangaroo Island, South Australia, and kaolin mined in Victoria. It has been claimed for these experiments that they are completely successful.

The Gazette.

Dissolution of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

CARDER C. & SONS (Caleb Carder, Albert Henry Carder, and Arthur Edward Carder), Brockmoor, Bristol, stoneware manufacturers. Dec. 13. Debts by A. H. and A. E. Carder, who continue. (Dec. 17.)

DAVIES COUSINS (Wm. Gronow Davies and Howell Davies), Porth, hotel and house furnishers and china and glass merchants. Dec. 6. Debts by W. G. Davies, who continues. (Dec. 31.)

HALLEN HENRY (Harry Robinson Hallen and Geo. Wade), Burslem, earthenware manufacturers. Dec. 26. Debts by G. Wade. (Jan. 17.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

BLACK HILL BRICK & TERRA COTTA CO., LTD. Resolved Dec. 14 :—That the company be wound up. A. Pilling, 23, Acresfield, Bolton, C.A., liqr.

FREDERICK CHINA CLAY CO., LTD. Resolved Dec. 31, confirmed Jan. 16 :—That the company be wound up. J. E. Archer, Narrowgate-house, Alnwick, liqr.

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Notice of Intended Dividend.

BERRY LEO H., 5, Nott-sq., Carmarthen, glass dealer. Claims to T. Thomas, Carmarthen, O.R.

Notice of Release of Trustee.

HUMBERSTONE JNO., trading as Jno. Humberstone & Sons, 59, Church-st., Edgware-rd., late 254, High-rd., Willesden Green, glass dealer. Tr., G. W. Chapman, Bankruptcy Court O.R.

Notice.

LEITCH JOHN, 100 and 102, Queensberry-st., Dumfries. The glass, china, and general business sometime carried on by said late J. Leitch, and latterly by R. Rogerson, as judicial factor, having been disposed of, as at Nov. 28, all parties having claims are requested to render a statement to said R. Rogerson by Jan. 8. (Dec. 31.)

Estate Sequestrated.

WILSON ALEX., trading as Alex. Wilson & Co., 28, Berkeley-ter., Glasgow, mosaic and encaustic tile layers. Dec. 30.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is necessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

BEVERLEY Mrs. C. (Jane Beverley, widow, trading as above), china and toy dealer, Bondgate Within, Alnwick. The following are creditors :—Stephen Erhard, London, £29; Redpath & Co., Kelso, £8; Thomas Walters, Longton, £11; J. Duncan Hodgson, Newcastle, £8; J. Wood & Co., Newcastle, £7; Hugh Lindsay, Newcastle, £5; M. King & Co., North Shields, £7; Thornaby Pottery Co., Thornaby-on-Tees, £5.

ROBERTS WM., 23 and 41, High Park-street, Nechells, Birmingham, glass bottle manufacturer. Dated Jan. 3. Filed Jan. 10. Liabilities unsecured, £500. Property, after deducting secured claims, £40. Tr., H. B. Wright, 39, Corporation-st., Birmingham. The following are creditors :—Laurence Miller, Birmingham, £233; J. Gothard & Co., Birmingham, £45; Tussell & Drury, Birmingham, £35; S. Pennell, Birmingham, £20; — Parkins, Birmingham, £22; Excelsior Money Society, Birmingham, £48; Borough Loan Office, Birmingham, £24.

STOCK JOHN, Tudor-st. and Tudor-house, Shaw, wholesale china, glass, &c., merchant. Dated Dec. 16. Filed Dec. 19. Liabilities unsecured, £626. Property, after deducting secured claims, £77. Secured creditors, £1,512. Tr., S. Wall, 14, Greaves-st., Oldham. The following are creditors :—De Grelle, Hondrat & Co., London, £21; E. Enderlein, London, £11, Kosta Glass Works, London, £15; United States Glass Co., London, £10; J. Wuidart & Co., London, £25; Brown & Stevenson, Burslem, £20; Gibson & Sons, Ltd., Burslem, £17; A. J. Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., Burslem, £15; W. Gill & Sons, Castleford, £16; T. G. Green & Co., Church Gresley, £29; Mary Clegg, Dewsbury, £20; Poulson Bros., Ferrybridge, £38; Barker Bros., Longton, £19; W. Lowe, Longton, £45; R. Sankey & Sons, Nottingham, £22; Oldham Church Schools Building Co., Ltd., Oldham, £1,039; Hannah Thomas, Royton, £625; Empire Porcelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £17; T. Rathbone, Tunstall, £14; taxes, £10.

STOKES AMBROSE, 417, Old Ford-rd., Bow, E., and 56, Mount Pleasant-rd., Tottenham, glass bottle manufacturer. Dated Jan. 16. Filed Jan. 17. Liabilities unsecured, £226. Property, after deducting secured claims, £98. Tr., O. Berry, Monument-house, Monument-sq., E.C. The following are creditors :—J. Anderson & Son, London, £7; J. T. Beal, London, £38; Charrington, Sells, Dale & Co., Ltd., London, £7; Eclipse Glass, Ltd., London, £3; Dr. Ewen, London, £60; Higginbotham & Co., London, £15; Knowles & Co., London, £11; Hay & Son & Co., London, £8; H. Pitt, London, £12; L. Summerfield, London, £9; C. Tucker & Co., London, £16; Warren & Co., Ltd., London, £5; R. Brimmer, Manchester, £19.

TUCKER AMY ANNIE (wife of Joseph Peter Tucker) and AMY AGNES TUCKER (spinster), trading as Tucker's Domestic Bazaar, 54, High-st., Ventnor (I. of W.), china and glass dealers. Dated Jan. 3. Filed Jan. 7. Liabilities unsecured, £55. Property, after deducting secured claims, £15. Tr., W. C. Black, 147, High-st., Newport (I. of W.). The following are creditors :—Faudels, Ltd., London, £27; Anglo-Belge Glass Association, Ltd., London, £4; Lang, Jonas & Co., London, £4; J. Palmer, Portsmouth, £6; A. E. Rood & Co., Southampton, £3.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BERRY LEO HENRY, glass and china dealer, 5, Nott-sq. Carmarthen. Mr. Registrar Parkinson held a sitting the Guildhall, Carmarthen, on Jan. 8, for this debtor's public examination, the deficiency being £298 odd. transpired that the debtor started business in Carmarthen in 1897 with £40 capital. Last Nov. he offered his creditors 5s. in the £, but they declined this offer. He had not kept a cash book or any record of his takings, but he estimated that his turnover had averaged about £750 a year. A balance sheet, prepared at the beginning of 1905, showed assets £216 with liabilities £175. His wife claimed the greater part of the furniture. In reply to the Registrar, the debtor said that his profit was at the rate of 20 per cent. The failure was ascribed to ill-health, inability to attend markets since June, 1906, and loss through damage to stock by a stampede of cattle at Newcastle Emlyn Fair last year. Eventually the examination was closed, subject to the signing of notes.

DASH WM. and JANE CLARKE, trading as Clarke & Dash, 66, Cheltenham-st., Swindon, china and glass dealers. R.O., Jan. 11. Adj., Jan. 11. Exam., C.C. Swindon, Feb. 19 at 2.30.

FARMER GEORGE EDWARD, glass, china and genele dealer, 26, Church-st., Wath-upon-Dearne, Yorks. Th; following are creditors :—Barker Bros., Ltd., Longton, £21; Barratt & Co., Burslem, £23; Jas. A. Brier, Dewsbury, £19, Brown & Steventon, Burslem, £18; Eyre & Sons, Ltd., Shefficld, £16; Miss Sarah Farmer, Wath-upon-Dearne. £79; Fowler & Co., Wath-upon-Dearne, £10; R. W Howlden, Barnsley, £10; Hy. Hulme & Sons, Burslem, £31; A. G. Harley Jones, Fenton, £13; Alfred Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, £14; Stenton & Price, Sheffield, £45; C. Phillips & Son, Castleford, £10; Wildblood, Heath & Co., Longton, £27; Saml. Gray, Birmingham, £17.

GREEN HENRY, pot and brick manufacturer, Strensall, York. Mr. Registrar Perkins held a sitting for the public examination of this debtor last month at the Courts of Justice, York, when the statement of affairs showed liabilities amounting to £675 5s. 2d., with assets £1,223 2s. 7d. It transpired that the debtor started business some forty years ago. The brick-making trade had been fairly good until about six years ago, when a new yard was opened near. Questioned by the Official Receiver, the debtor said he had never made out a balance sheet. After the debtor had been questioned at some length with regard to some furniture and a piano which had been removed, the case was adjourned for formal closing.

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Applying the Colours on Earthenware.—Applying Colours with Stencils—Rubber Stamp—Sand Blast—Application of Colours by Transfers—The Original Plates for Transfer Printing—Transfer Printing from Steel or Copper Plates—Printing of Transfer Paper—Transferring the Design—Transfers from Lithographic Plates—Colour Printing—Aluminium Printing (Algraphy)—Decorating Porcelain by Photography (Photo-Ceramics).

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glass dealer. R.O., Dec. 30. Adj., Dec. 30. Exam., Guildhall, Canterbury, Feb. 13 at 10.

HUNT MILLS & Co. (Henry Hunt Mills, trading as), 138, 140, and 142, Holland Park-rd., W., china and glass dealers. This debtor attended at the London Bankruptcy Court, on Jan. 24, for his adjourned examination before Mr. Registrar Brougham, upon a statement of affairs disclosing liabilities £47,353 5s., of which £7,329 2s. 3d. were returned as expected to rank for dividend, and estimated net assets £7,103 14s. 7d. In reply to Mr. G. W. Chapman, who attended as Official Receiver, the debtor stated that he began business in 1869 at 10, Morland-ter., Uxbridge-rd., W. In 1881 he was joined in partnership by two other persons, and he gradually retired from the firm, withdrawing his capital at the same time. By 1888 his connection with the business had ceased. He subsequently carried on business as an estate agent at Southsea, where he acquired a great number of houses. He also became interested in house property at Southampton, and from 1892 until 1906 was engaged as manager and secretary of certain steamship companies. His income used regularly to amount to a clear £1,100 per annum, and that happy state of affairs existed until 1904, when his receipts began to decline. In March, 1905, he purchased from his former partners his old business; the freehold of the premises was already his, and the firm held them on a lease, and traded under the old style of Hunt, Mills & Co., which he had adopted at the outset. He agreed to pay £850 for the goodwill and fixtures of the business, but of that amount £200 remained unpaid, and to give a further £1,200 for the stock. He did not value the stock personally, and no balance-sheet was produced showing the financial position of the business. He had now reason to believe that the trading was then resulting in a loss; the rent was rather high, but he hoped, as he was the owner of the premises, to save a great portion of the expenses. There were several departments in the business, and until Christmas, 1906, they were, with the exception of the drapery department, very successful; they, however, had since fallen off, owing, he maintained, to bad management. The debtor said that his failure was chiefly due to bad trade during last summer, over buying by managers, and want of capital. He had recently lost a lot of money in consequence of his house property being unlet; and since March, 1905, the profit from that source had, if any, been very small. It had certainly been insufficient to meet the outgoings. Examined upon his deficiency account the debtor stated that the items contained in it were estimates based upon the payments. The loss in carrying on business, namely £800, was not a pure guess, and in fact the trustee said that the figure was something like that. Asked to explain an item of £400, representing loss on stock taken over, the debtor said that in the first place the stock was sold to him at an inflated figure, and then it had since been sold at 50 per cent. off. He found that it was old and unsaleable as soon as he got possession of it. He had taken over the stock on the valuation of the vendor, and he now admitted that that had been a very unwise thing on his part. The examination was ordered to be concluded.

PHILLIPS MARY JANE, china dealer, 35, Bridge-st., Haverfordwest. Mr. Registrar Owen held a sitting recently at the Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock, for this debtor's public examination. The deficiency was put down at £184 odd, and was ascribed by the debtor to bad trade and keen competition. She said that she carried on business separately but on the same premises as her husband, and she estimated her takings at £2 a week; but there was only one bank account, and that was kept in her husband's name. All the money was kept in one till. Her husband's creditors had accepted a composition, which had now been paid, but the debtor would not admit that her money had been used for this purpose. The furniture was her husband's. The Official Receiver said that when a husband was bankrupt the wife always claimed the furniture; now the wife came to the Court and the husband claimed the furniture. Mr. W. J. Jones, of Haverfordwest, appeared on behalf of the debtor, who was allowed to pass her examination.

SAVAGE JOSEPH EDMUND, 57, Devon-st., St. Helens, glass and china dealer. R.O., Jan. 9. Adj., Jan. 9. Exam., C.C. Liverpool, Feb. 3 at 11.

SAVAGE WM. FREDK., 166, Boundary-rd., St. Helens, glass and china dealer. R.O., Dec. 23. Adj., Dec. 31.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" by Messrs. G. F. REDFERN & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

BOTTLE MOUTH, No. 27,640.—R. Thomson. Improved bottle mouth and turn plug therefor. Dec. 14, 1907.

CLEANING CLAY, No. 27,626.—M. Bohn. Improvements in or relating to machines for cleaning and sorting clay or the like. Dec. 14, 1907.

CONTINUOUS KILNS, No. 27,217.—W. S. Akerman. Improvements in continuous kilns. Dec. 9, 1907.

EARTHENWARE PIPES, No. 27,345.—J. Bigwood and T. C. Bigwood, trading as Joshua Bigwood & Sons. Improvements in stretching machines. Dec. 11, 1907.

FEEDING BOTTLES, No. 27,943.—T. S. Gee. Improvements in and relating to feeding-bottles. December 18, 1907.

FIRE-PROOF STOVE LINING, No. 28,055.—F. O. Werther. Improvements in fireproof lining for stoves or furnaces. Dec. 19, 1907.

FIRING BRICKS, No. 28,678.—J. H. Noble. Method of firing bricks, tiles and other clay goods and enamelled ware and an apparatus required therein. Dec. 31, 1907.

GAS KILN, No. 27,501.—J. B. Payne. New or improved gas kiln, for firing and bending large plates of glass, firing china, and all kinds of enamels and ceramic ware; also applicable to other purposes. Dec. 13, 1907.

GLASS-MELTING FURNACES, No. 27,714.—O. Andris. Improvements in glass-melting furnaces. Dec. 16, 1907.

HOT-WATER BOTTLES, No. 27,993.—A. E. Hayman and G. R. Foulston. Improvements in hot-water bottles. Dec. 19, 1907.

INKSTANDS, No. 27,629.—R. Fromme. Improvements in, and relating to, inkstands. Dec. 14, 1907.

KILNS, No. 97.—J. H. Thwaites and G. H. Cranford. Improvements in kilns. Jan. 2, 1907.

LAMP CHIMNEYS, No. 94.—T. Broadbent and E. D. Peters. Improvements in lamp chimneys or similar articles subjected to varying temperatures. Jan. 1, 1908.

MEDICINE BOTTLES, No. 27,829.—H. von Bacyer. Improvements in medicine bottles. Dec. 17, 1908.

ROTARY KILNS, No. 27,515.—J. H. Thawites. Improvements in rotary kilns. Dec. 13, 1907.

SCREW-PRESS, No. 27,732.—A. Lob. Improved screw-press for ceramic goods, artificial stone, briquettes, and the like. Dec. 16, 1907.

SLOP PAIL, No. 28,383.—T. Hawkins. New or improved chamber pot or slop pail. Dec. 24, 1907.

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29,531.—Hancock. Construction of ceramic glass, porcelain, stoneware, cement, terra-cotta, and other articles.

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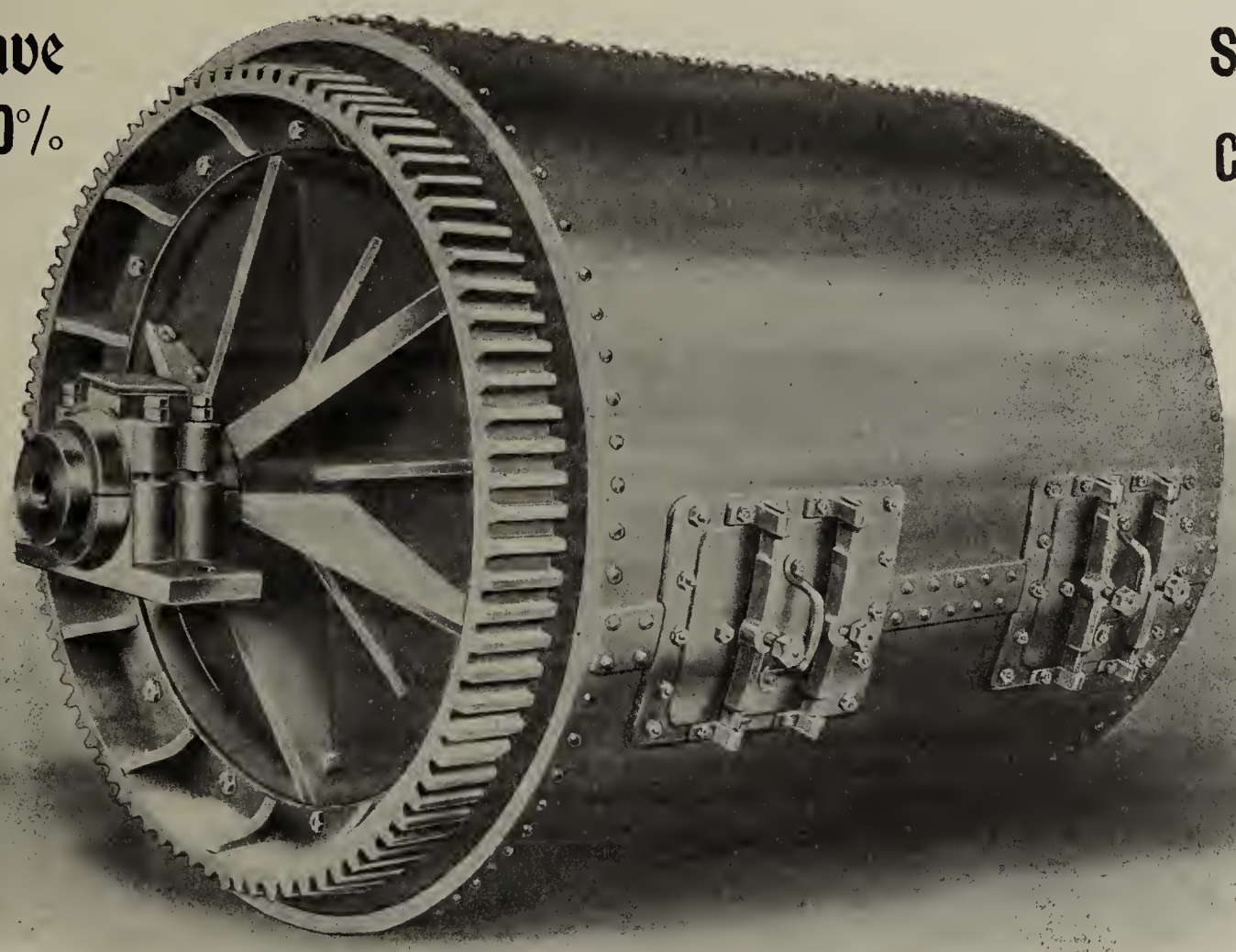
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28,607.—Lake (Heyl & Patterson). Apparatus for conveying glassware to leers.
28,297.—Alfred Meakin, Ltd., and Jackson. Kilns for firing or drying ceramic and similar wares.
28,591.—Findeisen. Process for the manufacture of plastic compositions. (Date applied for under International Convention, Dec. 16, 1905.)
29,003.—Puhl and Wagner. Ornamental glass.

1907.

4,601.—Schleich. Fire-grate for pottery kilns and the like.
5,765.—Dirks. Machine for pulverising clay and separating stones therefrom.
21,049.—Pendleton & Pendleton. Plates, dishes, or saucers.
4,491.—Morgan. Metal cover or cap for jars, bottles, basins, and other similar vessels.
5,118.—Pilkington. Manufacture of ornamented or figured glass sheets or plates.
641.—Lomax. Method of making good defective or leaking joints in sanitary and other pipes.
1,124.—Oates. Construction of chimney pot or ventilator.
4,933.—Butcher. Soap dishes.

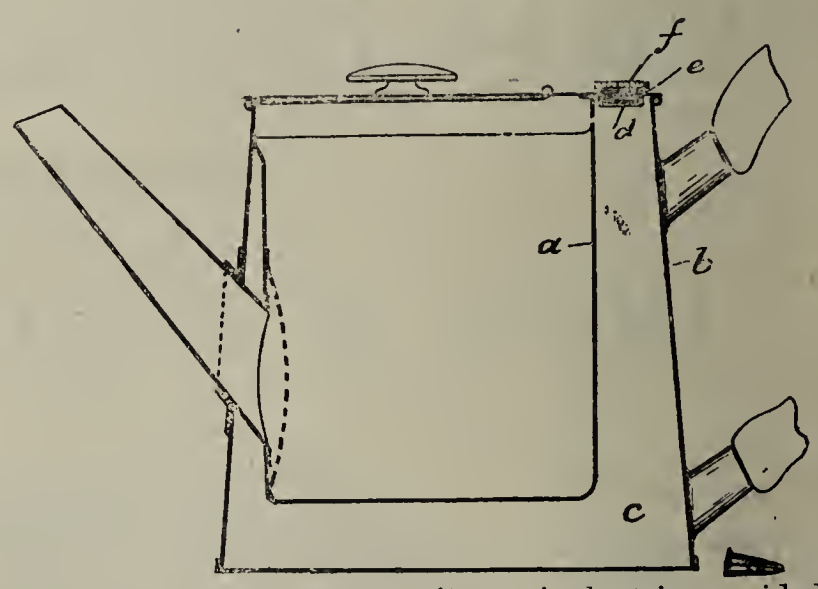
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Improvements in Tea and Coffee Pots, &c.—C. E. Burton, 32, Glebe-road, Bromley, declares this invention to be as follows:—According to this invention, a tea, coffee, or milk pot, urn, mug, jar, or the like, is jacketed or furnished with one or more compartments of any preferred form, and arranged in any convenient manner, while an inlet aperture

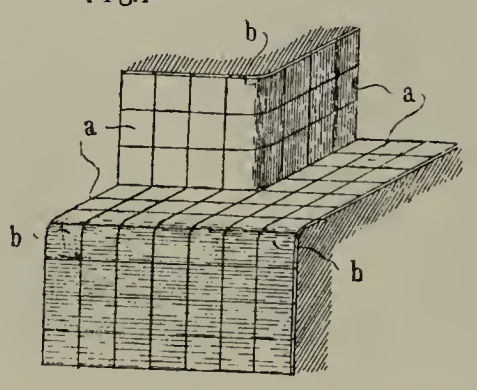
Fig. 1.



furnished with a screw-cap or its equivalent is provided in such jacket, or in each such compartment, to allow of its being filled with any suitable heating or cooling medium, such, for instance, as hot or cold water, in order to keep the contents of the vessel in either a warm or cool condition as desired. Or the vessel may be fitted with a fixed or removable liner so as to form a heating or cooling chamber according to the nature of the medium introduced therein as mentioned above.

Improvements in the Manufacture of Glass Tiles.—A. J. Boult, 111 and 112, Hatton-garden, E.C., declares this invention (a communication from the Firm Vereinigte Zwieseler und Pirnaer Farbenglaswerke Ag., of Munich, Bavaria, Germany) to be as follows:—(1) A process for manufacturing glass tiles, characterised by the same being cut out from a cast glass plate which is rolled to the thickness of the tiles, the tiles being ground at the edges, while the front surface remains as it comes from the casting table without any subsequent treatment. (2) A construction of the tiles manufactured according to the process claimed in Claim 1, characterised by the tile being bent at an angle parallel to the edge. (3) A construction of the tile manufactured according to the process claimed in Claim 1, characterised by the back surface being provided with rough portions of a granite or similar pattern. (4) A construction of the tile manufactured according to the process claimed in Claim 1, characterised by the back surface being provided with a layer of sand or some other earthy substance. (5) A construction of the tile manufactured according to the process claimed in Claim 1, characterised by the back surface being roughened by a sand blast apparatus or in other suitable manner. (6) A construction of the tile manufactured according to the process claimed in Claim 1, characterised by a wire netting or fabric partly embedded in the back surface and partly projecting outside. (7) A construction of the tile manufactured in Claim 1 characterised by an anchor part secured to the back surface.

Fig. 1



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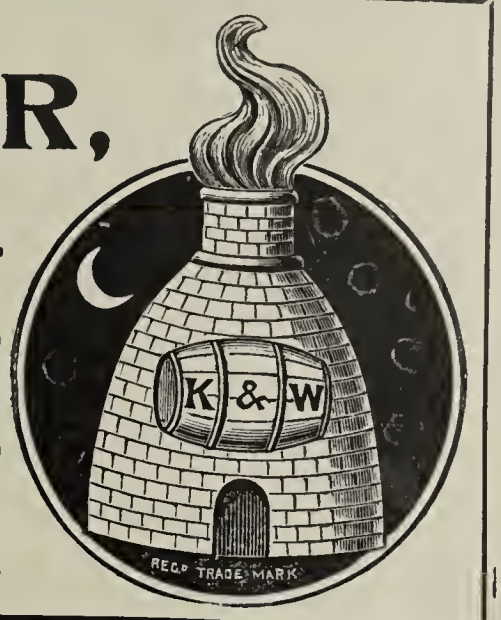
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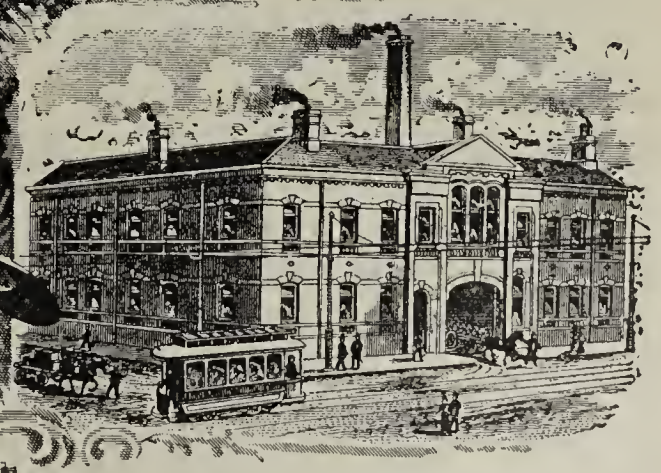


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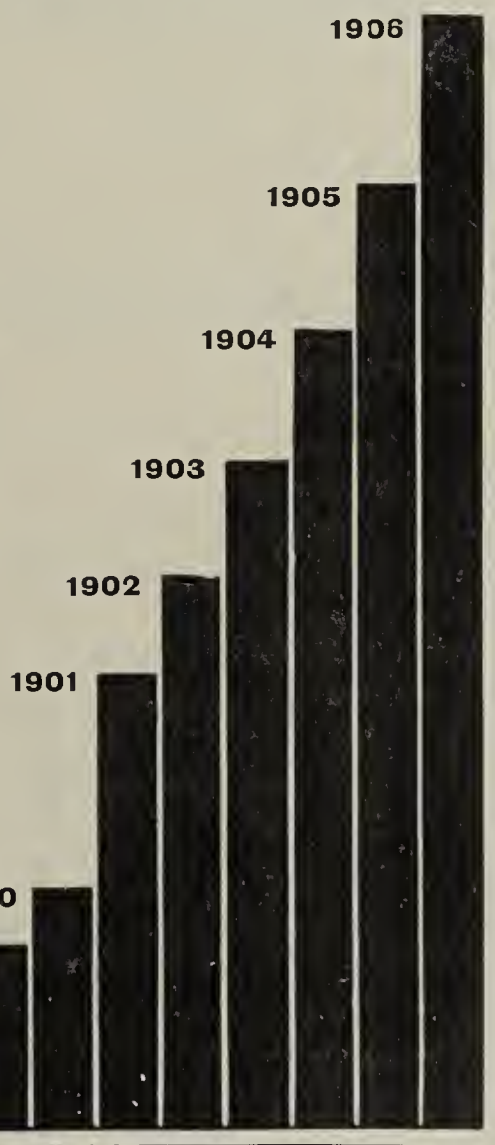
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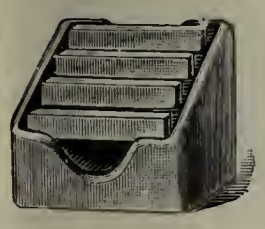
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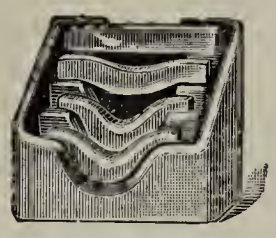
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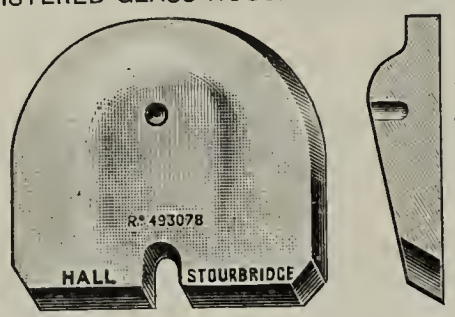
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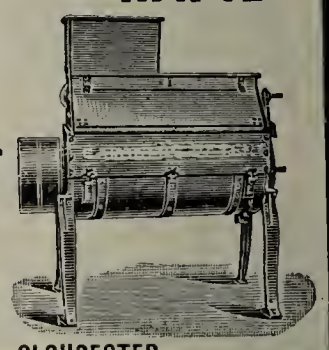
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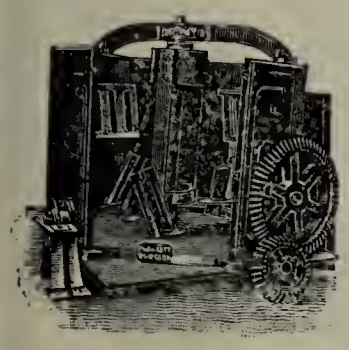
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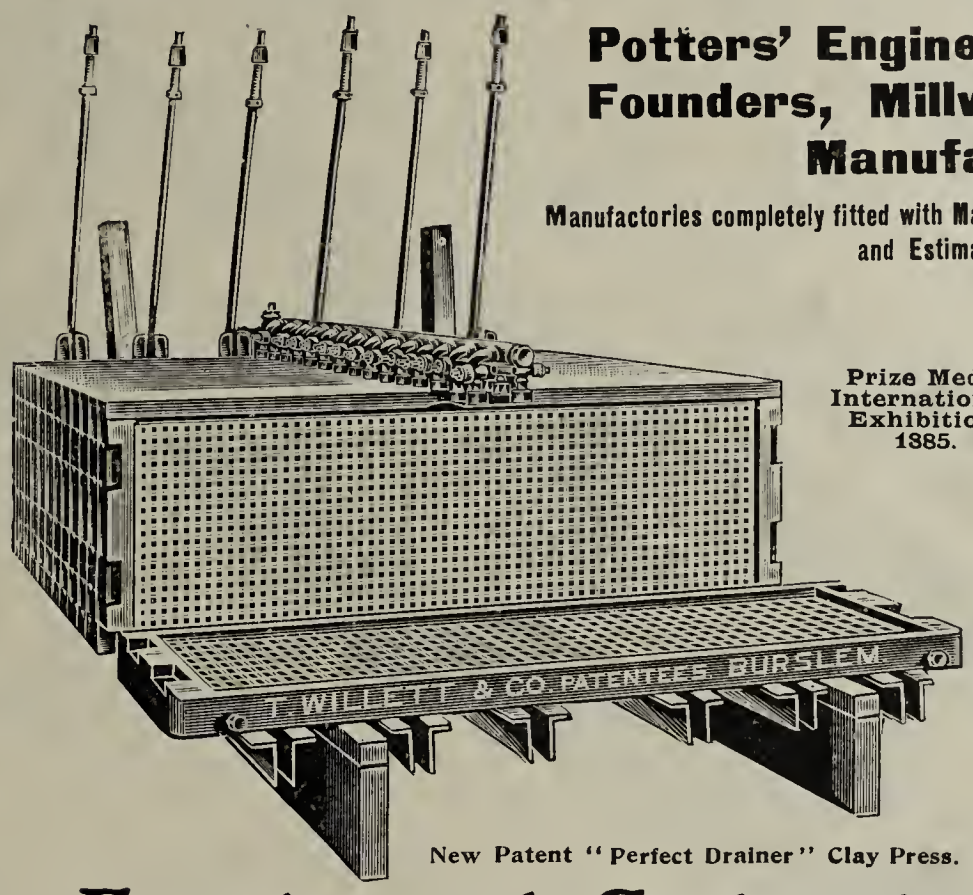
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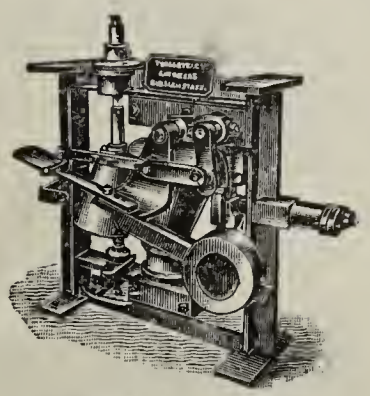


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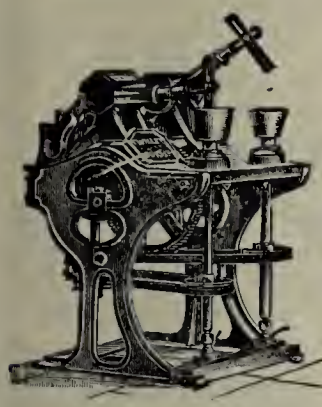
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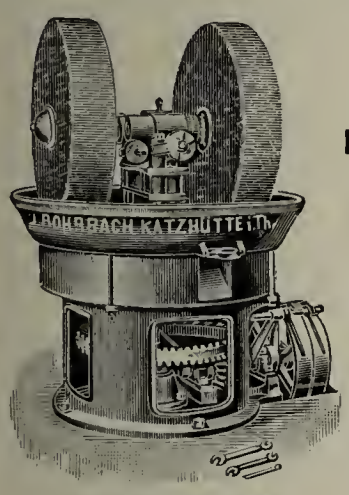
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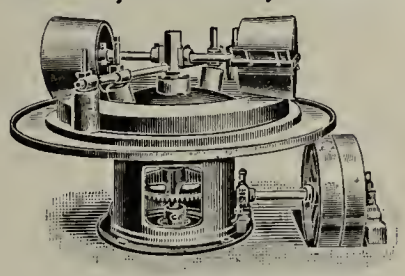
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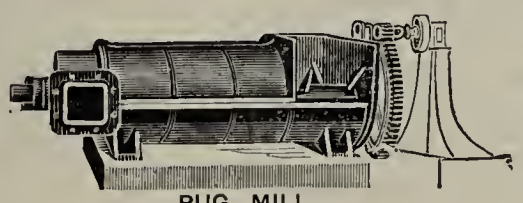


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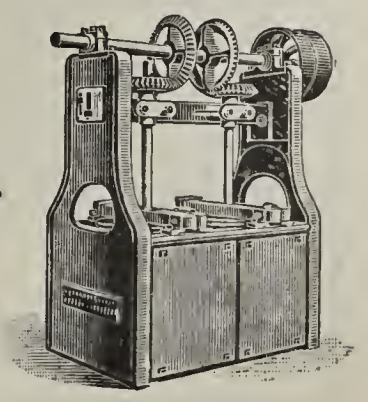
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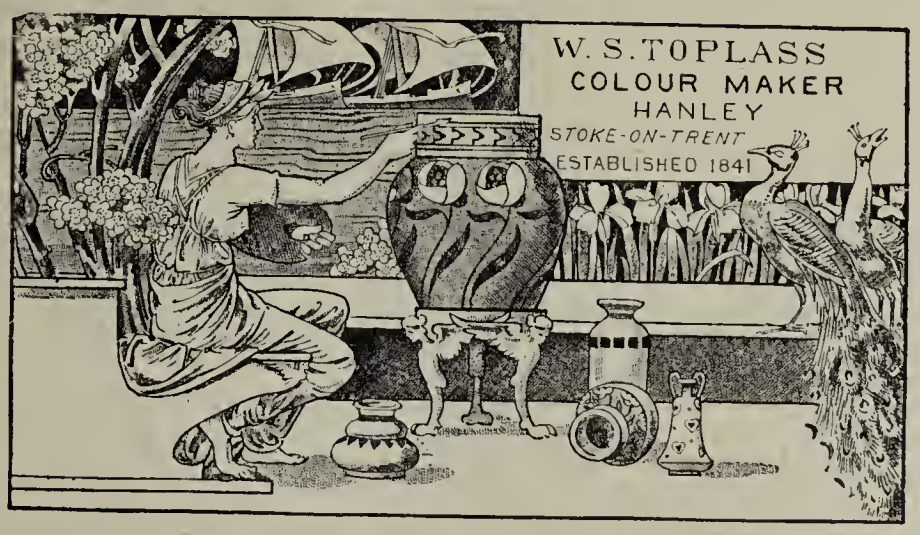
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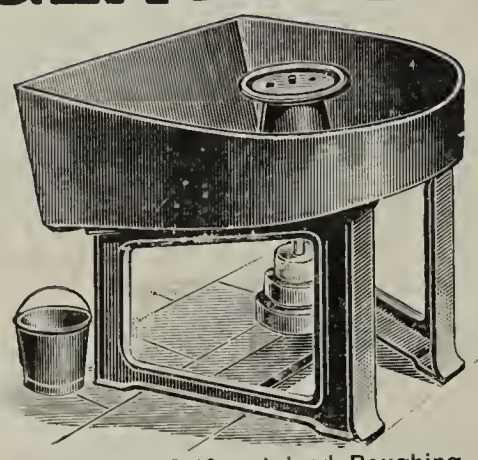
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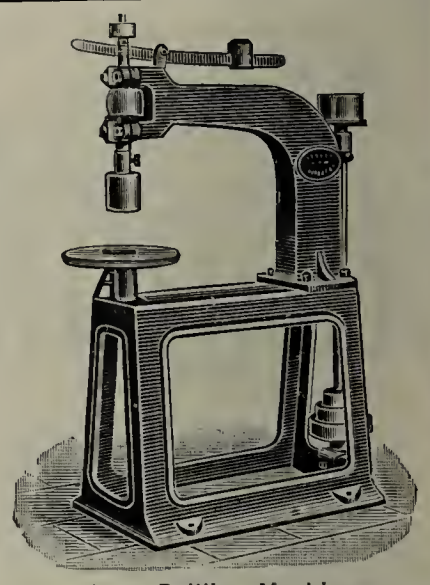
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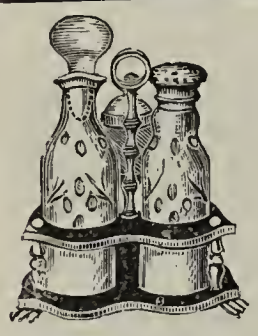
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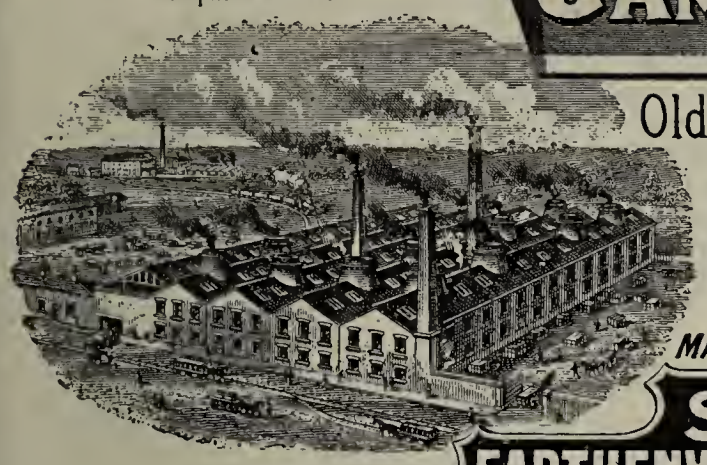
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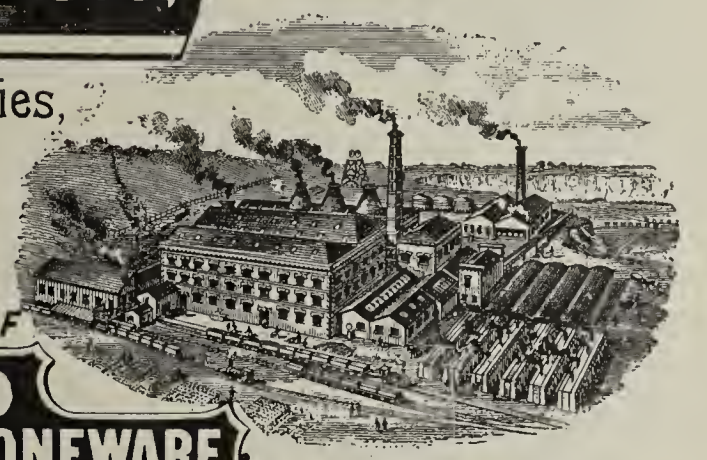


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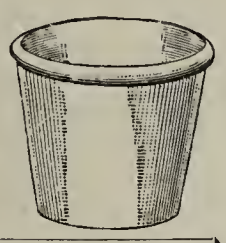
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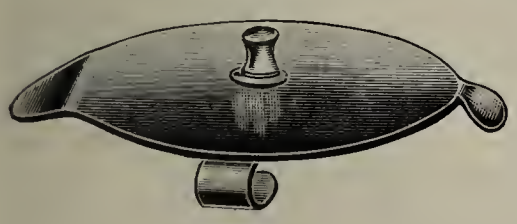
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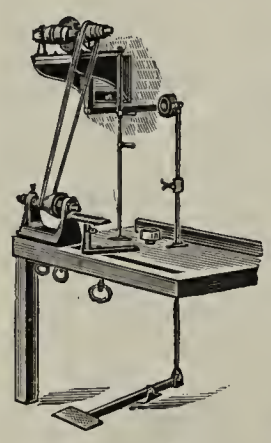
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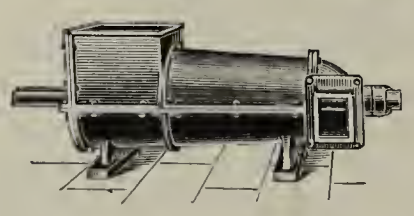


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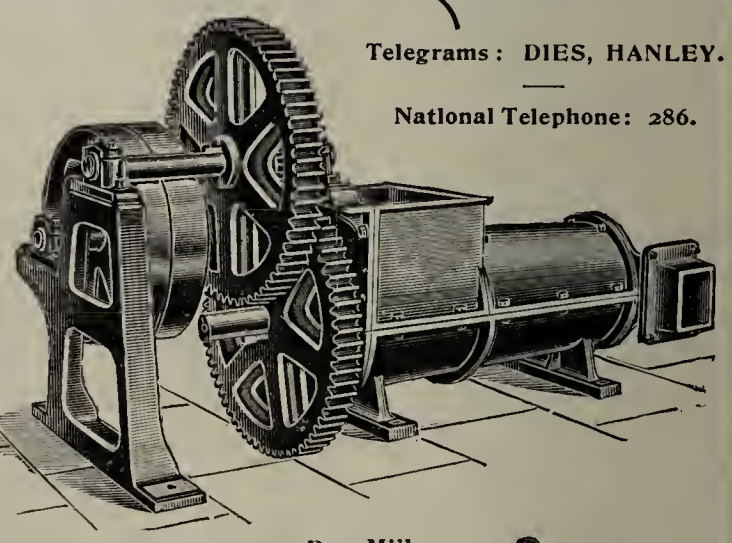
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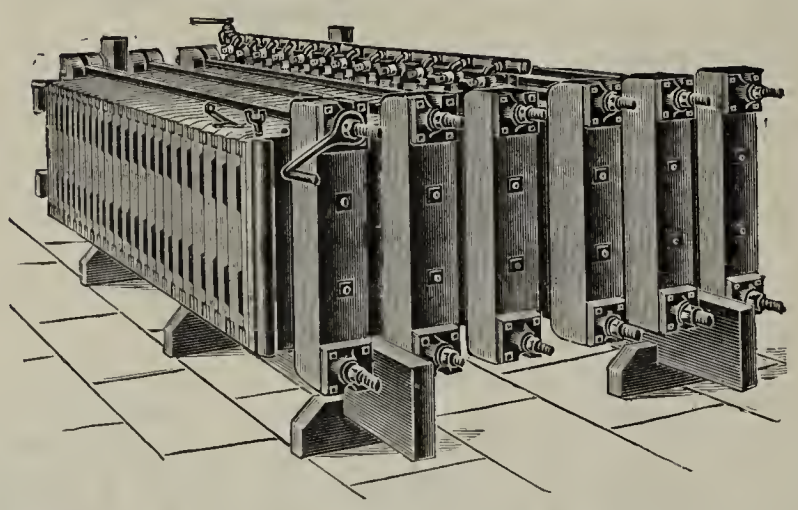
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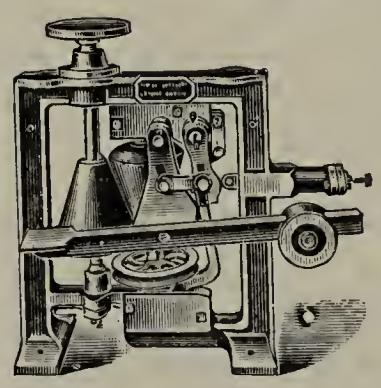


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



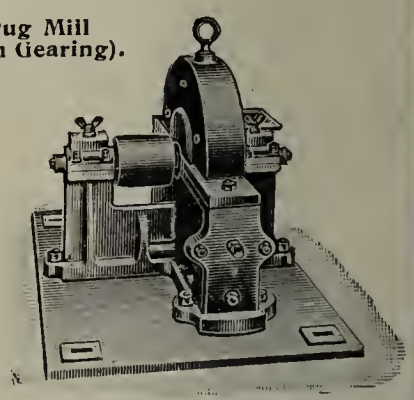


Filter Press.

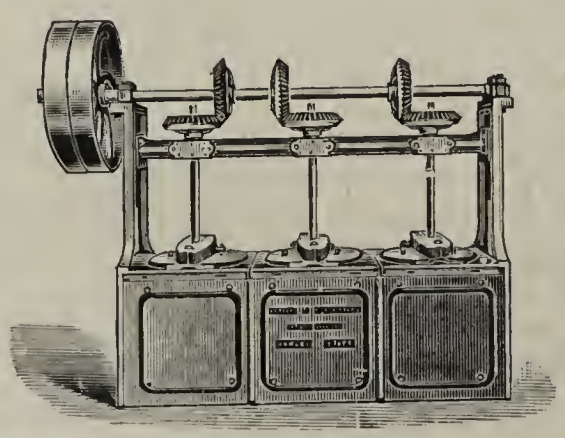


Throwing Wheel.

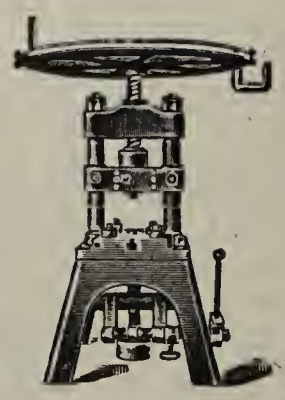
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



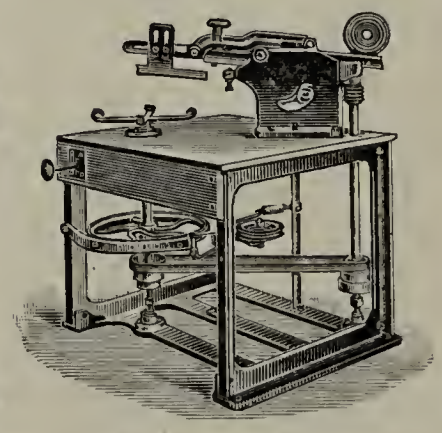
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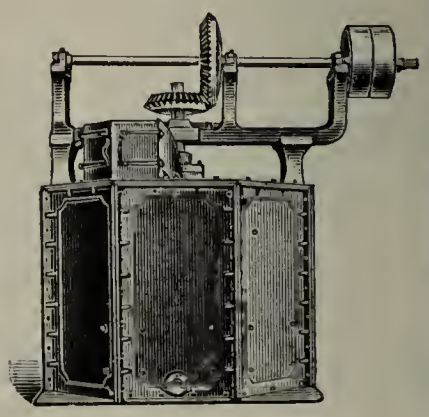
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Continued on page 244.

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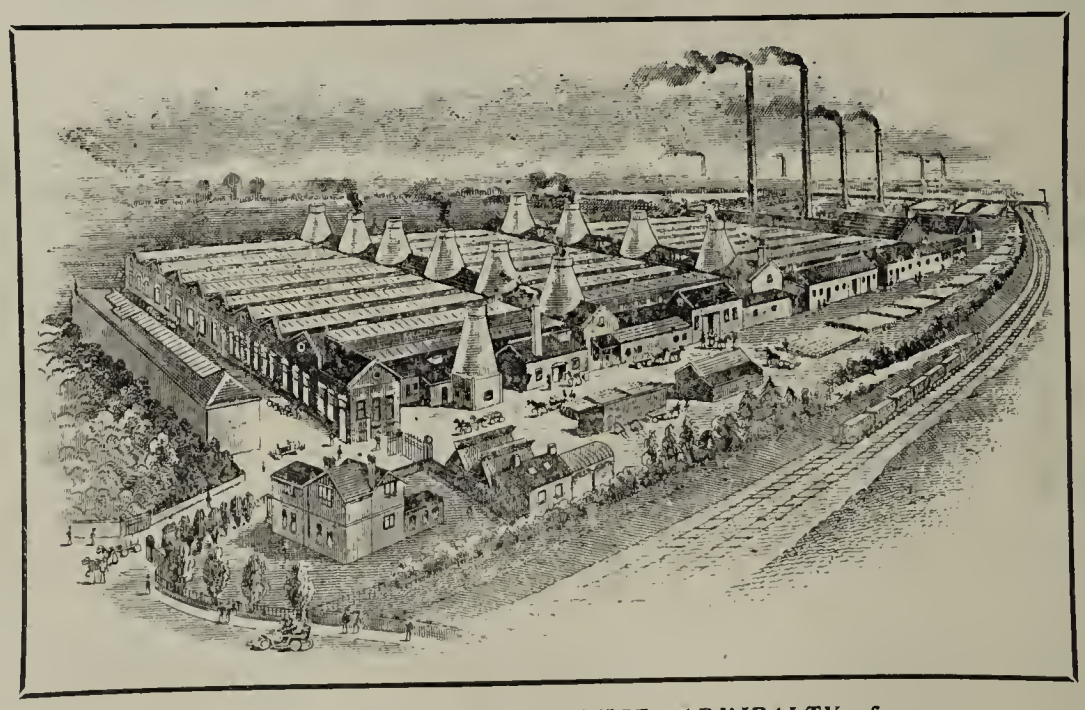
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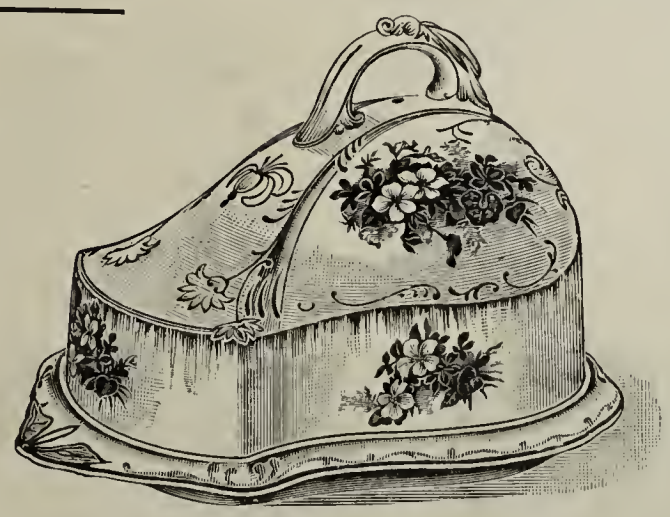
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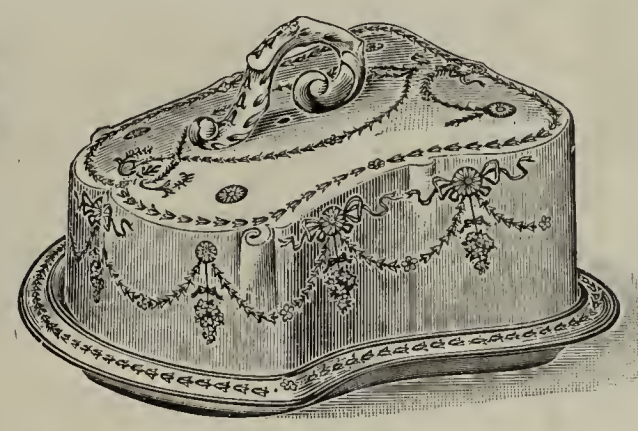


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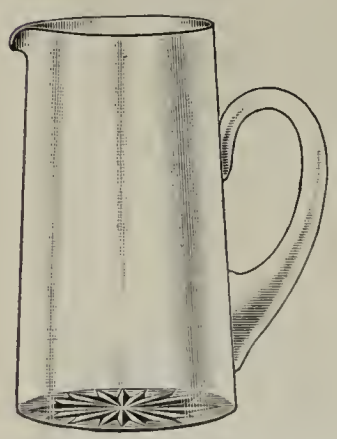
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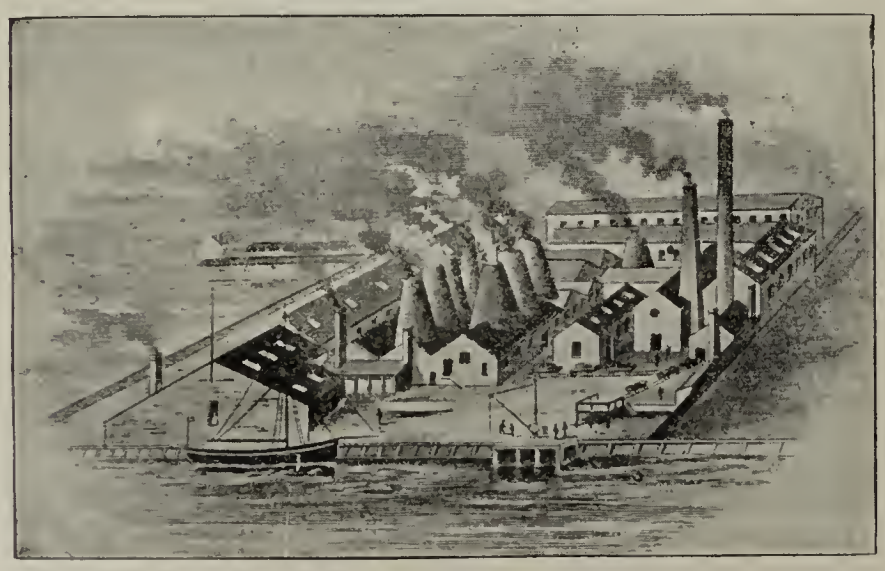
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	CREWE	NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME	STROUD
	CROYDON.	NEWPORT (MON.)	SUTTON (SURREY)



No. 15.—See illustration other side.



No. 24.—See illustration other side.



No. 24.—See illustration other side.



No. 14.—The "Efficient." 4/6 dozen.
Show your Tea Sets on these stands.

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OF
Showing Things
IS
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OF
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INVALUABLE TO GLASS AND CHINA DEALERS, WHOSE TRADE DEPENDS ON EFFECTIVE WINDOW DISPLAY.

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Result of years of patient research. All machine-made.
NO SHARP POINTS.

Anglo-Belge Glass Association, Ltd.

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No. 27.—9/6 dozen.
To show your Glass or China Bowls.



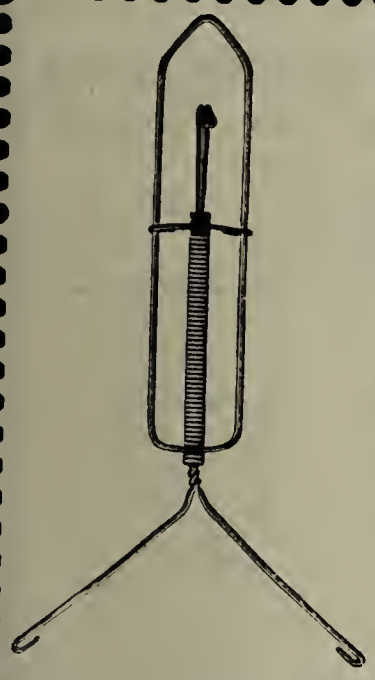




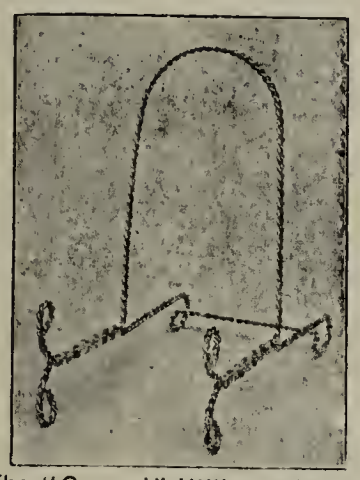


No. 18.—36 - gross.

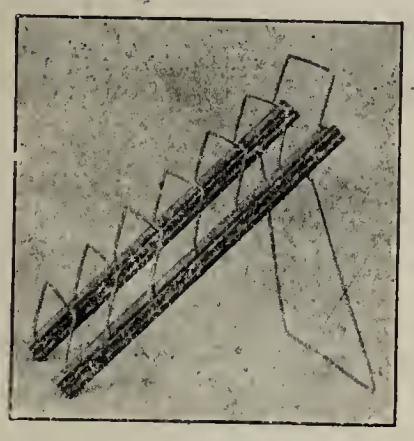




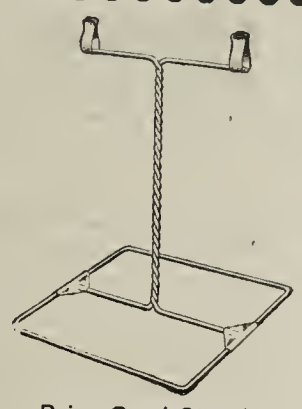
Adjustable Plaque Hanger for 7 and 8 in. Plaques. **4/9 doz.**



The "General" Utility. **4/6 doz.**
Large, **7/9 doz.**



No. 24.—Elevated Plate Rack. **9/6 doz.**
See two illustrations other side.



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To put your show cards on in your windows.

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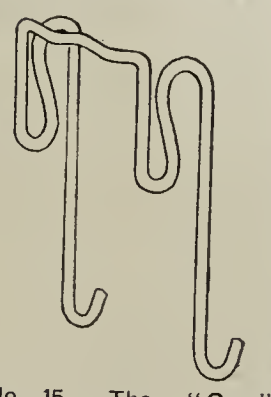
Bright Lustre Wire

OR

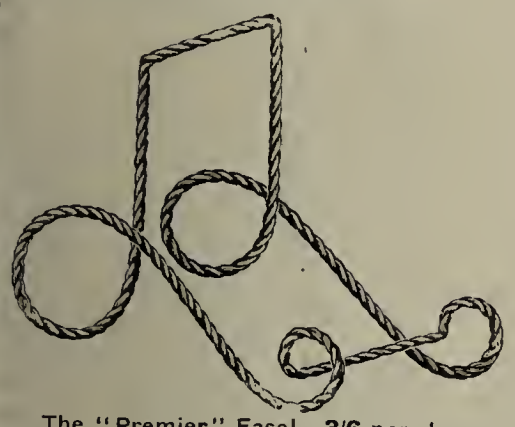
Heavy Gilt Plated Wire

(These are electro-plated by a new Patent Process)

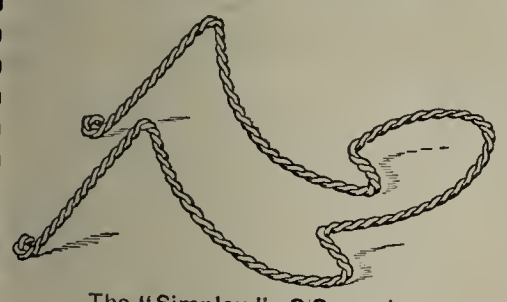
or INDIA-RUBBER COVERED.



No. 15. — The "Cup" Ticket-holder. **1/3 doz.**
See illustration other side. Suitable for almost everything.



The "Premier" Easel. **3/6 per doz.**
An all-round Servant for the China Dealer.

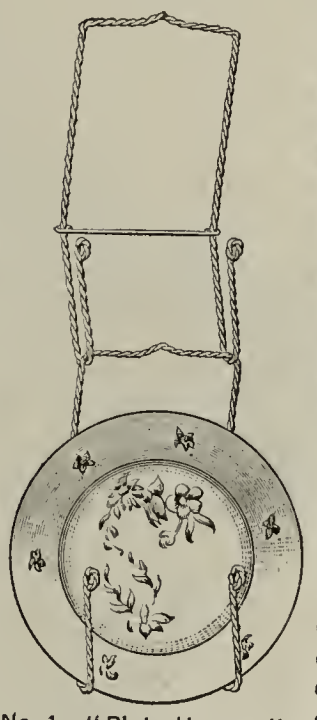


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Invaluable for showing your 40-piece Tea Set patterns.

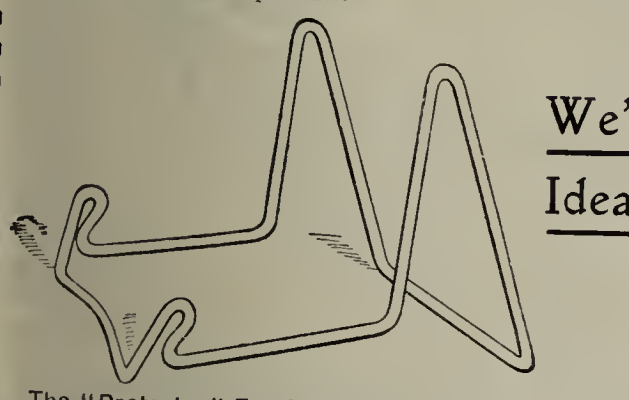
The "Climax" Easel

To set a plate on and put a coverdish in front. For dinner ware it's a masterpiece of ingenuity, and will make your assistants jump for joy.

No. 20. 2/9 per dozen.



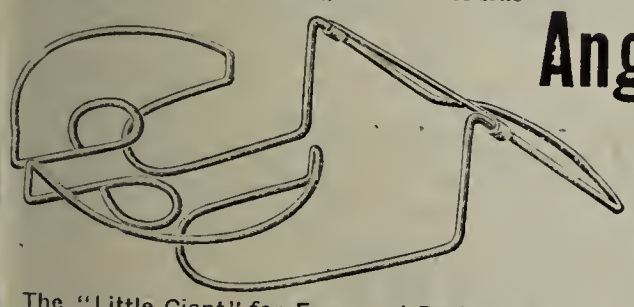
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Make a string of these and you get a novel effect.



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See Glass Dish on black background other side

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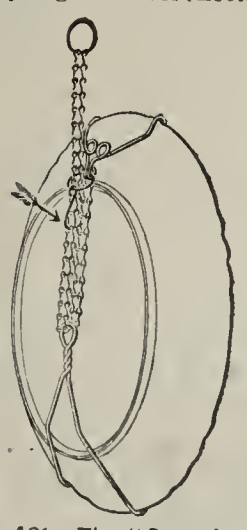
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The ewer is firmly clasped at point A and the basin stands upright in the foot shape space behind. Absolutely tight.

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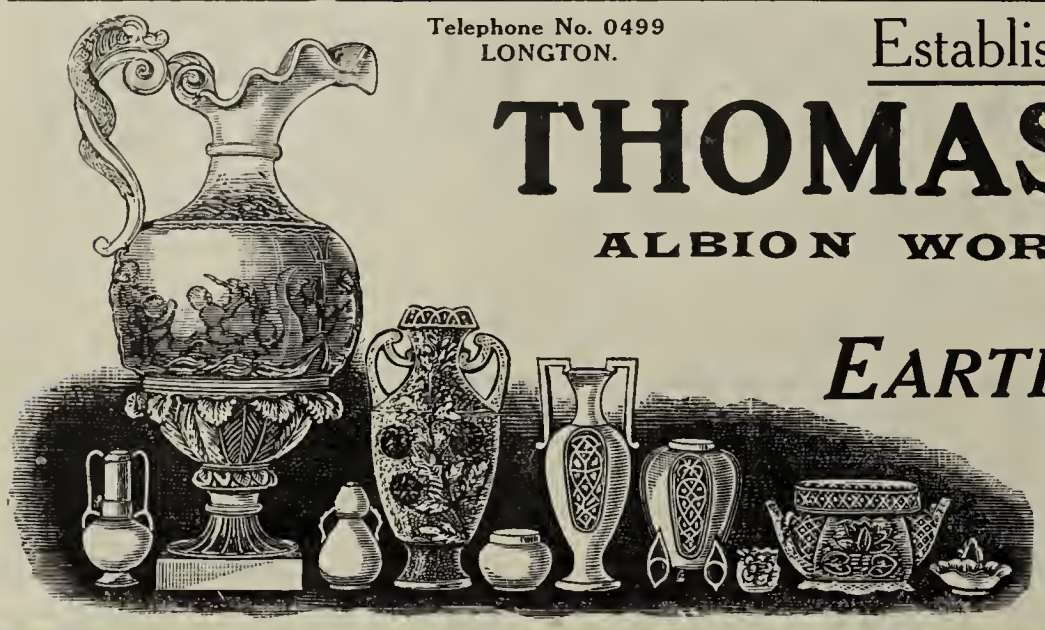
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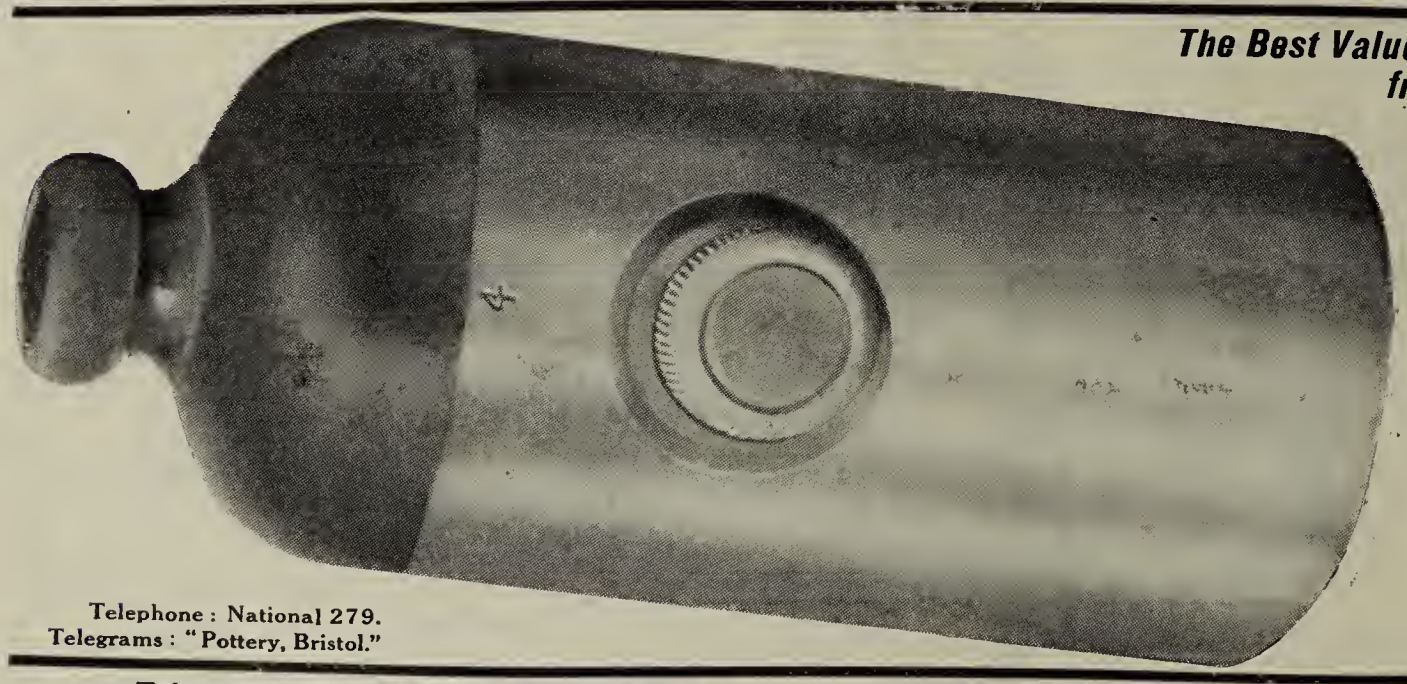
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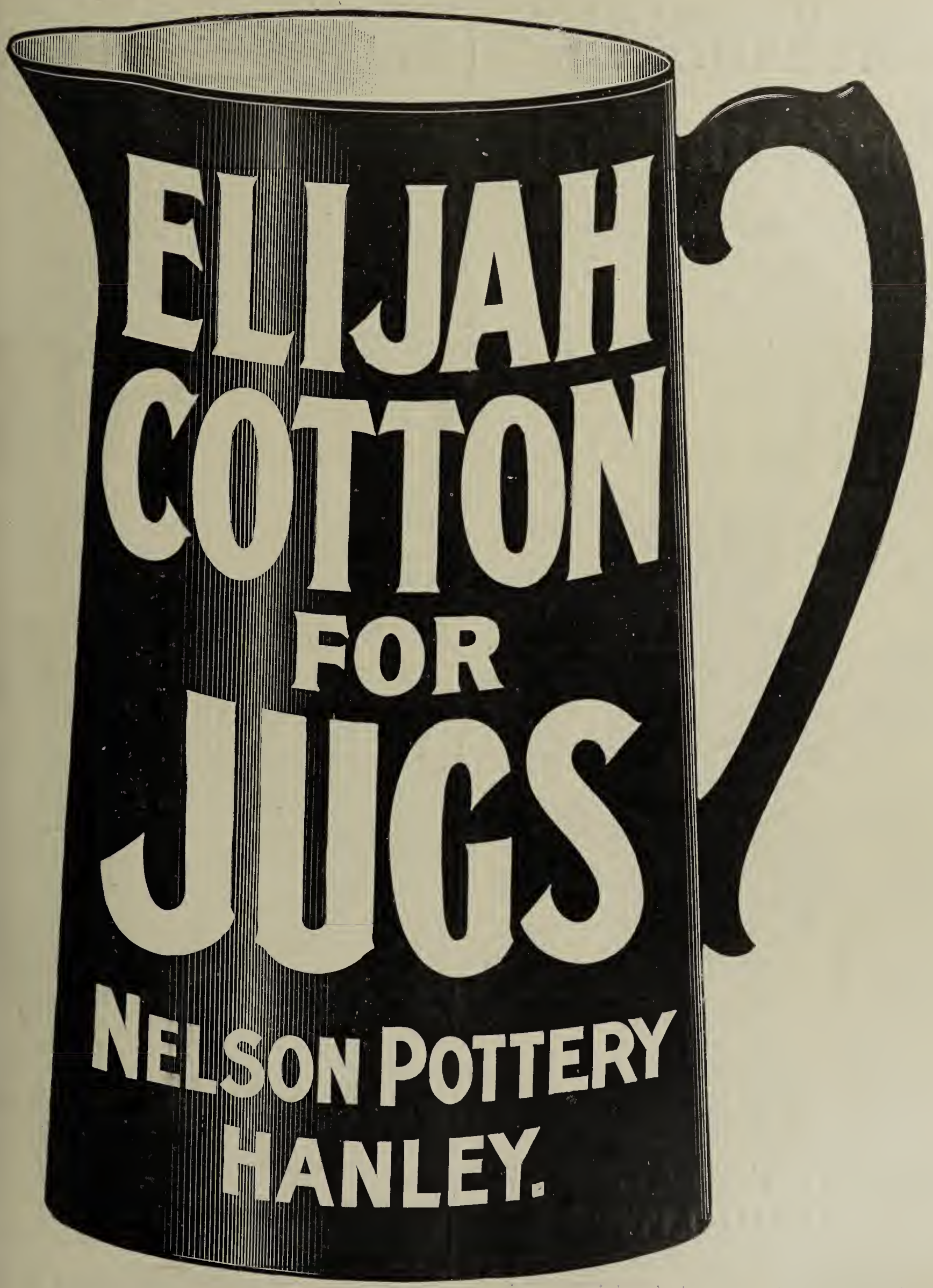
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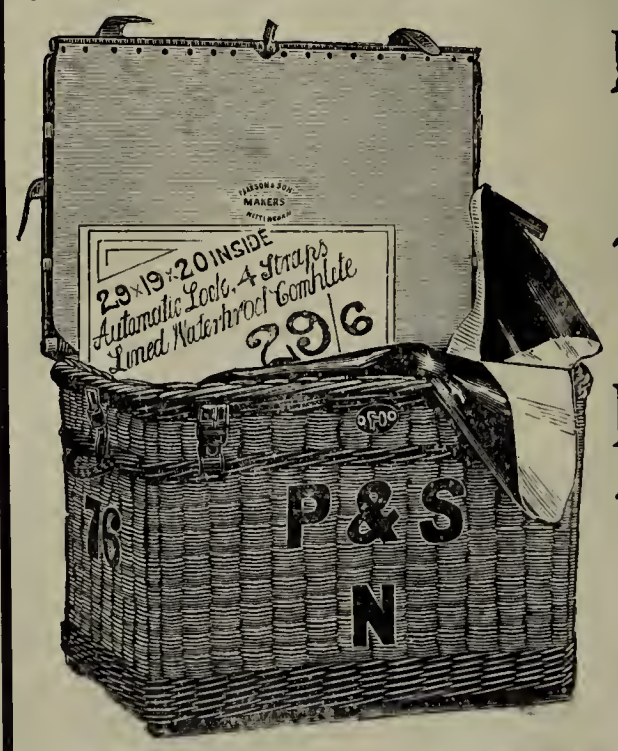
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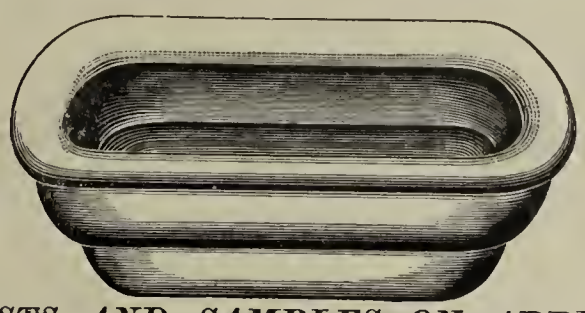
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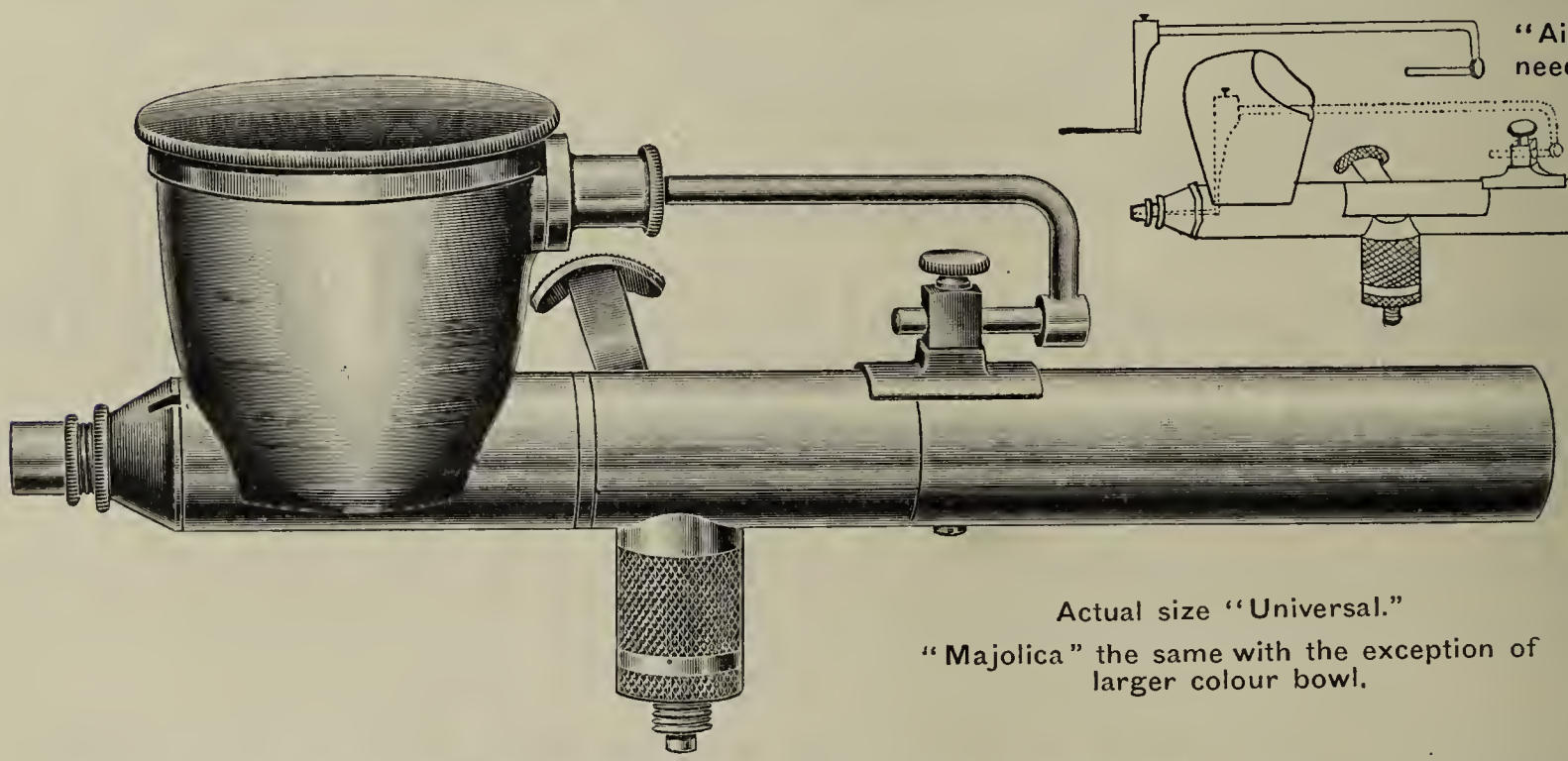
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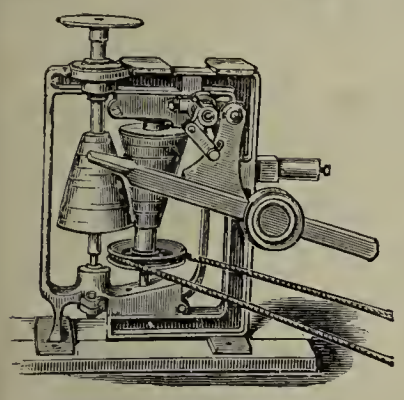




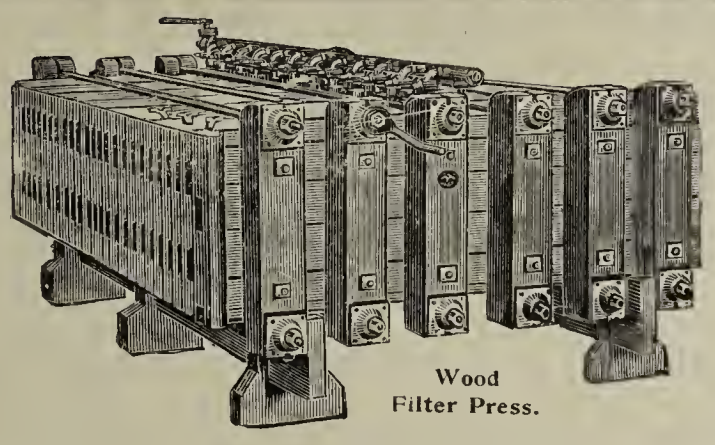


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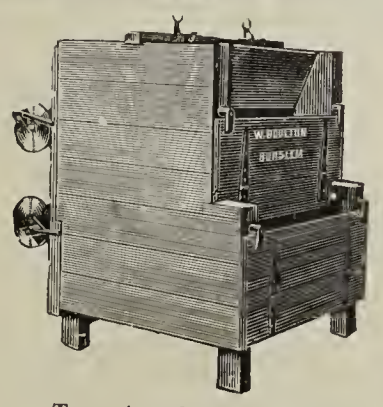
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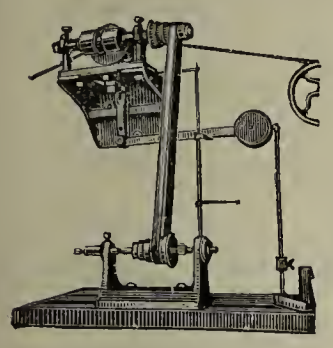
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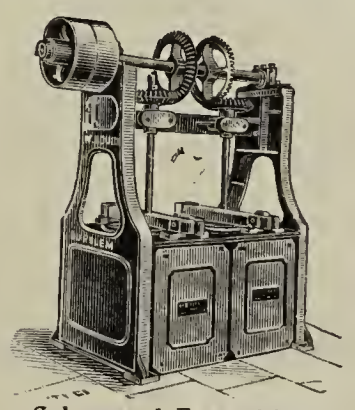
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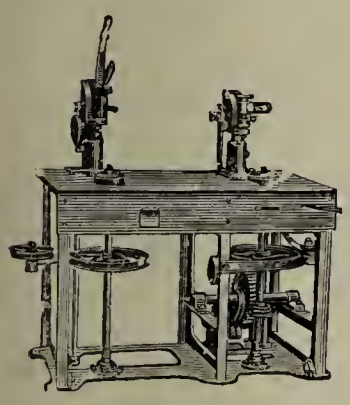
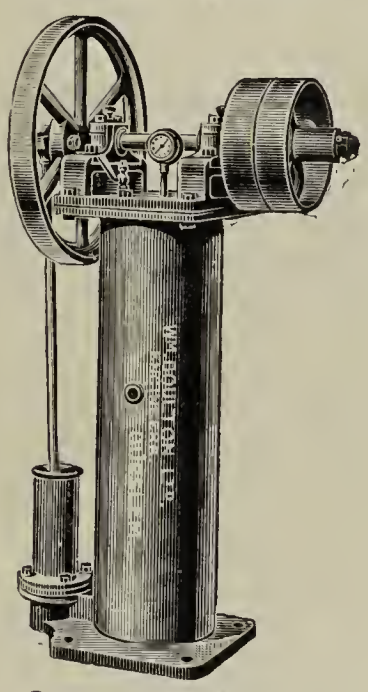
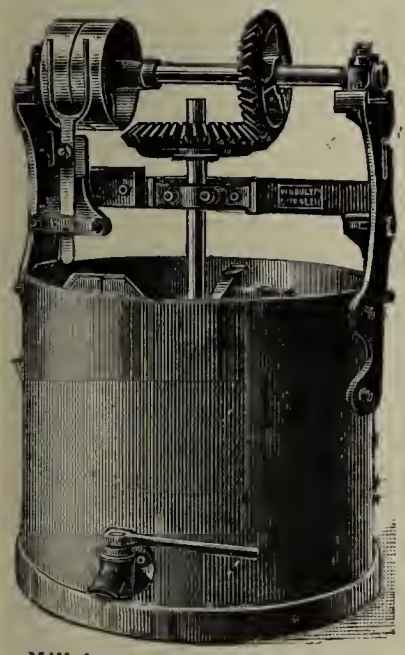


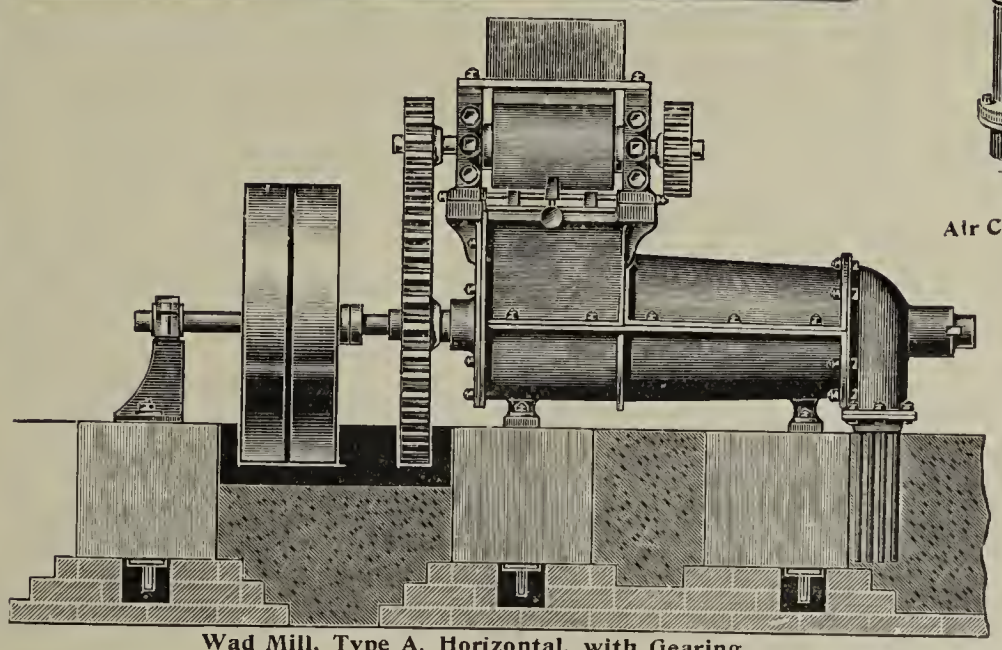
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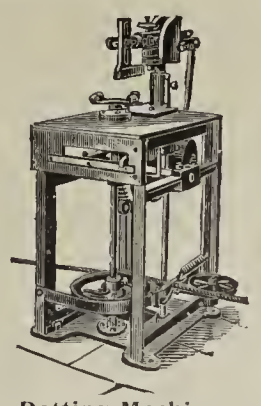
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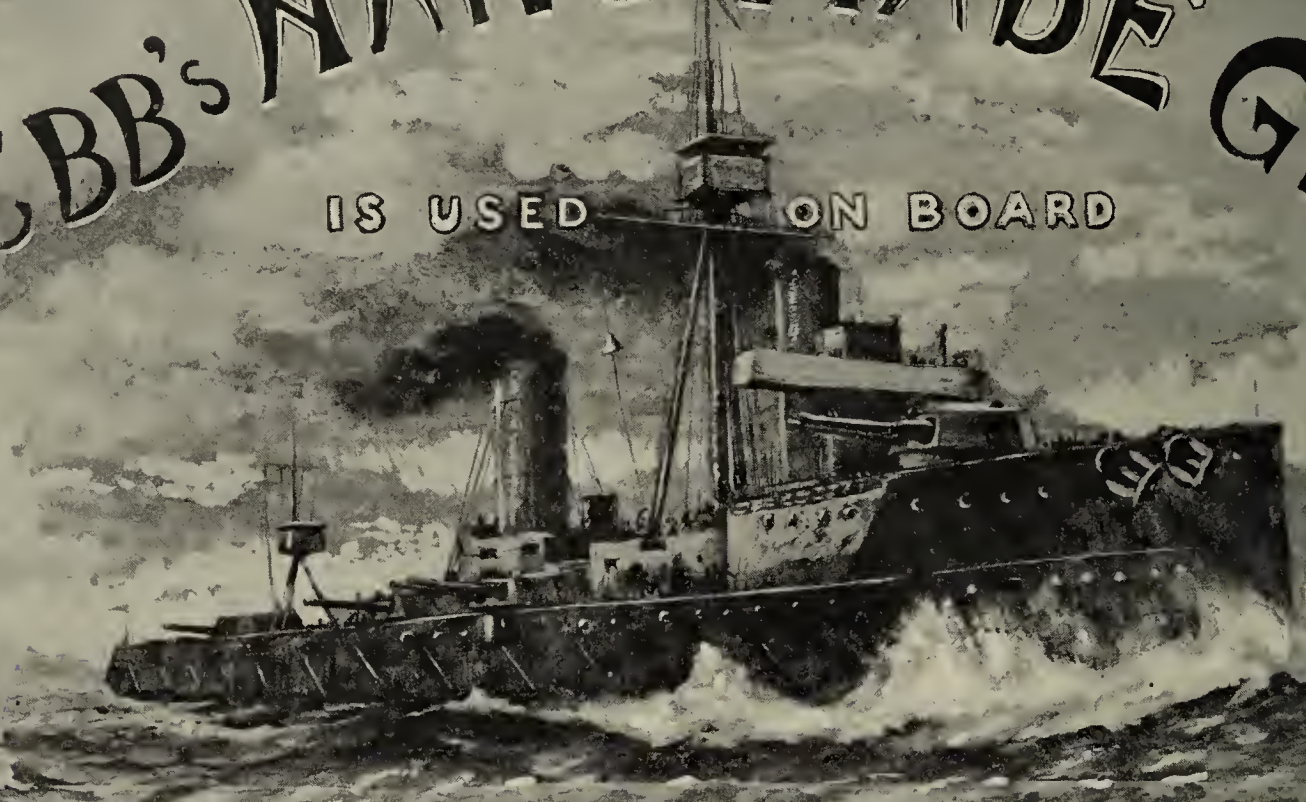
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This is to Certify that we have printed **10,000** Copies of the March issue of the **POTTERY GAZETTE,** and that we have received **10,000** Envelopes and Wrappers for the despatching of these copies.

February 29, 1908.

UNWIN BROTHERS, Ltd.

Editorial Notes.

THE TRADE SITUATION.

THE negotiations which have taken place since our last issue, between manufacturers and their employees, have, unfortunately, not resulted in a definite agreement as to the points in dispute, much less in an arrangement for their settlement. Those negotiations are very freely summarised, and the present position is briefly stated, in the "Notes" from our correspondent in the Potteries, in this issue. It is not creditable, and it is not advantageous, that such an important industry should be without recognised means for the settlement of differences between employers and workers. It will be a disgrace if the present crisis passes over without the establishment of such means on a clear basis. The adjustment of the present differences is a matter that we hope and believe is receiving the earnest consideration of both the parties concerned. That consideration, however, is impeded because of the lack of unanimity in each party. Manufacturers have suggested the re-formation of the Board of Conciliation, and the majority of them are anxious for it, but some will not consent to the re-formation, so long as one section of workmen—the oven-men—will not recognise it. Naturally, nothing will be gained by an undertaking on the part of manufacturers to agree to rules governing a Board of Conciliation, if a section (however small) of the workmen decline to be bound by them. Before consenting to discuss the terms regulating the proposed Board of Conciliation, manufacturers are entitled to an assurance that all sections of the workers are willing to be bound by them. In spite of statements to the contrary, employers have not placed any obstacles in the way of the formation of the Board. The formation of the Conciliation Board is only the preliminary step to a settlement—but it is an indispensable one, and until it is completed the matters in dispute cannot be discussed. We suggest that the most useful work a Board of Conciliation could undertake would be a complete revision of the antiquated and unsatisfactory working arrangements which still exist in some factories. People outside the industry would be astounded if they knew that arrangements made generations ago, when the men used to work by candle-light, and to find their own candles, are practically in operation to-day, in the payments by operatives for lights. There are other things which operatives at one time found for themselves that are now provided by employers, and deductions made in respect of them. These deductions are agreed to by the worker and are perfectly legal, but

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they complicate matters. Labour in the Potteries is full of anomalies like these. The present seems a favourable time for attempting a revolution of working arrangements all round—"good from hand" or "good from oven" among them. Where the workers now pay (by deductions) for materials or conveniences, these should be provided by the employers and net wages agreed upon. Many of the existing working arrangements between employers and workers in the pottery trades want readjusting on simpler bases. They would then be easily understood, and disputes concerning them would, if not completely avoided, be less frequent and less serious. We have not touched upon the grounds of the present dispute. We sincerely hope that the establishment of a Board of Conciliation will be effected, and that all fears as to an interruption of work will be allayed.

BRITISH PATENTS WORKED ABROAD.

THE Board of Trade has prepared a list of all patents obtained in this country, but which are worked abroad. This action has been taken in connection with the Patents Act of last session, which provides in certain circumstances for the revocation of such a patent, if it can be shown that the fact that it is not worked here is detrimental to the public interest or to any particular industry. The department is very desirous that the fullest possible advantage should be taken of the statute by the commercial community. It is understood that advice and assistance will willingly be given to those who propose to institute proceedings under the Act.

LIMITED COMPANY FAILURES.

THE legal questions in connection with the collapse of limited companies are exciting a good deal of attention amongst commercial men at the present time, and it would seem that now is a good opportunity for endeavouring to obtain—or at least to initiate—some alteration in the law. The liquidation of limited companies is not considered to be a failure in the technical sense of the word, and hence it may take place while the general trading public is kept in ignorance of the matter. This is certainly not as it should be. Every case of liquidation ought to be published far and wide, so that there is no chance that anyone interested, directly or indirectly, should remain unaware of what has taken place. In the present state of the law the mortgagees can apply for a receiving order, practically take over the business and conduct it for their own profit, and prevent the creditors from obtaining any redress. Of course, the actual creditors know that the company is being worked under a receiving order, but in the majority of cases those outside that group know nothing. It has become perfectly easy for an unscrupulous man to arrange a mortgage in favour of a friend or relation, and to practically defraud the creditors under this arrangement. This kind of thing is continually being done, and besides the loss to those concerned, the credit of all small limited companies is damaged by the mere possibility of such proceedings. The remedies proposed have been numerous, but there are one or two which appear to be eminently practical. For instance, no mortgage on the property or stock in a limited company should be considered valid unless it has been registered at least a year before the date of the application for a receiver; in every other instance the trade creditors of the company should have a preferential claim upon the assets. Such a regulation would prevent much of the fraudulent liquidation which is such a conspicuous feature in the present day. The registration and publication of the mortgage would be a warning to those who supply the company with goods to reduce their credits and get clear before the expiration of the year. Then, again, it should be compulsory, in every case of liquidation, to publish a list of creditors. This is done in all ordinary cases of private failure, and there can be no good reason why limited liability companies should be exempt. The publication should be necessary in the leading journals of the trade in which the defaulting company is engaged. As the law stands, it is difficult, and in some cases impossible, for the trade journal to obtain the information; and when obtained it is not always safe to publish it. Hence, the trading public immediately concerned is kept in darkness, and much loss results therefrom. It will, we suppose, always be possible for the clever scoundrel to evade the law and to find some means of swindling the public, but of late his course has been made too easy for him, and there is certainly no need for this. Commercial men ought to combine to stop up the loopholes as soon as they become aware of them, that the way of the trangressors may be hard. It is a matter of astonishment how commercial swindling has increased under our Limited Liability Company Laws. The opportunities offered by these laws are too numerous to be mentioned, and there are hundreds of people always taking advantage of them, to the great detriment of honest traders. What is really wanted when Commercial Acts of Parliament are being drafted, is a committee of leading commercial men to assist and guide the Parliamentary draughtsmen, and prevent them from falling into errors which may be obscure to the legal mind, but are patent enough to the business man.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE report of the annual general meeting of the Pottery and Glass Trades Benevolent Institution, which will be found in this issue, deserves the serious consideration of all who desire the extension of the usefulness of the institution. The report of the board of management, which we published last month, contains the lamentable statement that two members, whom the Board had recommended as annuitants, could not be presented for election for want of funds. The chairman of the board of management, in moving the adoption of the report, made an urgent appeal to manufacturers to support the institution by their donations, and this was reiterated by Mr. Charles Green and other speakers. Donations are earnestly solicited in order that the future maintenance of the institution may be assured. The president, however, went to the root of the question when he said that "for the work of the institution a large addition to the membership was absolutely necessary." By the rules of the institution all donations and bequests are invested, and the interest arising from such investments is applicable to the payment of annuities. But the whole of the amount received as annual subscriptions is immediately available for granting annuities and temporary assistance. A hundred more members subscribing half a guinea a year each would have secured the election at the recent meeting of the two annuitants recommended by the Board. Donations to the extent of £1,250 would be necessary to provide for these annuitants, and if that amount had been forthcoming, the interest upon it would only have permitted their election next year. Any person connected with the pottery and glass trades is eligible as a member of the institution. When we remember the numbers who are engaged in these trades on their own account, or as agents, travellers, clerks, managers, foremen, salesmen or warehousemen, and of those who are engaged in the decoration of pottery and glass, it is not creditable

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See Pottery Gazette for Feb. 1908, page 181.

AGENTS WANTED IN EVERY TOWN.





to find that the annual subscriptions for 1907 amounted to only £312 2s. 6d. If manufacturers will support some organised method of appealing to all classes of employees to become members of the institution, the increased membership, which in the opinion of the president and of the chairman of the board of management, is absolutely essential to the efficiency of the institution, may possibly be be secured. Mr. Folker's suggestion that the Board should be made the dispensers of a special fund to meet special cases of distress is an excellent one. The president set a good example and gave effect to the suggestion by promising to send ten guineas towards the temporary relief of the two annuitants who could not be elected yet for want of funds, and a further two guineas for the relief of the children whose destitution had been mentioned. It is hoped others may trust the Board with funds for this supplementary "emergency" work of the institution.

PRESENTATION TO MR. JOHN PORTER.

A BUSINESS comradeship of a quarter of a century cannot be closed without some feelings of regret, and when mutual good will has been manifested throughout that term, it is fitting that some expression of it should be given at the end of it.

Under such circumstances a pleasing presentation



has recently been made to Mr. John Porter, of 13, Charterhouse-st., London, E.C., by the many friends he has amongst those engaged at the Worcester Royal Porcelain Works, with which Mr. Porter has been connected for nearly twenty-five years (for a long period as London representative). The present was in the form of a handsome mantel or sideboard set, consisting of a central jardinière and two side vases. These are executed in white china, and artistically decorated in Old Worcester style—the famous scale blue. The jardinière is painted with exotic birds on one side in panel, and with an inscription in gold lettering in panel on the other side. The inscription reads as follows:—"Presented to Mr. John Porter, by his friends at the Worcester Royal Porcelain Works, on his leaving after 25 years' service, June 30, 1907." The pair of side vases are painted with Old Style Worcester flowers, and all are richly gilt.

As it was not convenient to have a formal personal presentation, the testimonial was forwarded to Mr. Porter in London, accompanied by the following letter:—

Worcester, January 28, 1908.

DEAR MR. PORTER,—On it becoming known that you were severing your connection with the Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., in June last, your many friends at the Works decided that you could not be allowed to leave without your long connection with them being marked in some manner which would show the friendship and esteem with which you were regarded.

It was felt that nothing could perhaps be more appropriate, or would give you greater pleasure than a present of representative Worcester China. In asking your acceptance of the set of jardinière and side vases executed in Old Worcester style, which are being forwarded to you to-day, it is believed that you will heartily appreciate the desire of all your friends here to perpetuate the memory of many pleasant years' association in the Company's business.

It is with the very best of all wishes for your future happiness and success, that I, on behalf of all those of the staff, heads of departments, and employees, who have joined in this expression of regard, subscribe myself yours very sincerely,

JNO. M. ROGERS,
Chairman of Testimonial Committee.

To this the following reply was received from Mr. Porter:—

13, Charterhouse-st., London, E.C.
January 30, 1908.

The staff, heads of departments, and employees, of the Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester, and Mr. Rogers, chairman of Testimonial Committee.

MY FRIENDS,—The memory of many pleasant years with you cannot be effaced, and my association with the producers in days past was happy in the best of best interests. To the chief I was loyal. You send me a set of vases, and I thank you deeply, feeling conscious that in the production of those vases each human touch conveyed a chord towards perfect harmony of finish, which finds its response in my acceptance. Your assurance of the friendship and esteem in which I am regarded, and your good wishes, with your gifts, I most sincerely appreciate. I have not been able to say good-bye to you, but to those who personally express their regret at my departure and to all who joined in this testimonial I say—thank you, and in the fullest sense of friendship I am, yours very faithfully,

JOHN PORTER.

"A blue tea" was ordered by a café waitress a few days ago for a somewhat surprised customer. The "blue" referred to the cup, not its contents, and was a distinction between it and the larger size, which was of white ware.

The Glassware Trade of Bushire.—No attempts seem to have yet been made by glass manufacturers in the United Kingdom to put cheap tea glasses on the Persian market, says a British Consular Report just received. The import from Russia decreased last year from £583 to £96, but there is a constant demand for this article. The special type of glass in use in Persia stands about $2\frac{4}{5}$ inches high and is globular in shape, the circumference of the globe measuring $4\frac{3}{5}$ inches, diameter of mouth $1\frac{9}{10}$ inches. A case usually contains 1,250 glasses, and the local price is at the rate of 30 krans (10s. 11d.) per 100 glasses. The saucers, quite plain, have been largely imported from Austria-Hungary and are $3\frac{4}{5}$ inches in diameter; they are packed 1,000 to the case, and wholesale local prices are 38 krans per 100 saucers. In the first six months of the year also some 380 cases of earthenware were imported from Russia; there is a very large demand in Persia for cheap white teaports for use with the samovar. There are considerable quantities of large tumblers of very common glass of Belgian manufacture used in Bushire and sold at 2d. each. Austro-Hungarian small tumblers for tea drinking are very extensively used up-country, and are slightly better in quality.

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Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

FLOWER HOLDERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—With reference to your notice respecting the Blitz Flower Holder which you illustrate on page 181 of the current issue, for which it says a provisional patent has been secured, it must have escaped your notice that the same thing practically is mentioned in connection with my tulip stands on page 1285 of your November issue last year. These linings have been made by me for some eighteen months or more, and since seeing the illustrations in your February number some people have actually hesitated to buy my pattern as they thought they were buying an infringement of the Anglo-Belge Glass Association patent, whereas mine was on the market months before theirs was brought out.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN WALSH WALSH.

Soho and Vesta Glass Works, Birmingham,
February 18, 1908.

TRAVELLERS AND BUYERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—May I trespass on your valuable space with reference to the relations between Traveller and Buyer. It seems to me that the majority of buyers of china and glass departments in the larger establishments have next to no conception of their duties. For instance, my firm bring out quite a new and original line. I take this to show the buyer to whom I think it most suitable. On entering the department, being a stranger, I am approached by him, and whilst in the act of presenting my card (in commercial hours, before 11 a.m.), he almost flies at me, and says he does not want anything, before knowing what I have to offer. I was just able to tell him that I had made a special journey to see him, and would feel obliged if he would just look at the sample piece I had with me, so that, if he thought the style suited him, I could then perhaps have looked him up at a more convenient time, but he abruptly refused and walked away. Is this man doing justice to his employer, and acting courteously to the man who, when he gets a new line, takes it to him, and so helps him to keep an up-to-date stock? This is not an isolated case, and feeling certain there are many who have had similar experiences, I think these few lines in your valuable paper will do much good in endeavouring to remedy this present-day unjustifiable boycotting.—Yours, &c.,

Feb. 24, 1908. TRAVELLER.

TRANSFER PRINTING.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I am exceedingly obliged for your very fair-minded, yet critical review of my book on "Transfer Printing." Coming from the pen of a writer who knows the subject well, and one without prejudice or bias, it is most gratifying.

With regard to your observation that I have left "a very pretty problem" as to the exact origin yet to be solved, I should like to say that, in my opinion, the problem is not at all likely ever to be solved. It is in the same category as that of the German salt glazes—the Grès Flamande pottery. That is to say, it was the spontaneous outcrop of many minds at work on the same problem. There can be no doubt of this—that Battersea was the first factory to produce transfer printing on enamel, so far as we have authentic data. The engraver at Battersea was probably the associate of a number of artists and engravers who had discussed the subject years before it was produced. He, under their influence and his own combined, and it may be, with their practical help, succeeded. It would, therefore, be considered, at the time, that no particular man deserved the credit of the discovery. Nevertheless, in all probability, Ravenet's "deep cut" helped to bring the secret to the surface.—Yours &c., W. TURNER.

Winchcombe House, Cheltenham,
February 6, 1908.

THE WAGES QUESTION IN THE POTTERY TRADE.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Your numerous readers will, no doubt, be anxious to know the attitude which manufacturers have taken up with regard to the above very important questions, and as I fear that those who have not been kept informed of what manufacturers are doing, and have had to rely upon a perusal of the editorial comments in the local press, may have formed an opinion unfavourable to manufacturers, I shall be glad, if you will allow me, as their secretary, a short space of your valuable paper to state what the position is.

The manufacturers were the first to suggest, some months ago, the re-formation of the Board of Conciliation, and asked the operatives' representatives to meet them with a view to discussing new rules. Committee meetings took place on Jan. 24, in the first place with Mr. Edwards and other representatives of the oven-men, and afterwards with Mr. Lovatt and representatives of the remaining branches of operatives.

At both meetings the question of the re-formation of the Board of Conciliation was discussed, and Mr. Edwards stated that, whilst the men might be favourably inclined to consider the re-formation of the Board of Conciliation, to deal with hours of labour and future alterations of wages, they were not disposed to submit to arbitration their present demand for a 10 per cent. advance.

Mr. Edwards was requested to submit in writing any proposals which he wished to make as regards any alterations in the Rules of the late Board, which would be laid, when received, before a general meeting of manufacturers.

From that day to this no intimation from Mr. Edwards or anyone representing the oven-men, that they were willing to join a new Board of Conciliation on the proposed or any modified rules, has been received.

At the subsequent interview with Mr. Lovatt and others, the rules of the late Board were submitted by the employers as a basis for the new rules, and certain modifications were suggested by the operatives, amongst them being the elimination of the old rule which excluded arbitration on the questions of "good from oven" and "limitation of apprentices."

It was then arranged that I should have the new rules with the suggested modifications of the operatives printed, and that they should be submitted by Mr. Lovatt to the operatives, and by myself to the employers, and it was distinctly stated and understood by everyone at that meeting that neither the employers nor the operatives should be bound by any suggestions that had then been made, and that either the operatives or employers should be at liberty at any subsequent general meeting to refuse or accept any of the suggestions so made.

A print of the altered rules was sent to Mr. Lovatt, and considered by his constituents, and numerous and drastic alterations were made, and as so altered it was returned to me for submission to a general meeting of manufacturers.

The employers met first in committee and then in general meeting to consider these suggested new rules, and decided that they could not agree to eliminate the rule which excluded from arbitration the questions of "good from oven"

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Austria.—Herr Gustav Györi, 1, Maysedergasse, 6 Vienna.
Australasia.—Berryman & Co.(Mr. A. E. Potts), Sydney & Wellington
Country Representative.—Mr. C. G. Probert.

LONDON SHOW ROOMS—49, HOLBORN VIADUCT. MR. J. E. HEATH. *Telephone: 928 CENTRAL.*

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and "limitation of apprentices," which rule had always been accepted and acted upon in the past.

Objection has also been taken to some of the other amendments made by the operatives, which, however, the employers would have been quite prepared to discuss with representatives of all branches of the operatives, but as no intimation had been received from the oven-men that they would join the proposed new Board, it was felt that no good purpose would be served by having another joint meeting until the oven-men had agreed to come in.

As regards the general six weeks' notices for alterations in wages, &c., which had been given, meetings have already been held with the operatives' representatives of the sanitary branch, and a meeting with representatives of all other branches is to be held on Wednesday next.

I trust, therefore, that your readers will see that the charges made in the local press against manufacturers, "that they are throwing obstacles in the way of the reconstruction of the Board of Conciliation," and "that it now rests with the employers to prevent the possibility of a strike," are both untrue and without the slightest foundation.

Fair comment on public matters cannot be objected to by anyone, but to make such charges as the above, against men who are doing their utmost to bring matters to a satisfactory settlement without creating any friction or ill feeling, is far more likely to widen the breach than to heal any differences that may exist. This I know is not only my own, but the general opinion of those who have read the articles referred to.—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR P. LLEWELLYN,
Secretary, Manufacturers' Association.

Tunstall, Staffordshire, Feb. 24, 1908.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. P. M.—We have answered you fully as to shop fixtures, and shall be glad to hear the result of what you do.

R. M. D. & Co.—The name we sent you is that of the factory you want. The firm was changed into a company with limited liability a year or two ago.

James H.—You would be well advised to stock fancy and ornamental pottery and glass, of course maintaining a good stock of useful table chamber and kitchen goods.

B. & Co.—We do not know of any firm who are now manufacturing "toughened glass." Two firms in this country made it some years ago, but we do not hear of it now.

H. M., Birmingham.—Our usual abstract of the trade returns for 1907 appears on page 200 of our Feb. issue, and the figures are commented on by our Potteries correspondent in his notes in the same issue.

Fancy Dealer.—We send you names of manufacturers of fancy glass and pottery suitable for your trade. We think you should deal only in fancy lines in these wares; the stocking dinner, toilet, tea and breakfast ware is quite a different business.

M., London.—The first fair in Leipzig commences in the first Monday in March and lasts eight days; the second during the week after Easter, and the third about the end of September. If you require further information the German Consul-General, Mr. Hermann Johannes, 49, Finsbury-square, London, E.C., may be able to help you.

S. Bournemouth.—The pottery you refer to was made at Linthorpe, near Middlesbrough-on-Tees. These works were started in 1879 by Mr. Harrison. Dr. Dresser, whose services were called in, supplied numbers of the forms and designs for pieces then and afterwards produced, and his name was for a time impressed in the body of the ware. Pieces bearing stamp "Chr. Dresser" date back to the first three or four years of the history of these works. Vide "Ceramic Art of Great Britain," by L. Jewitt, F.S.A.

Legal.

Commercial Travellers' Samples.—In the Court of Appeal it was decided in the case of Wilkinson v. Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co., that the company were liable in damages for the loss of plaintiff's samples which he carried as a commercial traveller. The company gave notice of appeal to the House of Lords against this decision. The solicitors to the company have, however, now intimated that the appeal to the House of Lords has been abandoned. It is thus established that a railway company is responsible for commercial travellers' samples.

Pottery Auctioneer as Hawker.—On Feb. 17, Mr. Wm. Cooper, pottery manufacturer, of Brewery-st., Hanley, was summoned before the magistrates at Bromsgrove (Birmingham), for hawking without having a proper licence. Mr. Cooper, it appears, consigns china to different towns for sale by auction, or by private treaty, and in the case of a sale at Bromsgrove, a person named Miller, also of Hanley, acted as his manager. The Inland Revenue contended that he should have had a hawker's licence as well as an auctioneer's licence. The Bench held that a technical offence had been committed, and fined Mr. Cooper £2 and £1 3s. 6d. costs.

"Cheap Derby" China.—Before Judge Ruegg, at the Longton County Court last month, Messrs. Wild, china manufacturers, sued Mr. J. P. Humphries, china and earthenware merchant, of Tunstall, for £27 15s., due in respect of defendants' cheque, which had been given to plaintiffs in payment of certain goods, some of them known as "Cheap Derbys" and some of other kinds. The evidence showed that Mr. Humphries called at Messrs. Wild's in October and was shown patterns of tea sets similar to those produced at Derby, but not of the same high quality. The defendant liked the appearance of some which were gold traced and decorated under the glaze, and was told they were 13s. 10d. and 12s. 6d. per set. As he did not care to go to this figure, he was then told (it was alleged) that he might have a cheaper kind without the gold at 9s. 6d. Afterwards the defendant found fault with the goods, complaining that they were decorated over the glaze, whereas, he argued, he had stipulated for a cup exactly similar to the set sold at 13s. 10d. but without a gold line. The plaintiff's counsel argued, however, that Mr. Humphries, being in the trade, would know perfectly well that the addition of a gold line along would not raise the price of a set from 9s. 6d. to 13s. 10d., and that only over-glaze goods could be sold at the lower price. An expert witness was called to show that the value of the gold line and tracing was 1s. 6d. per set, and that the over-glaze goods were value for 9s. 6d. The defendant's case was that he distinctly had in his mind an underglaze cup when he gave the order. As a decorator himself, he was able to put the gold on under-glaze goods, but not on over-glaze. His Honour gave judgment for plaintiffs for £19 11s. with costs on the claim, and also a verdict for plaintiffs with costs on a counterclaim, which defendant had entered.

Crockery on Ocean Liners.—A correspondent writes:—A friend who has been taking a trip on the "Mauretania" says that he was astonished to notice the huge number of crates of ware taken on board before the voyage began, for the use of passengers. The breakages on some of our big ocean liners must be enormous, especially when rough weather is encountered. I do not know who has the contract for these leviathans—I fancy the ware is supplied now by wholesale dealers in London—but the existence of these floating hotels must be a good thing for many trades.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, have always a display of samples at their London rooms in St. Andrew-st., Holborn-circus, that is well worth looking at. Even those buyers who are never particularly impressed by a form, or a decoration, if they have seen it before, may call almost any time at the company's rooms with the certainty that there will be something interesting that they have not seen. When I called there a week or two ago the company's representative, Mr. J. Thompson Bourne, had a number of recent arrivals set out, and was expecting others in a few days; so by this time there are doubtless many novelties for the spring and summer trade that I have not seen. There are lines in both the useful and ornamental departments that are subject to the demands of particular seasons. But this is, of course, more noticeable in useful ware than in the merely ornamental. For instance, the demand for toilet ware is always greater in the spring than later in the year, as people furnish throughout more frequently at that time. Hotels and boarding-houses get their rooms ready for the summer visitors, and damaged toilet ware has to be replaced. Doultons', like all other extensive manufacturers of toilet ware, have naturally learnt to anticipate this want, and have sent up to their London rooms a number of new shapes and a still larger number of new decorations. If manufacturers supplied the public themselves, there would not be anything like the necessity there is for such frequent changes in shape and ornament in toilet ware. Families do not buy toilet sets every year, so that when they do make a purchase they would be as content to make their selection from half-a-dozen good shapes and pleasing decorations brought out two years ago as from the same number fresh from the works this year. It is the dealers who are buying every year, and who speak of a set which they saw last year as "old," whether they bought it themselves then or not. This habitual neglect of last year's really good shapes and patterns for no other reason than that they *were* last year's favourites is a great hardship to manufacturers, whose expenditure for new moulds is excessive. Manufacturers might institute a propaganda to persuade buyers to stick to good lines as long as they will sell. In looking at Doulton & Co.'s new toilets I noticed the very excellent "Seymour" shape of last year is given a prominent position, and deservedly so. But the new goods claim first attention in this column, and among many new toilet sets the "Pomona" shape—the one on the right of the illustration—is a very good design, out of the ordinary styles. The tall ewer is a graceful form, skilfully modelled. As will be noticed, there are embossed ribs running vertically and dividing the ewer into six sections. The chequered pattern outside the neck of the ewer and inside the basin is a new and novel style of ornament. The plain surface of this "Pomona" shape is suitable for decorative treatment of many kinds. The shape is shown in printed and also in painted subjects. The deep basin with a slight taper is a serviceable shape. It is a return to older forms, and will be appreciated. The other shape illustrated is the "Mayfair," quite a different form to the "Pomona," but one that will appeal to many persons. The deep round basin with straight sides is in harmony with the form of the ewer, while the particular ornamentation on the pieces illustrated is exceedingly appropriate to the shape. This is the "Dragon" pattern, in blue only, in the Persian style of decoration. Forest scenery is suitable ornamentation for toilet jugs, and the artistic treatment of these scenes by Doulton & Co. is very pleasing. The company's "Sahara" decoration is shown on this "Mayfair" shape. The tall ewer affords a good field for depicting desert scenery. The shape is also shown with light printed patterns on lace ground and with painted flowers on light grounds. I was shown some beautiful china toilets—new shapes, beautiful in their very simplicity. They have, of course, perfectly plain surfaces. When decoration is added, it is of the neatest possible character. These china services in their graceful outlines are attractive in themselves without added ornamentation. The company are showing excellent dinner shapes. One is the "Leeds" shape—a revival of a once popular dinner shape. The "Countess" pattern is a good border decoration for dinner ware. Many pretty new border patterns are shown. One with a green band and gold edge has a printed border pattern inside the green band. The border is shown in several colours. The combination



DOULTON & CO., LTD., BURSLEM. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

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of band and border is a good dinner service decoration. Another effective ornamentation is the "Norfolk," a treatment after the style Dutch scenes. There is a windmill and some water, with views round the borders of the piece decorated. Fancy jugs there are in abundance, some established favourites and some interesting new ones. Fish, game, and dessert sets, richly decorated, are in Doulton's best style. A range of dessert plates is decorated with views of British cathedrals, all exquisitely painted on fine china. There is a fine collection of plates for the American market—beautiful painting enriched with raised gold work. Amongst the amusing novelties there is a series of pictures on plates, cups, ash-trays, &c., which will amuse the boys—and doubtless some of the old boys, too. The "All Black Team of Cricketers" is the subject. Members of the team are depicted in various attitudes, explained by the titles "Out for a Duck," "Not Ready Yet," "Next Man In," &c. I have not nearly used up my notes, but I cannot spare space for more.

Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem, and 44, Farringdon-st., London, E.C., have a display of toilet ware at their London rooms that, both in regard to the number and artistic character of the forms, the variety and excellence of the ornamentations, can only be described as superb. The firm have a splendid room, and Mr. Pointing, their London representative, has the samples very judiciously arranged. They are manufacturers of what is now well known as "Burleigh ware." The name is applied to everything they make in the semi-porcelain body upon which their trade and reputation have been built up. Their principal lines are toilet ware and dinner ware, but they also make flower pots, pedestals and pots, fancy teapots, jugs, and all miscellaneous table ware. They have a very large collection of samples of toilet ware, filling the whole of one side of their long room and part of another side. Toilet ware is really a strong feature with them, and they are regularly adding to their samples. Amongst the new shapes produced for the coming season the "Castilian" is given a prominent position. It is a good model, plain shape, full-size ewer with well-balanced handle, and round basin with turn-over edge. It is shown in several very pretty enamelled decorations. A very rich pattern is in flow blue and best gold, a decoration that should please the most fastidious. The "Carlton" is another good toilet shape, with round basin with flat flange. This is variously ornamented—the "Lily" pattern in many flow colours and an enamelled poppy pattern, the design of which runs from top to bottom. The "Portland" is a good-shaped toilet service. The ewer is a graceful model, with a rather uncommon handle, but one that is in accord with the outline of the ewer itself. It is a severely plain design—that is to say, there are no embossments—but one that is well adapted to floral and other decorative treatment. The "Portland" is shown with a neat festoon and ribbon in enamelled colours and ground laid. The "Carlton" shape is shown in every shade of art colours. The shape is well suited for self colours. The "Etruscan" is a handsome service modelled on classical lines and in several attractive decorations. The samples of dinner ware are as varied as those of toilet ware. The "Devon" shape has a useful-size oval vegetable dish, and is shown with a blue-and-gold band in a very distinct treatment. The "Devon" shape is also shown with printed bands in various colours. The firm are famous for their pleasing choice in table ware decorated en suite. They are showing a nice variation of their "Burleigh Briar Ware," which is a popular line in decorated table ware. Amongst their new decorations for suites is a special Oriental treatment of flowers on a light body. There is considerable fine detail in the design, and the result is good. Amongst flower pots—of which there is a capital range—the "Queen" is a new and elegant floral design, embossed and picked out. The "Dutch" shape flower pot is supplied in three sizes, and in several enamelled decorations. Burgess & Leigh's fancy teapots are known everywhere. They show a large number of patterns. The "Haarlem" decoration is a good one, in blue only. They have added several new shapes in teapots, and are still showing many established favourites.



LOVATT & LOVATT: LANGLEY WARE. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

Lovatt & Lovatt, Langley Mill, Nottingham, are manufacturers of a great variety of useful domestic requisites of a neat decorative character. Their productions are known throughout the trade as "Langley Ware." For the information of our new subscribers (the older ones all know it) we may mention that it is a durable hard-fired body, and is glazed entirely without lead. Joseph Lockett & Sons, Ltd., 55, Hatton-garden, E.C., represent Lovatt & Lovatt in London, and they have a full assortment of samples of "Langley Ware" at their showrooms. Many articles made in "Langley Ware" are of such everyday, practical utility that their most convenient form has been settled long ago by experience. For instance, in teapots, jugs, &c., shapes are on much the same lines whether the things are made in silver, china, earthenware, or stoneware. Lovatt & Lovatt make a great variety of shapes in teapots, but they all follow, broadly speaking,

the same general outline. But dealers crave for novelties in teapots and jugs as in all things else, and the manufacturers meet the demand by frequently introducing new decorative treatments. "Langley Ware" is thus generally able to appeal to buyers who want up-to-date goods. I do not want to speak disparagingly of their past wares, but it is a fact that the firm have made considerable improvements in, and have increased the number of, their artistic decorations. Their "Royal Blue" colour scheme has been very successful, or, I should say, is, for it is as popular as ever. Teapots, coffee-pots, jugs, in this blue and gilt decoration with matt round are very pleasing. As a variation they are using a soft green glaze in exactly the same manner, and either with or without gold. They are very happy with their colour treatments, and I was shown at the London rooms some very pretty rose bowls, and fern pots in three sizes, scalloped turn-over edge, with large indentures in the sides, in this green colour. Two of these novelties are included in the illustration, but while the form is clearly shown, our black-and-white printing gives no idea of the effective colour. However, Joseph Lockett & Sons have some excellent specimens at their rooms. Another novelty in ornamentation specially for the coming season is an artistic introduction of lace-like effects on light ground: indeed, the lace pattern is part of the ground scheme, and on it are pretty conventional designs in darker colour. In our illustration there are two flower vases showing two forms of this treatment, which in each case is applied to the body of the vase while the neck is in dark blue colour. The soft delicate matt surface has a very pretty effect, and this can be enhanced and varied at will by varying the ornamentations put on it. There is a revival of the taste for decorated stoneware, and the new treatment of Langley ware is not only calculated to meet it, but to improve it. Lovatt & Lovatt's productions of to-day are, artistically, far in advance of their early efforts. They are showing many novelties in vases and pedestals and pots, in a number of artistic treatments, including the new one described. "Langley Fireproof Ware" is shown in green and gold, as well as in the familiar brown. In art vases the "slip" decorations are high-class, while a number of incised ornamentations furnish agreeable variety. Very pleasing effects are produced by coloured threaded work on light grounds. The new decorations are well worth seeing.

Mr. William Ault, Swadlincote, Burton-on-Trent, and Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C., has a number of new productions in "Ault Faience" for the coming season. They were not on show in time to admit of a notice of them this month. Many of them, however, will be at the London rooms by the time these lines are ready and we purpose noticing and illustrating them in our next issue. There is already a fine collection of art ware suitable for the spring trade at the show-rooms, irrespective of the additions.

S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Railway Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, have removed their London showrooms to Gamage Buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C., where they are represented by Mr. C. J. Pratt. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Fielding at his new rooms a few days ago, and of seeing some new samples he had just sent up to London. I was glad to have an opportunity of chatting with him for a few minutes, as he takes a deep interest in the trade questions now being discussed. He is in the thick of the discussion himself, and so knows the various points of difference between employers and employed. The object of these "notes," however, is to interest dealers in what the company are doing towards keeping them supplied with pottery to sell—the difficulties manufacturers have to encounter in producing pottery is another story. Mr. Fielding's special lines are toilet ware, flower-pots, and fancy goods, and they have some new samples in each on show. The "Tees" toilet set has a tall jug with neat embossed work, and is variously decorated with floral designs. The "Ely" is another new shape, also embossed. It is ornamented with festoons of flowers and gilt. Some nice shaded effects are also applied to this shape. Other new shapes in toilets are shown, while the "Tay" and the "Dart" are shown with new ornamentation. The company are specialists in fancy lines, and are noted for the number and the beauty of their



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.

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decorations en suite. Every article for table use is shown uniformly decorated. One series is the "Oban" decoration—a pretty conception in roses on light shaded ground. Another has a combination of floral decoration and ribbon work, shaded edges and gilt. The company have increased their patterns in vases and other art shapes. These are in good taste, both as to form and decoration. The aim has been to produce art forms, nicely ornamented at popular prices. These are high-class goods, and not expensive. We illustrate a jardiniere and two side vases, treated in dull salmon ground, flowers and gilt, in embossed gilt panels. They are samples of a large variety of art vases. Some pretty fern pots are shown, with three feet, cream ground flowers and gilt. Flower pots in new shapes and new decorations are in abundance, and pedestals and pots in similar decorations. One of the most popular lines S. Fielding & Co. produce is their "Royal Devon Ware." This, so far from becoming old, is, I understand, selling better than ever. It has a very neat ornamentation, a pleasing combination of blue flowers and gold on cream ground. It is the quiet tone that is so pleasing in this choice decoration. Toilet ware, vases, flower pots, miscellaneous table ware, and fancy goods are all supplied in this ware. The style of the "Royal Devon Ware" has been copied. Of course, the company would rather they were not imitated, but Mr. Fielding himself does not seem much perturbed at the competition. He philosophically says, "The imitations that are as good as ours in finish are dearer, and those that are the same price as ours are inferior in quality." The company make pedestals and pots in several very attractive shapes and decorations. Vases, toilet, and trinket sets are supplied in the same decoration. The shape and decorations are as numerous as the variety of articles made. The company supply pieces of all sizes, from a pin tray to a pedestal.

Young & Hodgson, Ltd., 60, Shoe-lane, London, E.C., are manufacturers' agents and importers of useful and fancy china, glass and earthenware. The company represents the amalgamation of the two well-known firms, Sanderson & Young, of 21, Red Lion-square, W.C., and Fred. Hodgson, of 60, Shoe-lane. The representative and factoring business carried on under the old firm's name, and at the two addresses, will be continued, but at the one address, 60, Shoe-lane. Mr. Sanderson has retired from the original firm, and Mr. Young, his late partner, and Mr. Hodgson are the managers of the new joint business. Young & Hodgson have acquired extensive premises, consisting of showrooms, and warehouses above, and adjacent to the rooms hitherto occupied by Mr. Hodgson. The large stock kept by Sanderson & Young at Red Lion-square was disposed of, and a new and up-to-date assortment of goods of the same classes has been procured, and is now on show and in stock at the new rooms. The company will stock the same extensive variety of fancy lines as were always kept in London by Sanderson & Young, and will have increased facilities for supplying cased goods, assorted just as that firm used to do. Mr. Young will continue his periodical visits to the continent, and will keep the company supplied with the latest novelties in fancy lines, in the same manner as hitherto. Mr. Hodgson will be associated with Mr. Young in this, and also in the representation of A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Burslem; Hermann Müller for Bohemian glass; Rylands Glass and Engineering Co., Barnsley, for glass jars; and other firms for whom the new company may act as representatives. The experienced assistants of both firms are retained, so that the company has the services of an efficient staff, while the principals will take an active part in the control and conduct of the business. Some structural alterations were not completed at the time of my visit, but all will be in order in a week or two. There are showrooms on the first floor for glass and fancy lines, while the ground floor space, re-arranged and considerably enlarged, is devoted principally to the large collection of samples of the earthenware goods of Messrs. Wilkinson,



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

YOUNG & HODGSON, LTD.: LEFT SIDE OF SHOWROOM.

The company's spacious new rooms on the ground floor afford admirable facilities for the display of toilet and dinner ware to advantage. We give illustrations of each of the two sides of this floor. The arrangement of the samples—excellent for every other purpose—



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

YOUNG & HODGSON, LTD.

does not admit of one clear view of the room. It was only by showing the two sides separately that we could get any useful illustration of the room. Even as it was, the camera could not take in the five bays, or recesses, leading out of the right-hand side of the room. These recesses are really rooms without doors, and they have been constructed with the object of separating more effectually wares presenting very different effects. In the first of these rooms, the opening into which is but scarcely perceptible in the illustration, Young & Hodgson are showing two or three special lines. One of these is a new series of "Landscape" views on all kinds of useful ware, such as teapots and stands, cheese covers, tobacco jars, butter dishes, and many other table requisites. Another line, quite new for the season, is a range of small vases and other fancy pieces with "Filbert" decoration. The fruit and foliage are shown on nut-brown ground. The entire decoration is carried out in varying shades of brown. As importers of all kinds of useful and ornamental pottery and glass, they are continuing the policy so long pursued by Sanderson & Young, of importing special lines made to



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

YOUNG & HODGSON, LTD.: RIGHT SIDE OF SHOWROOM.

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their instructions and made for them only. These goods cannot be duplicated in the rooms of other importers, so that customers will not have competition in them in their own neighbourhood. Two classes of goods for which Sanderson & Young were noted will be found fully represented at Shoe-lane. These are miniature figures and glass flower tubes. Young & Hodgson are showing samples of new ranges of flower tubes, which they supply in conveniently assorted cases. Two or three patterns and two or three sizes in each pattern can be had in a case. With the samples are lists showing the contents of various mixed cases ready for quick delivery. The new company continue the British representation of Mr. Hermann Muller, manufacturer of Bohemian glass.

A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Royal Staffordshire Pottery, Burslem, may always be trusted to have something attractive for each season. They do not adopt this plan because their shapes and patterns are not lasting in popularity, but because buyers like novelties along with old favourites. The company are represented in London by Young & Hodgson, Ltd., 60, Shoe-lane, E.C. Mr. F. Hodgson, who has been Messrs. Wilkinson's representative in London for many years, is still representing them in conjunction with his new partner, Mr. Young. The premises at 60, Shoe-lane have been re-arranged, and Wilkinson's goods are prominently displayed on the ground floor. In the illustrations of Young & Hodgson's re-arranged room which we give in previous pages, Wilkinson's new toilet set is seen in a number of striking ornamentations. The "Lodore" is one of the best toilet services this enterprising firm have ever brought out. They have the reputation of being fertile in designs for toilets, and the "Lodore" is worthy of them. In our view of the left side of the showroom the "Lodore" toilet set is seen in a long row of ewers differently decorated. There is a neatly embossed design on the shape, and good use is made of it in the different ornamentations. The medallion and floral devices in various colours are effective. The ewer is a graceful shape, as will be seen from the illustrations, and the round basin with scalloped edge is in keeping with it. The "Lodore" should prove a good companion to some of the recent successful lines brought out by the company. There are many excellent dinner patterns. The "Regent" is a good one. It has an oval vegetable dish, and is shown in several neat border patterns, and also in bands and gilt. The company have made additions to their large variety of fancy decorations on miscellaneous table ware. These fancy lines are very pleasing patterns—good decorations, painted flowers, and gold. The large assortment of flower pots has received several handsome additions. Among them are the "Medallion," the "Lodore," and the "Star." The company are also showing some very pretty fern pots.

Mr. James Marshall, 10, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, E.C., is representing A. Hache & Co., of Vierzon, France, manufacturers of best French fireproof china. Mr. Marshall has the sole agency for this ware for Great Britain. He has samples of all the principal goods now in his showrooms. The white china goods are very high-class. The round and oval cooking dishes, jugs, and other articles are nicely made and supplied in several sizes. Mr. Marshall is showing samples of fireproof brown ware; these include oval and round covered cooking dishes, pie-dishes, handled casseroles, coffee-pots, teapots, and round boiler pots in several sizes.

Cauldon, Ltd. (Brown-Westhead, Moore & Co.), china and earthenware manufacturers, Cauldon-place Works, Stoke-on-Trent. For many years the firm had their showrooms at Fitz Eylwin House, Holborn Viaduct. When the "company" was formed, the London showrooms were removed to Bartlett's-buildings, and now they have been again removed to the Viaduct. For some months past temporary rooms have been occupied during alterations in the buildings in which their present rooms are located. They are now comfortably settled in their new London home, where they hope to remain for a lengthy period. They have a large, well-lighted, and conveniently arranged room over the Bank at the corner of Holborn Viaduct and St. Andrew-street. Mr. Fred Cox, their London representative, has just received a number of new samples, and I had an opportunity of inspecting them when I called to see the new rooms. The company are manufacturers of high-class china and earthenware, useful and ornamental, the former predominating. Their useful ware is, of course, neatly ornamented, but when I mentioned ornamental goods I referred to those that are for ornament only, such as vases, plaques, and fancy pieces. The company produce these, but not so extensively as they do useful domestic ware. They are showing a large number of samples of superbly decorated china dinner ware—border patterns in apple green, rich cobalt and gold, and several other choice border decorations. Amongst several new shapes in dinner ware are the "Holborn" and the "Teutonic"—both beautiful models with oval vegetable dishes. The "Oak" shape is a revival of a very old dinner service. The round covered dishes have dome-like covers. There is a preference at the present time for old styles, and this oak shape is just the thing to appeal to those who have that partiality. There are some charming novelties in new toilet services in china. The "Athens" is a plain shape, perfect in form, ornamented with key border on a gold band round the body of the ewer and festoons of painted roses. The "Homburg," another new china toilet service, is all that a china service should be in form and ornament. It has plain gilt edge, and the body is enriched by pretty rose-buds in circlets of flowers. The "Stanhope" has a rich decoration, marone ground with flowers on a white band and gilt. The "Homburg" shape is shown also in earthenware. A new special line in moderate-priced earthenware toilets is the "Ideal"—a tall, straight ewer, almost cylindrical, with a round, deep serviceable basin. It is shown in neat printed patterns. The samples of jugs are very varied. In addition to the ordinary styles, there are some that are quaint both in form and ornament, the latter introducing cats and dogs in an amusing manner. There are new shapes and decorations in earthenware teapots. An interesting novelty (in "Cauldon" ware, at any rate) is a range of earthenware dessert sets nicely decorated, and, of course, inexpensive. On the other hand, there are examples of richly ornamented china dessert sets, and a large assortment of china tea ware from neat simple patterns to richly painted and enamelled.

Earthenware to the value of £549 was imported into St. Lucia during the fiscal year 1906-7. The import of glassware in the same period was valued at £380.

Pottery in the Trade Returns.—The last issue of the Board of Trade returns of the import and export trade of the United Kingdom contained the announcement of several changes in classification. Bricks are now shown separately throughout, as also are roofing tiles and street paving tiles, formerly included in chinaware and earthenware. The goods formerly shown as "earthenware (including semi-porcelain, majolica and glazed hearth and wall tiles)," are now subdivided under the four headings: Floor tiles for tesselated pavement; all other tiles (except roofing and street paving); sanitary ware; and other earthenware (including semi-porcelain and majolica). We welcome these changes, as it is obvious that the more detailed every additional detail shown makes the return more useful for purposes of comparison.

POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

THE Annual General Meeting of the members and friends of this Institution was held on the evening of Friday, January 31, at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, Mr. R. P. Copeland, of Stoke-on-Trent, the President, in the chair. Among those present were Mr. Ronald D. Doulton, Chairman of the Board of Management; Frederick Cox, F. Currie, C. J. Dale, G. D. Francis, Charles Green, Louis H. Hadley, J. E. Heath, Edwin Lawson, A. Overton Jones, John Porter, Frank E. Spiers, W. Thomson, and A. H Tinsley, members of the Board; J. T. Bourne, W. Carroll, F. Findlay, A. H. Folker, &c.

The SECRETARY (Mr. Algernon J. Prickett) intimated that apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Cyrus Daniell (treasurer), Mr. Jules Wuidart (trustee), Mr. Charles S. Jones (chairman of the Staffordshire Committee), Mr. E. P. Evans (Worcester Royal Porcelain Co.), Mr. J. Silvers Williams-Thomas (Stevens & Williams, Stourbridge), John Brock, junr., Orrok M. Doulton, J. H. Hart, J. Kendall, J. Lockett, J. T. Mogridge, S. Stanley and D. Nestle. The notice convening the meeting having been read and the minutes of general meetings held on Feb. 4 and July 9, 1907, having been confirmed,

The Secretary read the report of the Board of Management and also the auditors' financial statement, which were given fully in our last issue.

Mr. RONALD D. DOULTON, in moving the adoption of the report, said :—Year after year your Board of Management have appealed to the members to take a greater interest in this Institution by introducing new members. How far they have responded to this appeal we must leave to their own consciences. The result is we are now faced with the regrettable fact that we are unable to-day to recommend the election of two candidates. As proof of this apathy on the part of members our numbers have remained almost stationary since the foundation of this Institution in 1881. Unless the pottery and glass trades take a greater interest in this, their only Benevolent Institution, we cannot with any decency appeal to the general public for assistance, notwithstanding that pottery and glass are necessities for all, either for utility purposes or for decoration. The latest Home Office returns give the number of persons engaged in the pottery and glass trades in the United Kingdom for 1901 as 106,879. Our membership of that total is only 418. Can you conceive anything more disheartening to your Board of Management than these facts? According to our rules and present balance-sheet, we only have the sum of £487 1s. 6d. available for annuities and this only permits of 19 members or 32 widows of members being on the books of the institution. As a matter of fact 28 have been already elected whose annuities amount to £510, and two are awaiting election besides those who are requiring temporary relief. We are deeply thankful to those who have supported this Institution in the past, and trust their charitable actions may be rewarded, but how are we to reach those manufacturers and employees who are not donors or subscribing members? Only by pressure brought to bear by the members themselves. The thought has often occurred to me, as it possibly has to other members of the Board, that if we were only dealers, buyers or salesmen, instead of being agents and manufacturers, what a lever it might be made to induce non-members to become subscribers by refusing to have any dealings with any manufacturer or representative who was not charitable enough to support their only Benevolent Institution. Our Secretary and his predecessors have frequently visited the Staffordshire potteries and other centres of these industries, and received little or no response to their appeals. The manufacturers shield themselves behind their employees' sick, slate and various other clubs, all very estimable in their way, but they only benefit the people themselves, whilst this Institution seeks to help widows and those who in many cases have had no opportunity of belonging to such clubs. Besides, no sick club could render such permanent benefit to members in necessitous circumstances as our Institution does. THE POTTERY GAZETTE has always shown much sympathy towards this Institution and if the Staffordshire papers generally would urge this point on all dealers, buyers, and salesmen, we should speedily be able to elect the two members who are now awaiting an increase to our funds. Manufacturers should bear in mind that many of our annuitants have been either dealers, buyers, salesmen, warehousemen (or the widows of such) who have assisted in the disposal of their manufactures, and should respond more generously to their entreaties for assistance. Many of our annuitants belong to the Staffordshire potteries, and consist at present of :—

5 widows of travellers.
4 widows of warehousemen, and 3 warehousemen.
2 widows of dealers, and 1 dealer.
2 widows of designers.
2 widows of clerks, and 2 clerks.
1 widow of salesman, and 1 salesman.
1 widow of glass engraver.
1 widow of agent, and 1 agent.
1 widow of foreman, and 1 show-room attendant.

In addition to their own donations, which of course are generously made, without any expectation of personal benefit, manufacturers could help the Institution by recommending, or even urging, their employees to become subscribing members. And what is this minimum subscription we are pleading for? 10s. 6d. a year, which is equal to 2¼d. a week. Surely no manufacturer, dealer, buyer or others engaged in these trades can refuse to subscribe such a pittance? Mr. Doulton then formally moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. J. T. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I will follow the example of Mr. Doulton, who has moved the adoption of the report, and say very little about the finances, but, with your permission, I would like to second the appeal that he has made, and will endeavour to show, in some measure, the bearings that the finances of the Institution have upon the action that can be taken, and is taken, by the Board of Management. In the first place, by the report, which is in the hands of all members present, I find that the income from all sources is £698 0s. 1d.; the expenditure during the year has been £686 18s. 7d., leaving a balance of only £11 1s. 6d., so that practically the expenditure amounts almost to the income received, while we have the fact pressing upon us, that seeing that the Institution is now passing out of its youthful stage, the claims for relief are increasing, and we see that by the fact that during the past year there have been 5 additional annuitants coming to the Board for relief. We have now 9 members and 19 widows receiving relief, and during the past year the sum of £517 19s. has been paid in annuities and relief. It is said sometimes that some people can be very generous with other people's money, but this is a statement that cannot be made with regard to our Board. They have recently approved of two applications, but on account of the income being what it is, they have come to the decision, very reluctantly, that they must defer these applications until a later time. They say, practically, that the expenditure must not exceed the income, and the decision at which the Board has arrived, must, I am sure, be a very grievous one to them. We learn that they have considered that very carefully, and in looking at it from all points of view, they have come

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to the decision that the election of these two applications made recently must be deferred to a later time. This decision must commend itself to the members of the Institution, because we recognise the fact that the members of the Board look upon themselves as trustees, as stewards, not of their own money, but of the money that has been subcribed for a benevolent purpose ; and when we consider that that purpose is the relief of necessitous members belonging to the pottery and glass trade—a very high and noble purpose—none can over-estimate the anxious thoughts which the members of the Board must have had in coming to the conclusion that these two applications must be delayed at the present time. Mr. Doulton has, in a very serious way, made this urgent appeal to the members of the Institution, and I am sure that when Mr. Doulton speaks in the way that he has just done, he sees the necessity of the members of the Institution looking at this matter from a standpoint concerning themselves and concerning the interests of the Society. He practically says to us, "If the Institution must continue, or be for the benefit of the members of the pottery and glass trades, then the members themselves must do something ; they must do more than they have done, in order that the Institution may be a success." The report appeals to us in this way :—The Board feel that the time has arrived when they must make the strongest appeal possible to the members themselves to further the interests of the Institution and increase its funds by the introduction of new subscribers. I hope that the members of the Society will take this appeal to heart. I think that such an appeal, coming before us in such large type in the report from the Board, and coming before us in the urgent words just used by Mr. Doulton, should convince all concerned of the necessities of the Institution and persuade every present member to push its interests when and wherever he can. During the past week I have been down to the Staffordshire Potteries, and speaking to a gentleman who is interested in the Society, he brought before me the case of a widow who has been receiving help from this Institution, a widow who has lately died. She has left several children, who are very poor, and those children have testified again and again as to the help which this Institution had rendered to their mother. Their mother was taken seriously ill and was compelled to leave the children in exceedingly poor circumstances. They rendered all the help they could to their parent from their loving hearts, and when she passed away they had to make an appeal for money wherewith to bury her, rather than go on the Union for assistance. We must readily believe that the annuitant's amount which this widow had been receiving for some years must have proved a very real help in such a family. The day after I returned from Staffordshire I saw Mr. Prickett, our secretary, and he said it was a very strange coincidence that in the same week when this poor woman died, a similar circumstance happened in London, and the incident which he gave was a very sad one. A man connected with the earthenware and glass trades in the north of London, a poor man, filling one of the humbler situations in the trade, died, leaving a widow and some young children. Those children had been doing their best to support their widowed mother, and to show the anxiety and the love which the two lads had (one was 16 and the other 21 years of age), one of them, employed on a Midland Railway delivery van, in order to save the expense of travelling to St. Pancras by the workmen's train, walked to his business, and thus saved the 4d. per day, in order that something more might come to his widowed mother in her distressed circumstances. The widow died after an attack of bronchitis and pneumonia accelerated by want. I think some pity and compassion should stir the heart of everyone connected with our trade when such cases as these are brought before them. These people embarked on the ocean of life, were crossing the same seas as we are, but unfortunately fell into adverse circumstances, and were tossed about by tempestuous, contrary winds. When such people are in distress, when they are no longer able to follow their employment. I think as members of the pottery and glass trades, we should feel that if a call is made upon us to help them, we ought, considering their necessities, to come forward with our assistance, and do our brothers a good turn. Members connected with the trade should look at it in that light, and show that such appeals for help for necessitous persons evoke their sympathy. I beg to second the motion.

The PRESIDENT : In putting this motion to the meeting first of all let me say that I regret not having been able to be present at some of the meetings of the Board of Management. I confess that I have not done my duty, but, unfortunately, circumstances prevented me coming to London when a number of the meetings were held. However, I have very great pleasure in being here this evening. I am sorry that circumstances have prevented a larger attendance on this occasion. Our small numbers may possibly be accounted for, to a great extent, by the stock-taking which is going on in many of the London establishments. I, equally with Mr. Doulton, regret the falling off in subscriptions. It is not a large sum to pay, hard as times may be, but in subscribing to this excellent Institution, we should not feel so much for ourselves as the aid we can give to those in distress. I therefore urge all members to keep up their subscriptions, and where possible to increase them, and those who have discontinued their payments, to resume, and so help each other. There was a case many years ago that came under my observation. We have, of course, a sick fund on our works—this happened some 20 years ago. A warehouseman came to me, and said he objected very strongly to paying his 3d. or 6d. per fortnight towards the sick fund. I said that the matter really rested with the workmen themselves, and that I had nothing to do with it ; but of course, if he did not like to continue his subscription, it was his own affair. He, however, continued to pay his subscription, and a fortnight after he had spoken to me, that man was taken ill himself, and glad indeed was he to get his 6s. a week, which he would have lost if he had discontinued his payments. Taking the subscriptions and investments alone, we have some £538 against £518 paid out in annuities and relief. Then, we have donations and proceeds of entertainments which last year amounted to £150. But these last are sums that cannot be depended upon, and as all donations are required by the rules to be invested, the balance left is quite inadequate to meet the working expenses of the Institution. I notice there are two approved applications which I have no doubt are of a necessitous nature. Cannot we stretch a point and help them ? I really think some effort should be made in this direction, and if others would help in the best way they can, I should be very pleased to send a donation of £10 towards this end. I think the manufacturers in the Potteries ought certainly to give more than they are doing. I have just heard the figures as to the number of annuitants resident in the Potteries, and I understand that eight people there have been receiving annuities or help—three are deceased and there are now five. Considering that fact, I think there ought to be more help given to us by the manufacturers. They say "This is only a London affair ; it only affects people in London," but they ought not to forget that we have had eight of their people on our books, and now we have five receiving assistance, a greater proportion than one would think there would be. I consider the expenses of the management are quite reasonable. They look very high ; £168 seems a great sum to expend on £517 of annuities—some 32½ per cent., as a friend of mine wrote me the other day ; but then it would not cost more if we had ten times the amount to deal with.

I should like, whilst I am now speaking, to tender the Board my personal thanks for all their kind and arduous duties. It is not very easy for gentlemen to come every month to the office after their day's duties. It is a great tax upon them, and I am sure you will agree with me in appreciating their labours on behalf of the Institution. The resolution was then put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

Mr. FRED. COX, in proposing that Mr. R. P. Copeland be the President of the Institution for the ensuing year, said they were pleased to see him present that evening. They recognised that he came to London at great personal inconvenience. That he should devote so much time to assist in promoting the interests of the Institution showed that he had a whole-hearted sympathy with the objects of it. Mr. Copeland was so widely known and so highly esteemed that his name at the head of their reports was a guarantee that the best was being done on behalf of those who were receiving the benefits of the Institution, and in providing for those who would be entitled to them in the future. He had pleasure in proposing Mr. Copeland as the President of the Institution for the coming year.

Mr. CHARLES GREEN, in seconding the proposition said he could heartily echo what Mr. Cox had said—namely that the members of the Institution and certainly the Board of Management, felt deeply grateful to Mr. Copeland for the interest he took in their affairs. It was not only in attending the meetings in London, but in matters connected with the Institution in Staffordshire, that Mr. Copeland's interest was manifested. He only wished that more manufacturers would display the interest which the President took in the institution. The Board of Management felt, as Mr. Doulton had said, that they were entitled to look for more support from the manufacturers. It was all very well for them to say that the employees had their own sick funds. That was a cheap excuse. Manufacturers forgot that they are the producers in the Potteries, and they ought not to leave the support of the Institution, so much as they had done, to retail dealers and to agents. That they did not support the Institution more liberally indicated a lack of interest in their employees. He hoped Mr. Copeland would represent this view of the matter to the manufacturers as strongly as possible in the future, and would induce many of them to become vice-presidents and donors to the funds. He seconded the proposition.

The resolution was put to the meeting by Mr. R. D. Doulton, the chairman of the Board of Management, and was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT thanked them for the continued confidence in him, as shown by re-electing him to the position of President. He appreciated the honour conferred upon him and he would assure them, if assurance were necessary, of his unabated interest in the progress of their excellent Institution. As opportunity presented itself, he would do all he could in pressing its claims upon the attention of manufacturers, but he was afraid his pleadings sometimes fell on barren ground in the Potteries.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following were then proposed as the officers for the coming year :—Trustees : Messrs. Jules Wuidart, Minton Goode, and Charles Webb ; Treasurer : Mr. Cyrus Daniell ; Hon. Solicitors : Messrs. Vandercom & Co. ; Hon. Auditors : Mr. John Ellinger and Mr. Henry F. Heybourn. Board of Management :—Messrs. John Brock, Jun., Frederick Cox, F. W. Currie, C. J. Dale, Orrok M. Doulton, Ronald D. Doulton, G. D. Francis, Charles Green, Henry Green, Louis W. Hadley, J. H. Hart, J. E. Heath, J. Kendall, A. Overton Jones, E. Lawson, R. Lawson, J. Lockett, J. T. Mogridge, D. Nestle, John Porter, F. E. Spiers, S. Stanley, W. Thomson, and A. W. Tinsley.

Mr. J. THOMPSON BOURNE asked if any members of the Board had expressed a desire to resign this year, and whether any of the members proposed for re-election had refrained from attending the meetings ?

The SECRETARY said there had been vacancies created in the Board during the year, two by resignation, one by reason of his leaving London, and one by death. The majority of members had attended the meetings of the Board, and he might say the average attendance at these meetings had been 14 throughout the year. One or two of the members had not attended during the year, but the Board knew they were much engaged in travelling in the country, and although they were not able to attend the meetings, it was known they were in many ways advancing the interests of the Institution, and for that reason their names had been retained as members of the Board.

The list as submitted was then approved.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. F. FINDLAY then moved a vote of thanks to the Board of Management for the time and attention they had given to the interests of the Institution during last year. He said he was sure they all re-echoed the President's remarks that the members ought to thank the Board very heartily for the time they had given up on behalf of the affairs of the Society. It did mean a great deal of time, for as the Secretary had told them, the average attendance at the meetings had been 14. That these gentlemen had come to the meetings in the evening, after their days' labours, to look after the welfare of the Institution, was deserving of their hearty and best thanks. There was one matter on which the Board were to be congratulated, and that was the excellent concert they organised some little time ago by which the Institution was enriched by the sum of £79. Everyone enjoyed that concert immensely. He should like to throw out a suggestion, that the report which had been read should be printed and sent to all the manufacturers in the Potteries and those interested in the trade generally. By this means they might bring a few subscriptions to their coffers. If they did as he had suggested it might bring grist to the mill, and perhaps realise what they wanted, namely, a display of more interest in the Institution.

Mr. A. H. FOLKER, in seconding the motion, threw out the suggestion that this meeting, instead of being held at the end of January should, in future, be fixed for the first week in February. If this were done he thought it would not interfere with those who were engaged in stock-taking, as was the case at this season. He proceeded to ask those who had been long in the Institution, and who had seen the benefits that it had conferred in past years, to increase their subscriptions from 10s. 6d. to 21s. No fewer than 69 members, he observed, had dropped off in the past year, and this meant a reduction of their funds by £40. It was the loss of this £40 which had led the Board of Management to the conclusion that the two cases which had been approved could not be entertained at present. Then, as to the pitiful cases which had been brought before them by Mr. Bourne, he would ask if the Board could not place themselves in the position of almoners of some special fund which might be kept in reserve for such special uses, as the subscriptions to the Institution could not be called up in cases where relief was given to those who were not members. He was one of the first members of the Institution and had therefore known it from its inception. He had also been on the Board of Management and knew the work, and therefore he could appreciate the work done by the present members, and very heartily seconded the vote of thanks moved by Mr. Findlay. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. E. LAWSON, on behalf of the Board, said he had great pleasure in conveying the members' thanks to the meeting for their kind vote. The work they had done had

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been purely a labour of love, and they had experienced a great deal of pleasure in trying to help the annuitants. Yet, after twelve months' work, when they looked at the report they felt a great deal of regret that the work of the Institution had not progressed more than it had. They had certainly done their best, but somehow they did not seem to have enlisted the sympathies of the members of the trade all round. They would observe they had only 400 odd members out of a good many thousands that were engaged in the trade. There had also been a falling off in the subscriptions. In 1906 the amounts received were £392, while in the year under review they only came to £347 ; and while the subscriptions had been going down, the annuities and relief had been going up. In 1905 they distributed £415, in 1906 £451, and in 1907 £517, so that they had been going up practically £50 a year. If their subscriptions had been going up at the same rate, the Board would have been in the pleasant position of electing the two annuitants straight away without any trouble as to balance or anything else. They would continue to do all they possibly could for the interests of the Institution, and they would be thankful to all connected with it if they only persuade others to join, and so increase the subscription list. Mr. Folker's suggestion that the Board should become almoners of a special fund for the relief of non-members, he considered an excellent one. To such an idea he could almost say "Yes," straight away, as far as the Board of Management was concerned.

Mr. F. E. Spiers, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, said they were very much indebted to Mr. Copeland for coming to London to attend their meetings. He was sorry that there was not a larger number of members present to support their Chairman. It was a grievous thing to him that the members did not take more personal interest in the work of the Institution. They had arrived now at a certain crisis, as the report indicated, in their affairs, when they really had not sufficient money, that was to say, their actual income was not sufficient to elect the two annuitants who had been recommended by the Board. That was a thing which was only to be met, he felt, by one very important step, a step which the report called upon the members to make, namely, to do something on their own account for the Institution. They had the power, which the Board of Management had not. The Board had power to raise funds by extraneous means, appealing for donations, and getting up entertainments, but they were not in touch with their colleagues in the various establishments. It was the member who was in such establishments who could tell his fellow workmen of the good things this Institution did. He hoped each member would do what he could to impress upon everyone connected with the trade that it was his duty to help others through this Institution. Referring to the case mentioned by Mr. Bourne of the death of a widow at Tottenham, Mr. Spiers said the widow was an actual annuitant, and on her death, of course, the annuity fell through, leaving the poor children with nothing. It was indeed a sad case. She had been supported simply by the annuity and what little work she was able to do, indeed, it was hard enough to keep hunger from the door. She died almost from starvation. There was an inquest held, and the Coroner said it was the worst case of poverty he had ever heard of. He would, therefore, appeal to all concerned to help, for surely in a case like that, members of the trade should be willing to give a small subscription to help those who fell into such unfortunate circumstances. He proposed that their best thanks be given to the President, Mr. Copeland, for presiding that evening. The vote was heartily accorded.

The Chairman, in returning thanks, said it was a great pleasure to come to London to attend this meeting. He had come up that morning specially for the purpose. He fully agreed with Mr. Folker that the Board should take upon themselves the position of almoners, for it was most distressing to hear of the sad cases of starvation to which Mr. Bourne and Mr. Spiers had referred. It had been suggested that members should give 21s. instead of 10s. 6d. He would not say much as regarded that proposal ; but he might suggest even an extra 2s. 6d., 5s. or even 10s. when the member pleased. He would, himself, send the Secretary a donation of 10 guineas to help the Board to see their way to placing the two annuitants, whom they found could not be supported by the subscribers' funds, in a position beyond want. He only hoped that the manufacturers and others would help in a similar way and send up some money, so that the Board could put the two cases on their regular list. He would also forward to the Secretary 2 guineas, so that the Board might help the children referred to by Mr. Bourne and Mr. Spiers. This, of course, was an exceptional effort, and quite additional to the regular functions of the Institution, but he was sure the Board of Management would willingly devote to it the extra labour it would entail upon them. But for the work of the Institution it was apparent that a large addition to the membership was absolutely necessary.

The proceedings then terminated.

POTTERY IN ARCHITECTURE.

At a meeting of the Auctioneers' Institute of the United Kingdom, held on Feb. 12, Mr. Walter Gandy, of Doulton's Potteries, Lambeth, read an interesting paper on "Ceramics in Architecture and Decoration." He pointed out that, though the increasing use of terra-cotta and glazed pottery in building construction and decoration seemed to be a modern conception, it was really a revival of a very old one ; for the use of ceramic materials for architectural purposes dated back to the very earliest ages in the world's history. The potter might be proud when he thought of his craft as no newly invented thing of yesterday, as his brother craftsmen had long ago found out what artistic uses could be made of clay. To the modern worker it had been reserved to perfect the methods of production and invent some new colours. Mr. Gandy sketched the historical aspect of the subject in a series of very interesting paragraphs dealing with Egypt, Chaldea, Babylonia, Assyria, Persia, Greece, and Italy. Some space was given to Roman pottery work throughout the Roman Empire, and especially to the remains of Roman ceramics in Britain, and he then described the nature of Continental brickwork during the middle ages, and the methods of English architects from the Reformation to our own times. From the departure of the Italian designers from this country, caused probably by retrenchments in expenditure after the death of Henry VIII., the use of terra-cotta for buildings practically ceased, until its revival in the nineteenth century. During that century the travelled amateur architects of the day thought brick too mean a material for the grand style, and if stone could not be afforded it must be imitated in stucco. The landscape gardener, it would appear, thought the warm tones of brickwork unsuitable in conjunction with the green tones of nature, and every country house had to masquerade in stucco and white paint. "Towards the close of the eighteenth century a small factory was established in Lambeth (near the site of the proposed County Hall) by the Misses Coade from Lyme Regis. They made terra-cotta very well. Their garden vases and statuary are still met with occasionally, and, unless chipped or broken, are in good preservation. Good modellers were employed, among them being Bacon, R.A., Rossi, who modelled the enrichments for St. Pancras Church, and Bubb, who modelled the friezes for Her Majesty's Theatre in the Haymarket." (Mr. Gandy asks what became of

these friezes when the theatre was pulled down ?) Specimens of the work of the factory could still be seen in various London churches. An early example of Doulton's terra-cotta that stood on the Bishopsgate-st. front of Crosby Hall had now disappeared. With the great exhibitions of 1851 and 1862 came a great revival in all the applied arts, and, among them, in the use of terra-cotta. This brought the lecturer down to the present time, and, with the aid of lantern-slides, he showed a wide range of ceramic effects by presenting pictures of some of the buildings for which Messrs. Doulton have supplied the materials. In unglazed terra-cotta, in faïence, in salt-glazed stoneware, in "Carrara" stoneware, in enamelled stoneware, and other less important branches of the manufacture, the firm of Doultons has been doing its best in the development of modern ceramics, as applied to architecture.

THE HYGIENE OF THE POTTERY TRADE.

ON Feb. 12, Mr. William Burton, chairman of the Joint Committee of Pottery Manufacturers of Great Britain and the well-known pottery expert and author, delivered an important lecture before the members of the Royal Society of Arts, at their room, John-st., Adelphi, London. Mr. Lewis F. Day, F.S.A., the famous decorative artist, presided. The lecture will be published in full in the ordinary course in the Journal of the Society. Under these circumstances, it is not permissible to publish a detailed report of it prior to its appearance in the Journal of the Society of Arts. The question, however, is of such vital interest to the Pottery Trades, and the lecturer is such an authority upon it, that we purpose publishing it in full as soon as etiquette permits us to do so. We may, however, give a few notes from it now. Mr. Burton said that, considering what had been said against the pottery trade during the last ten years by more or less irresponsible outsiders, he felt that he ought to stand there in a penitential sheet. But that was not his attitude, and he had come there to explain why there were difficulties and dangers in the manufacture of pottery, to admit them freely where they existed, and to show that they were all fortunately in process of extinction. Whether that extinction was rapid or slow depended upon circumstances for which the manufacturer was not entirely responsible. The great source of all the trouble was dust. There were two sorts of dust to be considered. The first was the ordinary mineral dust, earthenware dust, which was about as dangerous as the dust raised by motor-cars upon our roads. Unfortunately there was another sort of dust—namely, that giving off toxic or poisonous ingredients, emanating from those manufactures in which lead was used. There were 73,000 people employed in the manufacture of pottery of various kinds. Of these 73,000 not more than 20,000 were exposed to danger of any sort. The remaining 50,000 were occupied in various branches of the manufacture which were as free from danger as any trade in this country could possibly be. Those who were exposed to some form of plumbism did not number more than 6,300 persons altogether. Therefore it was a misnomer to speak of the pottery trade as being a dangerous one. The trade was split up into an infinite number of departments. Pottery was a generic term which included ordinary earthenware, sanitary tiles, electric fittings, &c. It was therefore perfectly possible to have a set of regulations applicable to one branch, say, the china branch, which would be quite absurd if applied to another branch. In every branch of the trade there were always some departments which were quite free from risk, and it was only in some departments of some particular branches that the workers were exposed to danger.

The Effects of Dust.

Mr. Burton pointed out that medical men were agreed that when mineral dust was regularly breathed it wrought very serious danger to the lungs, and that disease was commonly known as asthma ; but it was not asthma, nor was it phthisis. It was impossible to make pottery of any kind without causing considerable quantities of dust. English potteries had been described by some well-meaning people as being far worse in their health conditions than the potteries of the Continent. He had seen the workshops on the Continent, and he could say that English workshops were far better than those of either Germany or France. Mr. Burton showed an earthenware dinner plate fresh from the mould before it had been fired or finished. He pointed out that the edges were ragged and rough, and that such edges had to be finished and made perfectly smooth, either by a knife or by sandpaper. That, of course, created a certain amount of flint dust. That process of cleaning and finishing was illustrated by lantern slides of a number of mechanical contrivances which had been devised for carrying such dust away from the workers. One of the most dangerous forms of the industry, as regarded dust, was that of china scouring, but that danger had during the last year or two been practically removed. A machine had been invented by Mr. Hart, of Stoke, which was remarkably efficient in its work of doing away with the danger from dust. Many of those machines had been exported to the Continent, showing once more that Staffordshire potters were teaching the foreigner how to do it.

Leadless Glazes.

As to the vexed question (so important to workers) of the dust containing lead or some other poisonous substance, 6,300 persons were employed in departments where they ran some risk, although perhaps very slight, of plumbism. He did not wish to minimise the evils of that complaint, but 50 per cent. of the cases were of quite a mild type and could be cured, 25 per cent. could be cured by treatment of a longer duration, and about 12 per cent. ended in final disablement. That was serious enough, but it was not so bad as had been represented. The number of cases had fallen very greatly. In 1896 the percentage of cases to workers was 5·2 for males and 13·1 females ; in 1900 it was 2·2 males and 4·9 females ; and in 1906 it was only 1·1 for males and 2·6 for females. Those operations which created dust caused by far the greater number of cases ; where there was no dust there were very few cases. Great improvements had been effected in the methods of getting rid of that dust, with the foregoing beneficial results. It might be asked, he said, why, if getting rid of the dust was so troublesome and expensive, the manufacturers did not cease to use lead. Unfortunately, with the present knowledge, that was impossible. There were plenty of forms of pottery which could be glazed without lead, but the greater portion of it, from the very nature of its constitution, could only be satisfactorily glazed by lead compounds, and with a full sense of his responsibility he said that to talk about introducing leadless glazes suitable for 90 per cent. of the pottery made in this country was simply to cherish a delusion. Of course, people had a right to say that the process must be carried out in such a manner as to be harmless to the workpeople, and he was full of hope that the point was being rapidly reached. It was only a technical problem, and they might expect to see in a few years an entire solution of those difficulties.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—Three china, glass, and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during the month of January, 1908 ; this is one less than the number gazetted in the corresponding month of last year.

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OLD DENBY SALT-GLAZED STONEWARE.

(BY ONE OF OUR STAFF.)

THE actual date of the introduction of salt-glazed stoneware into this country is still matter of uncertainty. In the sixteenth century large quantities of stoneware were imported from the Continent, principally from Cologne; but towards the end of the century some Dutch potters commenced the manufacture of stoneware in London. Somewhere about 1688 to 1692 the famous brothers Elers settled near Burslem and produced hard stoneware of fine quality on the German method. There is no doubt that they commenced that improvement in pottery manufacture that has continued without interruption, and which has placed English earthenware in the high position it now occupies amongst the pottery productions of the world. But I must limit myself to the production of stoneware, and not be tempted into the other and perhaps more fascinating branches of English pottery. And I must further restrict myself as far as possible to the stoneware of Denby.

Very little is known about the first manufacture of stoneware at Denby. It was made at Nottingham, Chesterfield, and Brampton as early as the beginning of the eighteenth century. Glass pots and crucibles were made at Nottingham from an earlier period, and it is assumed that German or French potters settling in the district applied their knowledge of salt-glazing in the manufacture of the local stoneware. Seeking information about the industry at Denby, I naturally turned to Mr. Wm. Burton's interesting work on "English Earthenware and Stoneware." I was disappointed. When I found that he had nothing to say about it, I at once concluded that very little was known. Mr. Burton says, "The industry, once started at Nottingham, might readily spread as far as Brampton and Chesterfield." And he adds, "Though stoneware is no longer made in Nottingham itself, the industry still flourishes . . . at Chesterfield, Brampton, and Denby."



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

SALT-GLAZED STONEWARE—DENBY. EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY.

To-day Denby is a village with about 1,600 inhabitants. But the readers of THE POTTERY GAZETTE are familiar with "The Denby Pottery," of which J. Bourne & Son, manufacturers of Denby stoneware, are the proprietors. Coal production and pottery manufacture are the principal industries, so that there is not the necessity for Denby to increase in size which there is in so many other places. Still, it is a thriving village, all the same. That it has not been left comparatively far behind other progressive districts is indicated in the fact that its population is six times greater than it was seventy years ago, when it was a village with less than 300 inhabitants. History says that "it was a place of some importance in the fourteenth century." In those days the national importance of a town was not estimated according to its size. Glover's "History of Derbyshire" says that "at the beginning of the nineteenth century there were two manufactories for stoneware bottles, pitchers, jugs, &c., in Belper-Gutter and Denby." No name is given, but both factories belonged to J. Bourne & Son, who have been established at Denby for a hundred years, and who were at Belper much longer than a century ago, though the factory there has been abandoned.

Salt-glazed stoneware (the text from which I have wandered somewhat) was admittedly introduced about 1680 for common descriptions of hard stoneware—especially for drain-pipes and vessels for holding corrosive acids. It was found that the high temperature at which salt glaze was fired rendered it most suitable for such purposes. The legend of the discovery of salt glaze is an appropriate companion to that of the discovery of glass—and I imagine they are about equally true—or false, rather. It is said that some Phœnician merchants placed their cooking-pots on some blocks they found on the shore. These proved to be blocks of natron (sub-carbonate of soda), and the fusion of the alkali and the sand produced glass. Shaw, in his "History of the Staffordshire Potteries" (page 108), says: "At Stanley Farm, near Burslem, a short distance from the small pottery of Mr. Palmer, a servant was boiling in an earthen vessel a strong lixivium of common salt, to be used some way in curing pork; but during her temporary absence the liquor effervesced, and some ran over the sides of the vessel, quickly causing them to become red hot. The muriatic acid decomposed the surface, and, when cold, the sides were partially glazed. Mr. Palmer (the potter) availed himself of the hint thus obtained." Be this as it may, briefly, in practice, salt glaze is applied by throwing common salt (chloride of sodium) into the hot kiln when the process of firing is nearly complete. The salt is volatilised and decomposed, the soda combines with the free silica in the clay, and a coating of hard silicate

of soda is formed. Those who are interested in this subject will find it very ably and interestingly dealt with in Mr. Burton's work. The early potters, and subsequently Bourne, of Denby, applied salt glaze in the manufacture of sanitary ware and domestic ware—jugs, pots, stands, foot-warmers, and cooking vessels, ginger-beer bottles, soda water bottles, &c. But the most extensive use of salt-glaze in Staffordshire at that time was in glazing figures. At the commencement of their career Bourne's also made a number of figures, and they seem to have worked on the same lines as Dwight, Wood, and others in making commemorative figures and groups. These, however, were made in small numbers as compared with useful articles, and they are consequently now very rarely met with. Although Bourne & Son and some other manufacturers of salt-glazed stoneware make useful articles almost exclusively, and do not now make figures, the term "salt-glazed" ware is generally understood to be fine stoneware, coloured drab or white, glazed with salt, showing the fire pitting on the surface like that on the skin of an orange, or on fine leather. This is a characteristic of what is now meant by "Staffordshire" ware, and also of similar ware which was made in Liverpool, Lambeth, Denby, Chesterfield, and some other places, in the late eighteenth and early nineteeneth centuries. These salt-glazed figures are mostly of small size, and those at Denby took the form of spirit bottles bearing the heads and busts of various Reform leaders and prominent persons of the period.

I was at the London depôt of the Denby Pottery, 23, Euston-rd., a few weeks ago, when their London representative, Mr. C. J. Dale, showed me as curiosities—which they certainly are—some very early productions of his firm. I asked him to allow us to photograph them. He kindly consented, and this article is the result. We are able to give illustrations of two rather commonplace stoneware bottles and three small figures. The ginger-beer bottle is plain salt-glazed stoneware. It is one made by Bourne specially for J. Schweppe & Co. On one side there is stamped :

J. Schweppe & Co.
79, Margaret Street,
Cavendish Square, London.

The words "Mineral Water Manufacturers" form a semicircle round these three lines. On the other side there is stamped "Codnor Park Pottery. Burton's Superior Ware." This was supplied to Schweppe & Co. at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when this pottery came into the hands of the Bournes. The soda-water bottle—egg-shape—is also salt-glazed stoneware, and is stamped exactly as the ginger-beer bottle. It is interesting to note that this is the same shape as the glass soda-water bottles still in use. This also was supplied to Schweppe & Co. at the very beginning of the last century. J. Schweppe & Co. was the original name, and 79, Margaret-st. was the original factory of the present company Schweppes, Ltd., the well-known mineral water manufacturers, whose headquarters are now in Hammersmith-road, and whose factory is at Hendon. We give reproductions of three very rare Denby figures in salt-glazed stoneware. They are uniform in height—about six inches. They are original conceptions, and are apparently modelled by the same man. The surface, originally plain white, has been relieved by portions of clay different in colour. The colours have been applied before glazing. They have all been modelled for use as spirit-flasks. The central flask is a foreshortened figure of Queen Victoria. Lettered round the waistband "Victoria." On the scroll held in her right hand is the motto "May Peace and Prosperity Prevail." On the back, "Queen Alexandrina Victoria." On the back there is the manufacturer's name, "Bourne's Potteries," with the words "Denby and Codnor Park" in a semicircle above, and the word "Derbyshire" in a semicircle below. The date of this was most probably 1837—the year of her Majesty's accession. The spirit flask on the right is no doubt modelled after the likeness of a notability of the time. It is not named, and I do not recognise either features or costume. It is lettered on the front "Success to Reform," and was probably modelled in 1832, the year of the first Reform Bill. The manufacturer's name appears on the back, exactly as on the "Queen Victoria" flask. The flask on the left is a stoneware bottle formed as head and bust of Daniel O'Connell, holding a scroll inscribed with the single word "Repeal." Round the base at the front are the words "Daniel O'Connell, Esq." The manufacturer's name appears on the back exactly as on the other flasks. The probable date of this is 1829—the year in which was passed the Act admitting Catholics to Parliament and repealing the oath of abjuration. There was a stoneware bottle formed as head and bust of O'Connell exhibited in the Loan Collection of English Pottery Figures at the Royal Museum and Art Galleries, Peel Park, Salford, in 1906. It was almost, but not quite, identical with the flask we illustrate. The name of the manufacturers and of the Potteries was the same as on the piece we are considering, but the inscription on the scroll was "Irish Reform Cordial." These spirit flasks have all the peculiarities—all the faults—of Staffordshire salt-glazed figure stoneware, and the inference is that they were modelled by a potter who had been trained in the Potteries.

Diabolo and Crockery.—Under the heading of "Commercial foresight," the following advertisement from the "Seaford Chronicle" is quoted by "Punch" :—"The new game of diabolo. Good assortment of table glass, china, &c."

Art Training Fifty Years Ago.—Under the heading "North Staffordshire Fifty Years Ago," the "Staffordshire Weekly Sentinel" gives an extract from its issue of Feb. 13, 1858, from which we take the following reference to the annual distribution of prizes to students of the local schools of art :—"We have no doubt that in the forthcoming national competition the Staffordshire Potteries will gain a very high position, but we must by no means be satisfied with present attainments. There must be a steady, regular, sustained effort on all hands. We trust that parents, school-masters, manufacturers, and operatives will watch for indications in children of the love of beautiful objects, and aptness in delineating them ; and that such children may be introduced, if practicable, to the notice of those best able and most kindly disposed, effectively and profitably to foster this perceptive and imitative power ; and then, while home and general education may improve the morals of the district, and while continuous attention to chemistry may even more fully aid it in relation to bodies, colours, and glazes of our ware, we may produce shapes and decorations which may earn for us a loftier renown, and a much higher degree of commercial prosperity. May not the prosperity or otherwise of our schools of art be taken as indicative of honourable destiny, or of disaster and disgrace ? We think so ; and hence we urge on all concerned—and all are more or less concerned—that we aim at higher excellence ; that all proper accommodation and every healthful incentive shall be furnished to the students ; that a spirit of thorough sympathy shall be evinced towards the masters ; and that the students shall make the best of their advantages ; and then all—patrons, masters, and students—will jointly and fairly share the pleasing results of noble effort and general application."

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A VISIT TO THE POTTERIES.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

PUBLISHED accounts of visits to the Potteries were very plentiful last year. Novelists, moralists, and philanthropists made the five or six towns in Staffordshire (that we hope will soon be one), the scene of diatribes that are usually vented upon the slums of London. I do not pose as a novelist, moralist, or philanthropist myself. My visit was simply that of a journalist seeking information about the manufactories, the potters, and the wares they make, in the interests alike of the manufacturers, the workpeople, and the dealers who sell their productions. It is twelve months since I was there, and if I had believed all I have since read about the place and the people, I might have hesitated to go again. But I did not believe it by a long way, and I was able to walk about the dirty streets of Stoke-on-Trent—the wicked Burslem and the immoral Hanley—without the least trepidation. I have never formed a more favourable opinion of pottery workers than I did during my visit to them in the first week of February. I called at several other potteries, besides those mentioned in the following notes, so that all I say in these preliminary remarks is of general application.

First, as to the workpeople. I have seen hundreds of pottery workers scores of times before, but after the cruel things vicars have said, and the wicked things journalists have written, about them I looked more critically than usual on the female employees. In the decorating shops, sorting rooms, and warehouses I found them neatly dressed, active, and cheerful, and even in the dipping houses and other departments where they don protective clothing that does not lend itself to personal adornment, they were tidy and appeared cheerful and contented at their work. They are, on the whole, as bright and healthy looking as any class of female workers I have ever seen. I do not want to say anything unkind of the cotton operatives, but the women and girls working in the Staffordshire Potteries are healthier looking, and seem to work under more favourable conditions than the women in the Lancashire cotton mills. There may be exceptions—there always are—but the majority of pottery manufacturers are now caring for the health and providing for the comfort of their employees, especially their female workers, far beyond the requirements of Acts of Parliament and Special Rules. At one factory I saw a long and lofty room with a table down the centre and plenty of walking space on each side of it. Jackets, cloaks, and hats, were hung round the sides; there was a fire at one end and at the other end ample lavatory accommodation in a separate room. I was told many of the workers take their meals in this room. It was clean and comfortable looking from end to end. The behaviour and even the personal appearance of these industrious workers have been unjustly criticised. I saw them at their work. Possibly they were not so sedate as nuns, nor as stately as show-room assistants at a West End milliner's. But they were lively yet decorous, and artists in search of types of beauty and health can find both in abundance in the potteries of Staffordshire. There were some who did not reach this ideal, but so there are in every class of life and in every drawing-room of the aristocracy.

Then as to the state of

Trade in the Potteries.

It is very difficult to come to a definite conclusion as to the state of trade by a comparison of the replies one receives from a score or so of manufacturers. When entering a factory, or on meeting a manufacturer in the street, I invariably asked "How is trade now?" The replies were as conflicting as they possibly could be. "As busy as we can be." "We want orders badly." "Things are quiet, very quiet." "Plenty of orders on hand just now." "Rotten, absolutely rotten," said one. But I understood him to mean that there was very little business—not that the trade was unsound. If I had been asked immediately on my return, "Did you find trade good or bad in the Potteries?" I could not have given a reliable answer, based only on the opinions expressed to me by manufacturers themselves. But from what I saw, I came to the conclusion that business was fairly good. The Board of Trade Returns published the same week give that view of the trade for the previous month. While the gross total of exports from the United Kingdom for January show a decrease compared with the exports for January last year, the total exports of china and earthenware for the same month show an increase on the total for January, 1907. The total increase is not great, but it is an increase. It is true we sent less pottery in January to France, Germany, and British South Africa, but we sent more to the United States to Brazil, to British East Indies, to Australia, and to Canada. We have at present no means of estimating the extent of the home trade, but we shall have soon. There was considerable discussion as to the demands for an advance of wages. Everyone in the trade knows that this is the time of the year when, by mutual arrangement, proposed changes either in rates of wages or working conditions are discussed, and are settled for the following twelve months. I need say no more on this subject now, because by the time these notes are published some arrangement will have been arrived at, or at any rate will be in sight. It is hoped that the pottery trade will never again see either a "strike" or a "lock-out" the most disastrous of all industrial follies.

Enterprise in the Potteries.

We have heard much (and possibly have said a little) about the lack of enterprise in pottery manufacturers. My recent visit has shown me that we have manufacturers with plenty of enterprise Whatever sensational halfpenny papers and statisticians may say about our "decaying industry," it is satisfactory to see that there are manufacturers who believe there is yet a future for the pottery trades. There are perhaps not so many hopeful ones as could be desired, but the publication of the fact that there are some may be the means of inspiring confidence in others. It is true I met one manufacturer who said, "I wish I could realise the capital I have invested here. I should be glad to clear out. But I cannot, and am therefore chained to the place." But I also met another one who said, "If I had a few more thousands I would put them into the business, and I am sure I should get a good return in time." [No reference is made to the works of either of these gentlemen in the following notes.] I saw indications in several factories that in spite of the adverse conditions under which pottery manufacture is carried on there is still life and vigour in it. Messrs. Grindley have commenced to build a new factory at Tunstall for the production of a special line of goods. From what I learnt (I had not an opportunity of seeing any members of the firm) the factory is to be constructed altogether on modern principles, and I expect will be somewhat on the lines of Pountney's New Bristol Pottery, which I had the pleasure of visiting and describing a few years ago. That is to say, it will be on the ground floor only, top lighted from slanting roofs. The contract for its erection has been let to Mr. J. Grant of Cobridge, at £8,470. William Boulton, Ltd., Burslem are supplying some of the machinery.

Those who say our manufacturers are lacking in enterprise should make even such a short tour as I recently made, and they would correct themselves. Kilns have been

fired by gas for some time, and now a company is firing one of the largest ovens by gas. Hitherto that has not been attempted in this country and the experiment is being watched with interest. Almost every factory is gradually introducing new methods of working. Some of these innovations involve a heavy outlay. I have just seen for the first time the "new scouring machine," which several firms have recently introduced. Briefly, it is a cylindrical machine on the Alsing principle, divided into compartments each holding a wedge-shaped rack into which the ware is placed. The filling of these racks is easily and quickly effected. When the racks are filled, a quantity of small bits of broken china is introduced into the cylinder, which is then rapidly revolved by power. The sand-like particles come into contact with the ware scouring it effectually, the fine dust being drawn off by a fan in the usual way. The scouring process is soon completed, and I am told that one machine will scour about sixty dozen pieces (such as tea ware) in an hour. I handled some of the ware as it came from the machine, and found it had a beautifully clean, smooth surface. I am assured that the quality of ware is improved by this method of scouring, as it is more evenly treated and takes the decoration better. A great saving in time is secured. I am told that when ware scoured by this machine is "dipped" a lesser quantity of glaze is absorbed, while the result is as satisfactory as by the old method. The scouring material practically costs nothing, except the expense of grinding it, while the cost of the use of the wooden racks is less than that of brushes. The greatest advantage, however, of this closed-in scouring machine, and the one which is most influencing its use, is the protection of the health of the workers. There is no dust flying about, the fan draws it all away. The danger from the dust raised by scouring by hand is well known to all pottery workers. This danger seems to be avoided when scouring is done by these machines, the introduction of which is but one out of many improved methods of working—all in favour of the workers—that are being adopted by pottery manufacturers.

Johnson Brothers (Hanley), Limited, are known the world over as manufacturers of white granite (ironstone china), royal semi-porcelain, white and decorated sanitary ware, and white and decorated tiles. The mere enumeration of these products, however, does not convey any idea of the magnitude of the company's trade. To carry on their extensive manufactures, they own the Hanley Pottery, the Imperial Pottery, the Charles-st. Pottery, and the Trent Sanitary Works, at Hanley; the Alexandra Pottery at Tunstall, and the Crystal Porcelain Tile Works, at Cobridge. I have spoken of their works before, so that



Fig. 2.—Johnson Brothers (Hanley), Ltd.

on my recent visit I called only at the Hanley Pottery, and did not go over any part of that. I had an interview with Mr. A. Weston, one of their managers, who showed me some of their new lines in dinner, tea, and toilet ware. As might be expected of the largest pottery manufacturers in the world (and I know what I am saying when I make this statement), the very essence of success here is "system" and a good one at that. Although registered under the Limited Liability Act, the company is a private



Fig. 1.—Johnson Brothers (Hanley), Ltd. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

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one, and each of the principal departments of the business is under the personal supervision of one of the partners in what is practically the "firm." The effect of this is that the best interests of customers and the comfort and convenience of the workers are kept constantly in view, concurrently with the best results for the manufacturers. The company make chiefly, but not exclusively, for the American, Colonial, and foreign markets. Of course, it is their enormous export trade that finds work for their huge factories. I was shown samples of their best popular staple lines, and also of some of their most recent productions. Johnson Brothers are constantly bringing out novelties in form and ornamentation, in face of the fact that they have some patterns which maintain their popularity for a long time. One of these is a new shape in dinner and tea ware, the "Laurel." Our illustration Fig. 1, will indicate the new features in form better than a verbal description. On the right we show a cover dish and dinner plate in this "Laurel" decorated "Oxford" pattern, printed only in cobalt blue. It is also finished with a gold edge and traced in gold on the pattern. On the left of the illustration we show a cover dish and a cup and saucer. This is the same "Laurel" shape with the "Merlin" pattern, a transfer decoration in delicate tints of pink and green, and finished with a gold edge. The "Laurel" shape is supplied in many other decorations. The "Andorra," "Tokio," and "Fulton" are all in cobalt blue, finished with gold edge and illumination. The first two are border patterns, and the last a rich full pattern, almost covering the ware. The "Beaufort" and "St. Malo" are both border patterns, printed in golden green and apple green with gold tracing. The first is a new form of conventional treatment, and the latter, a broad floral design. The "Lichfield," "Rosebud," and "Glendale" are all transfer border patterns. The "Lorraine," "Baron," "Maple Leaf," and "Avalon" are slight border patterns, without centre, showing the newest expression in style in the decoration of earthenware. These, I understand, are being ordered extensively for North and South America. The Company have several excellent new lines in toilet ware. In Fig. 2 we give an illustration of the "Empire" shape, with "Floral" pattern. The pattern has been designed expressly for the shape, and is, therefore, in perfect harmony with it. The "Floral" pattern is printed in imperial blue, cascade blue, peacock, green, and pink. The "Oberon," a full treatment, introducing fruit and flowers, and the "Rouen Roses," are two pleasing transfer patterns on the "Empire" shape. The gold decorations on this shape follow the line of modelling, bringing out its points of strength and beauty. Messrs. Johnson's productions furnish material for a volume rather than a column. Their famous "Trent" sanitary ware, they tell me, is in increasing demand, and they are building up a great reputation for the quality and durability and the excellence of design and colouring in their wall tiles. The company keep right up-to-date, and, as they have hitherto relied entirely upon the "quality" of their productions, whenever they find it possible to raise the standard of any of their wares, it is raised. In answer to my usual inquiry, as to the state of business with them, I was told their factories are kept fully employed all the time, and that 1907 was the busiest year in the history of the firm.

Mr. Thomas Poole, Cobden Works, Longton, is the manufacturer of the ware known as the "Royal Stafford China." His reputation stands high as a maker of china for the home and export trades. I saw both Mr. Poole and his son, Mr. T. H. Poole, at their works, and was pleased to find them both hopeful as to the future of the trade. They conveyed this impression to me by what I saw, quite as strongly as by what they said. They admitted things had not been, and were not, so cheery as could be wished, and they recognised the difficulties of the present situation, but they are evidently not given to despondency. When trade (or anything else) is not just what we want it to be, it is far wiser to set to work to rectify it than to give way to useless regrets. Mr. Poole is doing his best to improve his own trade, by improving the quality of his goods and his means of producing them. He has fine works and an up-to-date installation of potting plant. I have before referred to the excellent arrangements and appliances



Mr. Thomas Poole, Longton. [*Photo by the "Pottery Gazette,"*

at Cobden Works. Mr. Poole is a business man, and his object is to make his business pay; but, while keeping this in view, he has regard to the comfort and convenience of his workpeople. He does not stop at the bare requirements of the Special Rules, but takes every possible precaution to protect their health. As an instance of this whenever he can he works below the Government standard for lead in his glaze. His factory throughout is worked on hygienic lines. He has just introduced one of the patent "Scouring Machines," which I have referred to above He is well satisfied with the working of it, and spoke with pleasure of the freedom from dust secured by this method of scouring. I saw the scourer in operation. For my information it was stopped, and some ware removed; but there was no dust—all had been carried away by the fan which acts the whole time the cylinder is revolving As I have said, it cleans the ware better and more rapidly than by hand, and leaves it in a much smoother and altogether better condition. His decorating shops are well arranged, well lighted, and well ventilated. The lady inspectors are quite justified in pointing out inefficiency in working arrangements when they see them, but why do they not mention some of the factories where all the arrangements meet with their approval? This would be instructive to those works where the appointments are not so complete. Mr. Poole specialises in teaware, tea and breakfast sets, sweet trays and dishes, biscuit jars

china jugs, clock sets, vases, moustache cups and saucers, and some small fancy pieces. All these are supplied in a great variety of shapes and decorations. But a glance round the well-stocked sample-room shows that, while making a number of other things, Mr. Poole pins his faith on teaware. If I was a buyer, I should consider his show of shapes and patterns most bewildering to select from. There are so many pleasing ones. When I commented upon the number of his samples, he said, "but come and look at the new ones." I found he was constantly adding to them. We give illustrations of four of these new sets. The "Windsor" shape is a low tea—a good form, the decorations printed and enamelled in blue and gold. The "Durham" is a tall cup, tapered, and nicely modelled. The "Grecian" is another squat-shape cup, while the "Radium" is another light design. These are some of the new patterns for the coming season, and they are shown with almost every variety of decoration, from plain printed to richly enamelled and gilt. The "Radium" cup in the illustration has a pleasing ornamentation on what is known as "Derby" style. Some good lines are shown in badged ware on "Worcester," "silver" and "block handle" shapes. They keep a large quantity of general goods and stock lines always on hand. Mr. Poole is represented in London by G. E. Wright & Co., whose show-rooms at 9 and 11, Wilson-st., Finsbury, are open every day. All the newest shapes and decorations are always to be seen at these rooms.

Thomas Forester & Sons, Ltd., Phœnix Works, Church-st., and Imperial Works, Station-sq., Longton, have made some noticeable extensions in their works and additions to, and improvements in their plant in many of their departments. They have for many years had a world-wide reputation as manufacturers of majolica, earthenware, and fancy goods, and they are rapidly attaining the same distinction as china manufacturers. The enterprise which has always been shown in the development of their fancy lines and art ware is seen in the creation in a very few years of an enormous business in best English bone china. We spoke some time ago of the completeness of their up-to-date plant for china manufacture at the Imperial Works. When Messrs. Forester commenced the manufacture of china there, they introduced the best types of machinery, appliances, and working arrangements then available. They adopted the most approved labour-saving methods, and did all in their power to provide healthy working conditions for their employees. But improvements in both directions have been made since then, and on my recent visit to the works Mr. Herbert Forester soon satisfied me that the company have kept pace with them. I noticed this in the large number of mechanical appliances introduced, in the improved methods of firing the kilns and ovens, and particularly in the quite recent installation of four of the patent scouring machines I have already described. After what I have seen, there cannot be any doubt as to the advantages of the use of these machines in place of hand labour. It will be evident to anyone who sees them that the advantage must be great and must also be assured, to warrant the outlay incurred in the introduction of these machines. It is worth while to make use of them, for the protection they give the workers from the effects of dust, but they also effect a saving of time, and give a much better, because absolutely uniform finish to each piece. Their tea and breakfast ware is made of best English bone china: it is modelled in a number of new and pleasing forms, it is fired with mathematical precision, it is produced in bisuit in the most perfect conditions for ornamentation, and the company employ a number of well-trained decorators. I saw such a stock of this china in bulk as should gladden the heart of any buyer who wants a lot of good china quickly. In their art departments they have made equal, perhaps greater, progress. In vases, flower pots, pedestals, and fancy pieces, the company have for years catered very successfully for the "million." They are not abandoning that trade, nor, so far as I could see, are they curtailing it; but they are producing a number of high-class pieces that appeal to quite a different class of buyers. There are several series of artistic treatment applied to vases and other ornaments. Some are in the rich glowing effects that are so much admired just now. The "Old English Homestead" series consists of a number of views in dark outline on crimson grounds. The "Royal Hampton" series are painted in slip under-glaze. Some vases, art shapes, china body, and rich gold and blue ornamentations, are very high class. Other new forms in vases, light ground, painted in Sèvres style and gilt, are good indications of the lines on which the company are now proceeding. Another novelty is the "Royal Alexandra"—a rich hand-painted ornamentation in blue and gold. The company are showing many graceful forms in vases, medelled expressly for them by an artist of recognised ability, whose work has for some time held a high position. They are classical in outline, but are not slavish copies of any familiar shapes. Messrs. Forester have protected these original designs, and are now applying a number of artistic ornamentations. The new shapes to which I am referring are varied in size and in contour, but the decoration always harmonises with the form. Messrs. Forester never had so large an assortment of high-class ornamental pottery as they are showing at present. Their fine large showroom at the Phoenix Works is a veritable art gallery. A large number of beautifully painted and richly gilt souvenir plates, with game subjects amongst many others, shows that the company have a good business with America. One decorative scheme was very charming in conception, and artistically carried out. It was seen to great advantage on large pieces, such as globular vases, &c. The pattern, which covers the whole body after the manner of Persian plate decoration, the pretty flower, the "marguerite," conventionally treated, is repeated all over the surface of each piece. The effect is very decorative—the flowers and accompanying foliage are arranged with excellent taste. The numerous shades of colour, softened a little in the firing, are all harmonious, and, wrapped as they are in pure gold, a rich decoration is the result. There are many high-class productions like this one, and the company are evidently paying more attention to richly decorated costly wares than they have done lately. But they continue to cater for the majority as they have always done. They are showing a new range, "The Gloria" decoration, a popular ornamentation and excellent value. The "Dawn" decoration applied to vases and art shapes is a pretty floral decoration on light ground and gilt. "Forester's for Flower Pots," was a familiar expression in the trade years ago. It is equally applicable to-day. They have an enormous variety of very attractive and inexpensive pots, and have just added some new shapes. Amongst others, the "Albany," the "Irene," and the "Sydney," are all likely to become popular. The "Griffin" pedestal and pot is a good line, one out of several quite new designs. Messrs. Forester are now showing a large and quite new selection of their samples at their new London showrooms in Gamage Buildings, Holborn, E.C.

Sandlands & Colley, Ltd., Lichfield Pottery, Hanley, are manufacturers of china and earthenware for the home and export trade. The business was founded by Mr. Wm. Sandlands and was managed by him until his retirement about 18 months ago. The control then passed to Mr. Alfred Colley, who joined Mr. Sandlands on his retirement from active management. Mr. Colley has had

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an extensive and varied experienee, and is bent on maintaining, and, if possible, on improving on the reputation earned for the firm by Mr. Wm. Sandlands. When I called, Mr. Colley was on the works just as Mr. Sandland used to be. The company make vases, flower pots, and pedestals in great variety, and toilet and dinner ware suitable for a good medium-class trade, and in shapes and patterns in aecordanee with modern taste. They are also manufacturers of speeial lines in ehina tea and breakfast ware. They had just brought out a number of new shapes at the time of my visit, and the illustration shows a few of them. The ewer shown is absolutely new. So new that the basin belonging to it was not completed in time to be shown with it. It is the "Astoria" shape, deeorated with roses and gold. It is, however, supplied in a variety of other deeorations. Two illustrations of dinner ware are shown, both sensible shapes. The "Waldorf" has a plain oval-shaped vegetable dish. The serviee has a neat border decoration with medallion in the eentre, a very pleasing design. The "London" dinner serviee has a neat embossed pattern and oval shape vegetable dishes. Both these dinner services are supplied in printed and decorated patterns. We illustrate a new shape vase. The one shown is about 19½ in. high, No. 92 decoration, with roses tinted and shaded. This vase is also made in a smaller size. It is supplied in many deeorations, including one in blue, brown, and gold, after the Crown Derby style. The company make a large and pleasing variety of china tea, and breakfast ware. Those ineluded in our group are the "Bute," the "Chelsea," and "Tall new art" shape. These are variously decorated, and all ean be obtained in Crown Derby style. The teas are new shapes, and are all supplied in many new decorations besides those illustrated. The pieees shown are all registered shapes. The company make a number of fancy pieces with attractive decorations, and a good range of jugs, up to date in point of shape and ornamentation.



SANDLANDS & COLLEY, LTD., HANLEY. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

KING & BARRATT, Bourne Bank Pottery, Burslem, are manufaeturers of jet and Rockingham ware. I was not fortunate enough to see either of the prineipals, but had a short look at their samples. In addition to what are generally understood by the term "jet and Roekingham," the firm make art shapes in jet, Samian, &e., in tea pots, hot water jugs, urns and sundries. The faney lines include semi-stone ware, "Areadian," "Marble," "Royal Tortoise" ware and "Vandyke." The eompany are represented in London by Mr. James Pratt, who has a full range of their samples at his showrooms, Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

JOHN TAMS & SON, Crown Pottery, Longton, have a well-equipped faetory, possessing faeilities for a large output. I was pleased to see Mr. Tams as alert as ever. The last time I called he was reeovering from an aecident of whieh, happily, no traces remain. Those who are familiar with Mr. Tams' pleasant looks and genial courtesy do not like to eall at the Crown Pottery without seeing him. He is known by name to thousands who never saw his face, as patentee of the popular Government stamped earthenware measures. The firm are manufaeturers of earthenware of all kinds. They supply excellent shapes, tastefully deeorated, in toilet sets, dinner ware, and tea ware, and have some special lines in eaeh to suit all tastes. The new showroom at the works is well arranged, and contains samples of most of their principal goods. The firm are very strong in suites of tableware, prettily deeorated, and have several new ranges for this season. Floral sehemes, shaded, are very pleasing ornamentations, and there are many of them. These suites inelude triple trays, fruit dishes, dessert ware, salad bowls, tea pots and jugs of all kinds. The sets of jugs are useful shapes, nicely orna-

mented, and very good value. Tams & Son are showing a large variety of vases, flower-pots, centres, and side pieces. There are several new designs, and the decorations are sufficiently varied to meet the tastes of all buyers. A new shell flower-pot is shown in several sizes. Embossed patterns,



JOHN TAMS & SON, LONGTON.

both in vases and flower-pots, are numerous. The "No. 546" is a handsome vase, blue decorations on gold ground, in which the tulip is introduced. The illustration shows a few of the most recent productions.

JAMES MACINTYRE & CO., LTD., Washington China Works, Burslem, are famous for artistic pottery for use and ornament. But they are also manufacturers—and on an extensive scale too—of other kinds of pottery, which, though not classed as artistic, are absolutely necessary to the commercial, industrial, and domestic requirements of the day. I am always treated courteously at Washington Works and have on two or three occasions been shown over these "other" departments. I do not know any company making pottery for so many entirely different purposes. In these notes I have never attempted to write of anything but the high-class ceramics the firm produce for use and ornament, and my visits to the works are limited to the department so ably controlled by Mr. Moorcroft. My reason—I will not say excuse—for this is, that readers of the "POTTERY GAZETTE are not so directly interested in the "thousand and one" miscellaneous pieces of pottery manufactured by this many-sided company. They make china door furniture, such as finger-plates, white, black, and decorated in colours, knobs for door handles, shutters, drawers, and cupboards; door numbers and street names in pottery. Advertising novelties for all trades, and sundries for brass workers tin platers, sanitary engineers, shop fitters, &c. But the most extensive department of all is that devoted to the manufacture of porcelain electrical fittings. The company have the reputation for supplying these of the highest insulating qualities. Those of us who do not know much about electrical installations may form a slight idea of the extensive use made of pottery in connection with them, by looking at the fittings in our houses, offices, factories and public buildings. Ceiling roses, switches and handles, wall plugs, lamp holders, balance wheels, pushes, connectors and a score of other things that are used out of sight, are all made of porcelain, and Macintyre & Co. make them all. They are all very interesting and indispensable, but I am not equal to writing about them, and if I was, this is not exactly the place in which to do it. I shall, therefore, as I have hitherto done, follow the advice given to the cobbler, and "stick to my last." When I was at the works a few weeks ago, I was not only shown the specimens in the show-room, but was permitted to look over some of the designing, modelling, and decorating rooms. I have often spoken of the results of Mr. Moorcroft's painstaking, enthusiastic researches in the evolution of new schemes and effects in glazes, colouring, and designs for purely ornamental pieces. I should like to emphasise the remarkable progresss he is making in the application of artistic ornamentation to articles of every day table use. I wish I could have spent more time in the decorating rooms. I should have learnt much that would have been interesting to me. The decorators at Washington Works are artists, trained under Mr. Moorcroft's tuition, and all working under his personal supervision. Many of them are occupied in the application of artistic ornamentation to tea cups and saucers, to tea pots, sugar basins, and cream jugs. Messrs. Macintyre are showing us



JAMES MACINTYRE & CO., LTD.

that there is no reason why a useful cup should not be a pretty one. They are producing a large variety in tea ware with artistic ornamentations by hand at reasonable prices. I was shown some sweetly pretty decorative

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treatments in which simplicity of outline was the dominant feature. I wished to obtain protographs of some of them, to illustrate my remarks, but it was not possible to get them through in time. (Samples, however, of the company's wares may always be seen at their London show rooms, Thavies-inn, Holborn-circus, and these new productions will soon be there.) Artistic feeling is growing, and the daily use of tea ware artistic in form or ornamentation, or better still, in both, will foster it. To put it crudely, the ornamentations I am referring to are hand work, and each piece is therefore, unique. Dealers will assist in the cultivation of a better taste if they will point out to their customers the difference between hand work and mechanical work and explain that it is worth paying for. This would be advantageous to themselves (as dealers) to the public, and to the trade. Industrial art must suffer from the inartistic nature of mechanical processes. It may be said that the action of the human hand is itself mechanical, but the difference between the mechanism of nature and the mechanism of man is that the first, however simple, is always exactly suited to its industrial purpose, whilst the latter, in its most elaborate efforts is feeble, because incapable of variable application—the action must, of necessity, be uniform, in spite of difference in the things acted upon. There are some advantages no doubt in the rapid multiple reproduction of mechanical fine art. The human hand may not be able to do what a machine can, but it can do what a machine cannot—it can impart its individuality to its work. This is what Macintyre's decorative artists do in their original productions, "Dura," "Florian," "Aurelian," and "Eighteenth Century" wares. It is a necessity of nature that no two blades of grass ever can be exactly the same, and it is one of the most charming features of art (not mechanical) that no touch of the pencil, no cut of the graver, can be quite like another. I cannot now say much about the most fascinating section of Mr. Moorcroft's artistic productions — that which indicates the progress of his experimental work in ornamentation. These include some striking glaze effects and remarkable colour treatments. We illustrate a tall vase, exquisite in form, charming in ornamentation. It is of a very fine ivory body, thrown on the potter's wheel and decorated entirely by hand. The colour is all under glaze, and, of course, absolutely permanent. The high temperature at which this piece was fired has revealed inexpressibly beautiful colours. The whole productions of the firm, however, whether for the purpose or utility or ornament, whether for beautifying the dining table or the drawing-room, or forming part in the decorative scheme of a house, are obviously the outcome of much careful study, and are of such a character as to meet the demands of those who appreciate unique examples of the potter's art.

Shaw & Copestake, Sylvan Works, Longton.—An entirely new showroom has just been completed at the works of this firm in Normacot-rd., Longton. In honour of its inauguration we were asked to bestow a name upon the firm's latest speciality—a pretty example of decorative ware—a request with which we had pleasure in complying. The showroom occupies the site of an old packing house. It has been entirely redecorated, elegantly furnished, and is splendidly lighted, both naturally and electrically, showing to advantage the numerous new patterns of semi-porcelain goods which the firm produces. Nothing in the showroom is old, and every line is eminently saleable. A special feature is a series of six vases, intended to be retailed at the price of a shilling. Perhaps the most attractive of the six is a shape known as the "Berlin" which has a solid cobalt blue ground, and is decorated with a tasteful litho floral or figure panel. The handles are gilt, and there is a neat gilt ornamentation round the panel. The other shapes vary a little, but all of them are effective. They may also be had with a ground of maroon or dark green. Another novelty is a similar line with the exception that the vases are smaller, and are intended to retail at 6½d. The room contains one show table almost entirely devoted to new patterns of cheese stands, ranging widely in price. Some of the best of them are of the "Gem" shape, shaded in pale pink and light green, or in blue, with gold ornamentation. Other very neat styles are the "Dolphin," the "Royal," the "Sylvan," the "Alexandra," and the "Queen." We also had our attention directed to a few samples of toilet and trinket sets, a branch of the trade, however, which Shaw & Copestake only touch in the most expensive decorations. Jugs are shown in endless variety, all the shapes and patterns being quite new. Some are florally decorated, and some have litho landscapes, filled in by hand. An uncommon, spiral-shaped jug, gold traced, with a decoration of azaleas, is, we were told, taking very well on the market and the Crown Derby style is also in steady demand. From the point of view of artistic merit, however, the showroom



Shaw & Copestake.

boasts nothing finer than its admirable selection of best vases in pairs and sets. Prominent patterns are the "Saxon," the "Elgin," and the "Holborn," all of which have cobalt blue grounds, decorated with charming animal and landscape studies in litho, liberally extended by hand. The raised gold ornamentation round the litho panels is exquisitely traced. In the case of sets, the centrepieces are on pedestals, and look very handsome. Other sets are shown in bronze green, water green, pink and various coloured grounds, with raised gold, landscape, floral, figure, and other decorations. These decorations are also carried out in an extensive range of flower pots of all sizes and shapes, notably the "Gipsy," which is in four sizes, exhibiting raised gold birds and flowers, on a bronze green ground. The pot has three gold feet, and is neatly finished. The very latest of the firm's productions is the "Nulli Secundus" decoration, which is applied to vases, flower-pots, and pedestals. It is a French style of ornamentation, showing some beautifully executed roses on a sepia brown ground. An entire range of ware is to be made in this decoration forthwith. Some choice lines in fruit dishes and pedestals complete the contents of the room, which will well repay a visit. The "Sylvan" works con-

tinue to expand rapidly, two new ranges of buildings and a new oven have been added during the last 18 months, as well as the new showroom just opened. Samples may be seen at their London agents, Messrs. Mogridge & Underhay, 10, Bartlett's-buildings, London.

Albert E. Jones & Co., of the Palissy and Garfield Potteries, Longton, are a firm whose present prominent position in the semi-porcelain amply refutes the oft-heard assertion that the trade of Longton is "going to the dogs." "There's plenty of trade, if you only look for it," Mr. Jones remarked cheerily to The Pottery Gazette representative who called upon him a few days ago at the Palissy Pottery, and, judging from what we saw on the occasion of our visit, the speaker must have been "looking for it," to very good purpose. The business was only established three years ago at the Garfield Pottery, but already it has absorbed the Palissy Pottery, and, in order to provide room for the three hundred and fifty or so of workpeople now employed, extensive alternations are now in process of exceution at the latter manufaetory, which will double the producing capacity of the potters' shops, besides making them as up to date as any in the Potteries. Albert E. Jones & Co. manufacture all classes of dinner, tea, and toilet ware, and earthenware speeialities, for both home and export. A leading produetion is their Queen's white ware, in fine semi-porcelain, which is kept in a very wide range of attraetive shapes. The "Palissy" ware, named after the Chaneery-lane Pottery, is another speciality in all kinds of table and toilet ware, the decoration being a floral treatment in very rich underglaze crimson and light green, both colours being of the firm's own production. A new pattern which is certain to ereate a demand is the "Festoon" decoration applied to toilet ware of the "Palissy" and "Riehmond" shapes. The ware is printed and illuminated in gold, and also enamelled. The basins are of the non-splashing variety, and the ewers present a highly attractive appearance. The festoon pattern is also applied to dinner and teaware. Each piece is of graceful outline, but all the shapes are quite plain; the tea eups are entirely without embossment of any kind, the general effeet being one of thorough neatness and simplieity. The showroom at the Palissy Pottery has just been entirely redeeorated, and is now filled with a display of new goods, among which are many new shapes in teapots, cocoa jugs, sardine boxes, fruit trays, covered muffin dishes, and attractive novelties for table use. Albert E. Jones & Co. are represented in London by S. Dornberger & Co., of Gamage-buildings, Holborn, W.C., who hold a complete range of the firm's newest samples, and a visit would amply repay any buyer.

The Royal Victoria Pottery, Victoria-square, Hanley, supply a great variety of specialities in toilet services and odd pieces, jugs, dinner ware, tea and breakfast ware, in artistic decorations at moderate prices. They make a leading feature of vases of an attraetive but inexpensive charaeter. They do not profess to supply high-class goods, but of ornamental pottery for the majority they have a large assortment. They invite buyers from the provinces, when in the Potteries, to give them a eall, and they will offer them some cheap stock lines for the market trade and for hawkers. The company have London show-rooms at 14, Bartlett's-buildings, Horborn Circus, E.C. Mr. W. P. Pattenden is representing them for the London and suburban district, and has a full line of their samples on show.

A German Glass Trade Directory.—The proprietors of "Die Glashütte," of Dresden, have just issued the fourteenth edition of their Directory of the German glass industry, giving in a convenient form the addresses of manufaeturers and merchants of glass, glass-making machinery, and glass materials.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES.

The Pottery Trade.—Employment in the pottery trade in January was fair, but not so good as a month or a year ago. Employment in Staffordshire was fair; it was also fair in Devonshire and at Swadlincote; at Newcastle-on Tyne it was bad; in Scotland employment showed a decline on the previous month. With makers of china at Longton employment was better than a month ago; but with earthenware makers in South Yorkshire and the River Aire district it was only moderate, and was worse than a month ago. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment was bad; it was also quiet with stoneware throwers at Glasgow. Packers reported employment as fair, but with short time; engravers as good. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was good at Manchester and Gateshead, and dull at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades was fairly good on the whole, but was not so good as a month ago. It showed some improvement as compared with a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 10,154 workpeople in the week ended January 25, and paying £12,304 in wages, showed a decrease on the previous month of 2·6 per eent. in numbers employed, and of 6·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decreases being common to all departments and to all districts except Scotland. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1·8 per cent. in numbers unemployed, and of 3·8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the improvement being almost entirely in the glass-bottle making branch.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Leeds, Dublin and Bristol, and in Seotland; fair at Castleford; moderate, and worse than a month ago, in the North of England and at St. Helens; bad at Mexborough and Barnsley. With medical glass bottle makers employment was good at Rotherham and moderate at Leeds. Employment with flint glass makers showed little change from the previous month. With cutters it was fair; at Wordsley and Stourbridge it was good. Employment was fairly good with London glass blowers. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear it was bad, much short time being worked during the month.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on the last pay day in January.

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	7,033	£8,887
Plate Glass	773	871
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,891	2,034
Other Branches	457	512
Total	10,154	£12,304

Number of persons employed in eaeh district and the amount of wages paid to them on the last pay day in January:

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	944	£1,000
Yorkshire	4,572	5,705
Lancashire	2,197	2,667
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,250	1,500
Seotland	877	1,109
Other parts of United Kingdom	314	323
Total	10,154	£12,304

China and Glassware are mostly imported into Colombia from Austria-Hungary and Germany. China should be of eheap quality, but, at the same time, of light weight. British packing for these articles is considered the best.

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COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

XIII.—THE SETTING OF CEMENT AND THE "BUCKLING" OF FLOOR TILES.*

By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc.

TILES, when thoroughly soaked in water and bedded in cement on the floor of buildings, sometimes "buckle" in an interesting manner. The tiles do not "grow" to the cement in the normal way, but spring from the cement to form a surface, convex upwards. The tiles then emit a hollow sound when struck. There is a cushion of air between the tiles and cement, and if the room be heated rapidly by, say, steam pipes, too fast for the air to escape, the pressure, set up by the expansion of the cushion of air, has been known to project the tiles upwards with a slight explosion.

At the outset, it is obvious that the cement must have contracted or the tiles expanded after the floor was laid. The latter hypothesis is so improbable that it must be rejected until other more likely hypotheses have been tested.

It has been suggested that a difference in the coefficient of thermal expansion of the tiles and cement would cause the trouble. I therefore measured the difference in the thermal expansion of tiles and cement, and found a minute difference. But the diurnal variations of temperature are too small to render this hypothesis a reasonable explanation of the phenomenon. The results of this investigation were described in a previous paper (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 5, 159, 1906; *Pot. Gaz.*, 32, 563, 1907). Of course, tiles, say, under a hot stove in a workshop, may be heated locally and expand independently of the cement. This might cause buckling, but this condition is not common, and does not affect the particular type of "buckling" now under consideration.

We next inquire if the bedding cement undergoes any change in volume while setting. It is well known that cement contracts when setting in air, and expands when allowed to set under water. These facts have been established by the work of J. Grant, *Proc. Inst. Civ. Eng.*, 62, 108, 1880; H. le Chatelier, *Bull. Soc. d'Enc. Nat. Ind.* (5), 5, 54, 1900; M. Deval, *ib.* (5), 5, 31, 1900; A. Considère, *Experimental Researches on Reinforced Concrete* (L. S. Moisseiff's trans.), New York, 86, 1903; W. A. Rogers, *Proc. Assoc. Railway Superintendents of Bridges and Buildings*, 10, 166, 1900; Schindler, *Tonind. Zeit.*, 31, 1,026, 1907; S. Kasai, *ib.*, 31, 249, 295, 1907; *Report on the Compressive Strength of Cements, and the Compression of Cements, and the Settlement of Masonry, Trans. Amer. Soc. Civ. Eng.*, 15, 717, 1886; 17, 213, 1887; M. Gary, *ib.*, 30, 17, 1893; A. L. Adams, *ib.*, 36, 1, 1896; J. Bauschinger, *ib.*, 15, 722, 1886; *Mitt. Mech.-Tech. Lab. König. Tech. Hochsch. München*, 1, 1897.

In the summer of 1905 I made some measurements of the change in length of small blocks of cement 15 cm. by 1·5 cm. by 3 cm., by the aid of a micrometer reading to 0·01 mm. In one series of experiments the cement was allowed to "set" in water, and in another series to "set" in air. Two mixtures were used in each series—one "neat" cement, and the other contained 75 per cent. of sand, 25 per cent. of cement. The cement and sand were those normally employed for bedding tiles, and from the same batch as were used in the experiments on the thermal expansion of tiles and cement previously cited. The distance between two pieces of gun-metal ribbon, bedded in the cement blocks, was measured every five days for a period of two months. The slabs, &c., were kept in a cellar in which the temperature fluctuations did not exceed 3 deg. Mean temperature, 14 deg. The following results were obtained:—

Series I.—Blocks Under Water.

Days.	Neat Cement.		Cement 25, Sand 75.	
	Measurement. mm.	Expansion. mm.	Measurement. mm.	Expansion. mm.
0	100·32	—	100·56	—
5	100·59	0·27	100·70	0·14
10	100·77	0·45	100·72	0·16
15	100·80	0·48	100·73	0·17
20	100·87	0·55	100·75	0·19
25	100·91	0·59	100·76	0·20
30	100·93	0·61	100·78	0·22
35	100·95	0·63	100·80	0·24
40	100·96	0·64	100·80	0·24
45	100·96	0·64	100·81	0·25
50	100.97	0·65	100·81	0·25
55	100·97	0·65	100·81	0·25

Series II.—Blocks in Air.

Days.	Neat Cement.		Cement 25, Sand 75.	
	Measurement. mm.	Contraction. mm.	Measurement. mm.	Contraction. mm.
0	101·13	—	100·74	—
5	100·73	0·40	100·56	0·18
10	100·53	0·60	100·47	0·27
15	100·41	0·74	100·40	0·34
20	100·32	0·83	100·37	0·37
25	100·19	0·96	100.35	0·39
30	100·14	1·01	100·33	0·41
35	100·03	1·12	100·31	0·43
40	100·00	1·15	100·29	0·45
45	99·98	1·17	100·29	0·45
50	99·98	1·17	100·28	0·46
55	99·97	1·18	100·28	0·46

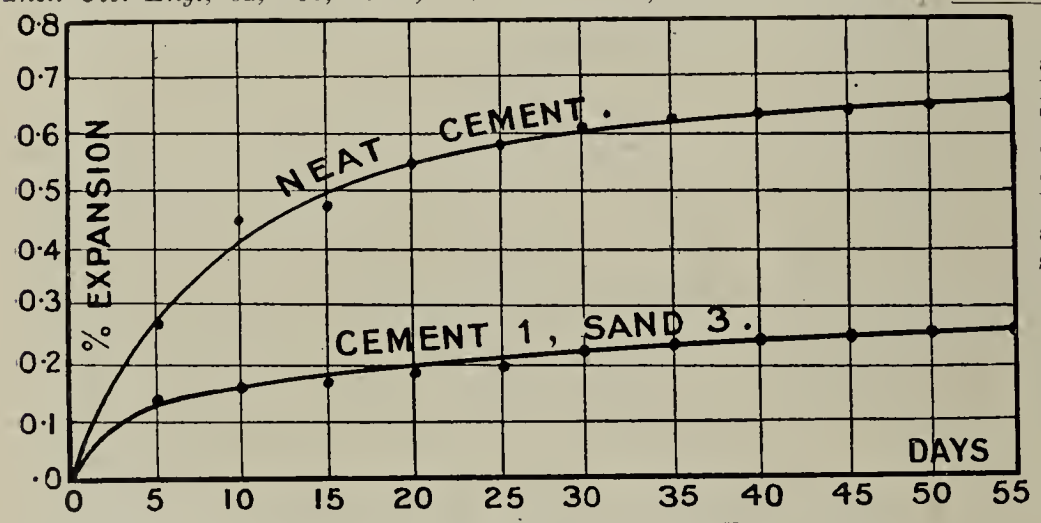


Fig. 1.—Expansion of Cement Setting under Water.

The meaning of these numbers is clear when the results are plotted with "time" as abscissæ and "changes in length" as ordinates. This has been done in Figs. 1 and 2. The first reading was probably disturbed by the temperature changes set up by the chemical reactions in the setting cement. The later readings cannot be materially affected by this error. The numbers are therefore proportional to one another, but the "zero" is a little too high. The results show:—

(1) "Neat" cement setting in air *contracts* about 1·18 per cent. of its original length, "neat" cement setting in water *expands* about 0·65 per cent. of its original length; while mixtures containing 75 per cent. of sand *expand* about 0·25 per cent. when setting in water, and *contract* 0·46 per cent. when setting in air.

(2) The maximum expansion or contraction is attained in about five weeks. E. D. Campbell and A. H. White (*Jour.*

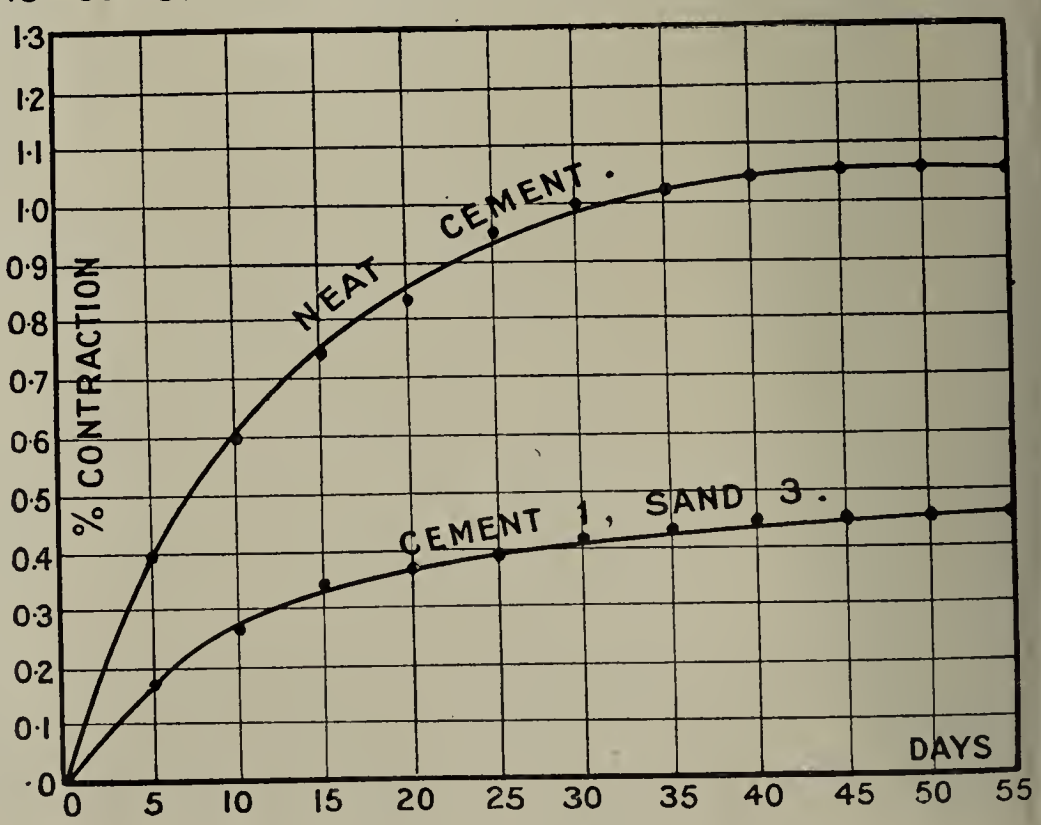


Fig. 2.—Contraction of Cement Setting in Air.

* From a forthcoming number of the *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6, 1907.

Amer. Chem. Soc., 28, 1,273, 1906) have shown that minute changes continue at least five years longer.

(3) The changes in volume are greater with "neat" cement than with mixtures of cement with sand.

(4) Tho changes in volume are nearly twice as great when cement sets in air as when it sets under water.

A surface of cement containing 75 per cent. of sand, one yard in length, would thus contract about half an inch if allowed to set in air and expand about one-fourth of an inch if allowed to set under water. If the tiles be well soaked in water before being bedded in the cement, it is obvious that the cement will expand in setting as long as the tiles remain saturated with water. But floor tiles are somewhat porous. If they were vitreous they would wear smooth and slippery. Hence, the tiles will dry fairly rapidly, the cement then presumably begins to contract and strains will bc induced which may cause the tiles to "buckle."

A large surface of cement, when set in air, is frequently covered with a great number of "hair cracks" which relieve the "contraction strains." If the cement setting in air is in contact with a rigid adherent surface of, say, "breezed concrete," these "contraction cracks" must necessarily be formed when the "stretching limit" of the cement is exceeded. The cement cannot move *en bloc*, and the contraction in any particular part of the surface of cement will not be very great. The tiles will then have a chance to "grow" to the cement. On the other hand, if the cement has a sandy friable "backing," the contraction may extend over a large surface, and the movements of the contracting cement will cause the tiles to break away before the cement has had a chance to "grow" to the tiles.

To facilitate the "growth" of tiles to cement, and prevent the "buckling" of floor tiles, it is advisable to let the cement be placed on a rigid "seasoned" layer of "breezed concrete," and prevent the rapid drying of the soaked floor tiles by keeping them covered with, say, sack cloth kept moist by sprinkling it with water from time to time.

I have made some microscopic sections through floor tiles and cement which have "grown" together, and also through floor tiles which have apparently refused to "grow" to the cement. No difference could be detected. I have found glazed wall tiles which have been set in a cement—possibly containing water glass—which has penetrated about a millimetre into the back of the tile. But this is not a characteristic feature of floor tiles which have "grown" to the cement.

We are constantly bringing forward evidence of the remarkably shrewd observations which the early potters and clayworkers have made. I have never heard a satisfactory explanation why tiles thoroughly soaked in water grow better to cement than tiles not so treated. I think the above measurements make clear the *raison d'être* of the general practice of tile setters.

XIV.—ON THE DETECTION OF LEAD IN URINE AND POST-MORTEM SPECIMENS.*

By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc., and F. Shufflebotham, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., J.P.

1.—*Historical Review.*

The detection of mineral poisons in organic matter is in many cases complicated by the fact that the metal is so intimately associated with the organic matter as to resist the action of the regular solvents. The organic matter must in consequence be first broken up in order that the metal may be extracted by the proper solvent. Boucher (*Annales de Hygiene*, 41) found that the lead was retained by organic matter so tenaciously that mere carbonisation of the organic matter is not sufficient. The lead can only be extracted by the solvent when the carbon is completely burnt to ash. There are two objections to this incineration. (1) It is extremely difficult to oxidise all the carbon because the inorganic salts fuse and spread over tho surface of the carbon protecting the latter from the oxygen of the air. (2) The high temperature necessary for the oxidation of the carbon is sufficient to volatilise some of the lead. This renders the methods untrustworthy when dealing with small quantities of the metal. R. Fresenius and L. von Babo (*Liebig's Ann.*, 48, 287, 1844) oxidised tho organic matter by boiling with a mixture of potassium chlorate and hydrochloric acid. Hydrochloric acid is not a good solvent for lead. If much lead is present, it is, of course, necessary to filter the solution hot in order to prevent the deposition of lead chloride on the filter. This method is said to give good results, and the amount of lead may be determined by the electrolytic process of V. Lehmann (*Zeit. Physiol. Chem.*, 6, 1, 1882). We have sought for lead in the kidney in Case 1 (the notes on which are given below) by the potassium chlorate and hydrochloric acid method, but the results were not very satisfactory. The process also occupied a considerable amount of time and required a good deal of attention. A. G. Pouchet (*Compt. Rend.*, 89, 244, 1879) proposed to destroy the organic matter by fusion with potassium hydrogen sulphate. Nikitine and Igefesky (*Journ. Soc. Chim. Phys. Russ.*, 27, 254, 1896; *Pharm. Zeit.*, 34, 580, 1905) boiled the material with ten times its weight of concentrated sulphuric acid in presence of copper oxide for several hours. From two to five days' boiling are said to be necessary for the complete destruction of the organic matter. A. Villiers (*Bull. Soc. Chim.* (3), 17, 675, 678, 1897) employed a mixture of nitric acid and potassium permanganate. This, when followed by a treatment with a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acid, was found by G. Denigès (*Bull. Soc. Chim.* (3), 25, 945, 1901) to give very good results. M. J. B. Orfila (*Journ. Chim. Med.* (2), 8, 339, 1842) used ordinary nitric acid, but that is not sufficient for the dissolution of the lead.

2.—*New Method.*

We found that a simple treatment of the organic matter with fuming nitric acid, as indicated below, gave very satisfactory results. A piece of kidney about 20 c.c. in volume was cut up into about a dozen pieces. These were placed in an evaporating basin and about 50 c.c. of fuming nitric acid were poured into the dish. Dense brown fumes of nitrogen oxides were evolved. When the action had subsided (in from two to three minutes) the dish was placed upon a sheet of asbestos and allowed to simmer over the Bunsen flame for about an hour. If the frothing appears in danger of running over the sides of the dish stirring with a glass rod or removal of the flame for a short time may be necessary. 25 c.c. of the fuming acid were added at intervals of a quarter of an hour, and this process was repeated three times. The destruction of the organic matter was so complete that the whole of the piece of kidney .passed into complete solution. The solution was then evaporated down to a few cubic centimetres, neutralised with caustic soda, filtered, and treated with hydrogen sulphide. A dark-brown precipitate of lead sulphide was obtained. With potassium chromate a yellow precipitate of lead chromate was obtained with the same specimen of kidney which gave a negative result with the $KClO_3$–HCl method of destroying the organic matter. Our reagents, dishes, &c., were then examined with a blank test, but we found no lead. The kidney in this experiment was from Case 1 below.

Hydrogen sulphide is the most sensitive reagent for the detection of lead; 0·01 mgrm. of lead nitrate can be detected in 100 c.c. (*i.e.*, 1 in 10,000,000) in neutral and alkaline solutions. The reaction is sharper in alkaline than in acid solution, since only 0·5 mgrm. of lead nitrate can be detected in 100 c.c. of water (*i.e.*, 1 in 200,000). Sulphuric acid in presence of alcohol will detect 1 mgrm. in 50 c.c. (*i.e.*, 1 in 50,000). Potassium chromate will indicate 1 mgrm. in 50 c.c., and potassium iodide 4 mgrms. in 50 c.c. (*i.e.*, 1 in 12,500). The hydrogen sulphide test has the advantage that the sulphide can be dissolved in dilute nitric acid, and the lead precipitated as sulphate by sulphuric acid and alcohol (V. Lehmann, *Zeit. Physiol. Chem.*, 6, 1, 1882).

We then sought for lead in the urinc of Cases 2, 3 and 4 (see below). Half a gallon of urine was ovaporated down to dryness in each of two basins. In one basin the residue was heated until it was charred. Both residues were then treated separately with fuming nitric acid as just described. The uncharred residue passed into solution, and on cooling deposited a white sediment. The mother liquor was neutralised and tested in the usual way. A brown precipitate of lead sulphide was obtained in Case 2, while in Case 3 a well-marked black precipitate was obtained. Tho urine of Case 4 gave a negative result. The charred residue did not pass completely into solution, and the tests for lead were not so well defined as when the residue was uncharred. This shows that care must be taken to prevent charring of the residuo during evaporation.

Conclusion.—We consider the fuming nitric acid test as employed by us to be superior to the tests we have mentioned at the beginning of this paper on account of its greater delicacy, easy manipulation, and the short time required to carry out the test. It is obvious that this process can be easily adapted to the usual methods for quantitative determinations.

3.—*Medical Notes.*

Case 1.—The patient was a man, aged 35 years. He had worked in lead processes all his life and had been a glost placer for 15 years. He was incapacitated from work for the ten months previous to his death. He first showed symptoms of plumbism two and a half years previous to his fatal illness, when he was affected with an illness similar to a violent bilious attack. He vomited and suffered from pains in the head. The pains recurred once a month, and afterwards they were moro frequent. Dr. R. H. Read, of Hanley, attended the patient during the last illness, the duration of which was a fortnight, and he found him suffering from symptoms of irritant poisoning affecting his nervous and digestive systems. The patient gradually became worse. The lower portion of the bowel became absolutely paralysed, and epileptiform convulsions supervened. Hiccough was a marked symptom. The cerebro-spinal canal was punctured in tho lumbar region and 15 c.c. of fluid were withdrawn with a view of relieving the convulsions, but it was without avail. At the post-mortem examination it was found that there was a marked blue line on the gums and there was evidence of chronic meningitic and of sclerosis of the brain tissue itself. There were ecchymoses in the mucous membrane of the stomach. The middle part of the bowel was distended

* Adapted from *Lancet*, 165, 746, 1903.

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with gas and the lower portion was very much contracted and filled with scybala. Both kidneys were granular, the left markedly so. The vermiform appendix was healthy. There was some congestion at the base of both lungs. The liver, heart, and spleen were perfectly healthy.

CASE 2.—The patient was a man, aged 24 years. He had been a house painter for the last 11 years. He had suffered from obscure symptoms of pains in the stomach ,lassitude, and headache. He was clean in his habits, but drank more alcohol than was good for him. He had a marked blue line on the gums. There was no albuminuria and no constipation. Since he changed his occupation to paperhanging he has been quite well.

CASE 3.—The patient was a man, aged 33 years, who had worked in the lead all his life, first in the saggar house and afterwards as a glost placer. He had suffered from paralysis of the arms and colic, and was away from work for 11 days. He was pronouncedly anæmic and the blue line on the gums was well shown. There was albuminuria and the optic disc was normal.

CASE 4.—The patient was a man, aged 66 years. He had been a glost placer for 40 years, but for the last seven years had been a caretaker. While working with lead he suffered from two attacks of colic. He also had several attacks of muscular rheumatism, and for a great number of years had had chronic bronchitis. The blue line on the gums was still seen, although he had been away from the lead so long.

Foreign Notes.

Crockery and Porcelain to the value of £533 was imported into Kermanshah during the year 1906–7. The whole of the import was supplied from Turkey.

French Pottery Works Fire.—A fire at some porcelain works at Echassieres, France, has done damage estimated at about 400,000 francs.

Glassworks Materials for Roumania.—H. M. Consul at Bucharest reports the grant of privileges under the Industrial Law to the Societate Româna de Sticlarie (Glassworks) at Azuga, for the duty-free importation of 25 trucks of soda, 8 trucks of potash, 60 trucks of white quartz sand and 4 trucks of fireclay.

The Nathan-Dohrmann Co., of San Francisco, have taken up a lease for the basement, sub-basement, three lower floors, and part of the fourth (in all 110,000 square feet of space) in the Butler Building, at the corner of Geary and Stockton-sts. The company have moved their wholesale business, which had been located, since the fire, on West El Dorado-st., into the new premises. Later on their Hotel Supply Department, and during 1909, their retail business, which are now both situated in Van Ness Avenue, will also be moved into this building.

Foreign Import Duties.—A Blue Book has been issued containing a statement of the rates of import duties levied on European countries, Egypt, the United States, Mexico, Japan, China, and Persia, upon the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom. The tariff rates of duty are given in the currency of the respective countries and the English equivalents are added. These are in all cases calculated at par. As regards glass and glassware, there are tables in which each country is taken separately and the various classes of glass are enumerated with the tariff rates of duty on each. As a book of reference this Blue Book is more useful than many of its class, since the duties on the various classes of glass and pottery are given separately for each country. There have been several modifications in duties since the last return was issued.

Japanese Imitations of British Goods.—A Yokohama correspondent writes to the editor of the "Pall Mall Gazette" as follows :—"The Japanese are past masters of imitation, they devote all their time and energy to reproduce an inferior and make-believe article and pass same off as a well-known and stable foreign product, making photographic reproductions of British trade marks—protected under the International Convention, which the Japanese Government are compelled by Treaty to uphold—yet no adequate redress can be obtained from Japanese courts of law. The Japanese business man has no idea of commercial morality and the Japanese governing classes ignore business. It is proposed to hold a great International Exhibition in Tokio some three years hence, and British as well as other nations are being invited to contribute to the show and send specimens of their manufactures, paying a heavy rent to display the output of foreign brains and energy, to be copied by the finest imitators in the world. Might I suggest that the London Chamber of Commerce should apply for some space in this proposed exhibition and there display side by side the pilfered British produce and the Japanese imitation ?"

Continental China and Bottle Trusts.—The U.S. Consul at Carlsbad has informed the Washington Bureau of Manufactures that twenty-four of the largest china manufacturers of Austria have decided to form a trust with the object of increasing the price of china goods and to establish two different market values, one for Austria and another for the United States. The Consul says it is pretended that the class of china goods exported differs materially from that sold in the country, and therefore two different market prices will be established.——The U.S. Consul at Plauen reports that among the many cartels in Germany that of the glass bottle manufacturers has recently joined in an international coalition with the affiliated interests in Austria, Holland, Sweden and Norway, which is named the European Union of Bottle Manufacturers' Co. The capital of $280,000 has been increased to $1,428,000. The Union at present represents an annual output of 1,428,500 bottles, which at the average selling prices of $0·0238 each, means some $33,320,000. The field of operations of the new cartel apparently embraces all countries except the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Overtures have lately been inaugurated with a view to reaching an understanding with American interests in order to regulate the bottle trade of the world.

The Potting Trade in the United States.—In some remarks preliminary to a review of the potting trade in various states the "Glass and Pottery World" of Chicago says : It cannot be truthfully said that business is satisfactory at most of the plants in the chief pottery centres. Conservatism about buying rules the situation at this writing, so far as staple general ware is concerned. Retail stocks are rather light, but the jobbers, in the strict meaning of the word, have fairly good supplies. However, prices are well maintained, and buyers report that they find firmness to be the rule. The department store buyers have instructions to lay low at present. There is an abundance of faith in the growing return of business confidence, hope of a more than normally good year to come, and also real charity in the spirit of some of the manufacturers, who are now running their plants to keep their workmen employed. The glass exhibit at Pittsburg has helped some, and when the buyers show a larger attendance there the plants in the East Liverpool district will feel the result. To-day, Jan. 16, more potters, owners, or salesmen are in Pittsburg seeking buyers, than there are buyers in East Liverpool. Every merchant admits that there was never before so many good things shown in domestic pottery. Shapes and decorations are away beyond any previous goods made in America. There is little to improve upon in the matter of body and glaze as made in practically every domestic plant. The potters take a grim comfort in knowing that import orders are still scarcer than for American goods, and that the slowly improving commercial conditions may bring business more quickly and generously to the domestic plants than to the foreign houses, for a while at least.

Empire Notes.

Crockery Freights to New Zealand.—The Blue Book on British Trade with New Zealand, to which we referred last month, gives the shipping rate from London for crockery, earthenware, hollow-ware, and glassware, as 35s. plus 5 per cent., less 2s. 6d. rebate. The rate from Hamburg or Antwerp is 29s. plus 5 per cent.

New Zealand Tariff Decisions.—The following Customs decisions have recently been published :—Earthen stoppers imported in "Save-all Tap Jars" to pay same rate as the jars; as earthenware, 20 per cent. Globes for gas arc lamps, outside circumference not less than 2 ft. 4 in. and depth not less than 10 in.; as globes for arc lamps, with the item in the tariff, duty at the specific rate will be taken on deposit, duty at the ad valorem rate being brought to account.

Earthenware and Glassware in S. Nigeria.—In a report on the trade of S. Nigeria, which has just been issued by the Colonial Office, attention is directed to the comparatively large decreases which have taken place in the importation of these articles. The decrease is most marked in the Western Province. The following statement gives the figures for the latest three years for which statistics are available :—

Article.	Province.	1906.	1905.	1904.
		£	£	£
Earthenware	Lagos	7,800	9,000	7,500
	Eastern and Central	7,700	7,800	8,700
Glassware	..Lagos	1,400	2,600	2,500
	Eastern and Central	2,100	2,600	1,900



SHOP FRONT AT SYDNEY IN COLOURED SALT-GLAZED WARE.

) per cent. Insulators, of china or earthenware; as lectric appliances n.o.e., 20 per cent.

A Consul-General for Canada.—It is stated on good uthority that a Consul-General for Canada is to be ppointed to represent the commercial interests of Great ritain. It is desirable that a man of great ability who nows Canada and its trade as well as England should e appointed. A diplomatist is required as well as a rewd man of business, and there are men who combine ie qualifications. Such a representative would do uch to increase British and Canadian trade.

Australian Duty on Bottles.—Information has been ceived from the Representative of the Australian Comonwealth in London stating, relative to the proposed lditional duty leviable on bottles under the Australian ariff, that it was intended in cases where bottles conined goods dutiable ad valorem, that the specific duty ould not be charged on the bottles, but that their value ould be included in the sum on which duty should be vied at the ad valorem rate. Until the Senate deals

A Ceramic Shop Front.—The accompanying illustration of a fine shop front constructed of coloured salt-glazed ware is a beautiful example of the application of artistic pottery to building purposes, which was the subject of an interesting paper recently read by Mr. Gandy before the Institute of Architects. It is a reproduction of a photograph of the offices of Mr. John Shorter, 193, Clarence-st., Sydney, the Australasian agent of Doulton's, Ltd., Lambeth. It is, of course, the production of the Royal Doulton Potteries, Lambeth, S.E. Being the first of its kind erected in the Commonwealth it has caused considerable interest there. In this coloured salt-glazed ware builders and decorators have at their command a happy combination of beauty, utility, and durability.

Colonial Import Duties.—A Blue Book has been published giving the rates of import duties levied upon articles imported into the British Colonies, possessions, and protectorates for the year 1907. It gives the duties so far as notified to the Board of Trade at the date of the preparation of the returns, December, 1907, and thus shows where Britain has the preference. The rates of duty given for the Australian Commonwealth are those contained in the proposals introduced by the Federal Treasurer on Aug. 5, 1907, and amended by the House of Representatives. Each item is separately enumerated under each Colony and possession. There are useful and comprehensive appendices, one of which shows how the Imperial Copyright Acts apply in British Colonies and possessions where copyright laws have not been introduced. It is a handy book of reference on colonial import duties generally.

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EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR JANUARY, 1908.

	Quantities. Month ended 31st January.			Value. Month ended 31st January.		
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1906.	1907.	1908.
To Germany .....cwts.	3,229	4,076	5,339	£4,854	£5,984	£4,820
,, France ..... ,,	2,737	3,844	2,835	5,637	7,070	6,232
,, United States of America ..... ,,	35,506	35,346	33,737	44,783	43,199	45,565
,, Brazil ..... ,,	12,330	11,881	17,240	8,406	10,985	12,189
,, Argentine Republic ..... ,,	45,474	35,298	29,602	19,383	19,001	17,771
,, British South Africa..... ,,	21,697	14,002	6,812	13,777	8,472	5,761
,, British East Indies ..... ,,	32,300	32,078	35,507	16,387	15,096	18,294
,, Australia ..... ,,	9,107	22,288	18,776	10,915	21,936	23,530
,, New Zealand ..... ,,	3,608	7,044	8,808	5,037	9,837	9,869
,, Canada ..... ,,	10,242	19,319	22,438	11,592	19,768	22,701
,, Other Countries ..... ,,	71,207	80,219	64,429	46,183	50,761	47,346
Made up as follows:						
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ..... ,,	2,220	2,245	1,646	12,484	16,795	13,936
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,			6,902			5,683
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... ,,	96,304	125,059	8,994	123,916	154,108	6,929
Sanitary Ware ..... ,,			12,579			17,186
Other Earthenware, (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... ,,			109,810			138,903
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta.. ,,	28	24	965	60	80	1,286
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware .. ,,	134,638	126,693	95,854	29,838	26,326	18,774
Other Sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings, and Chemical Ware).. ,,	14,247	11,374	8,773	20,656	14,800	11,381
Glass.						
To British South Africa .....value £	—	—	—	12,847	7,207	4,841
,, Other Countries ..... ,,				95,413	103,589	104,679
Made up as follows:						
Plate Glass .....cwts.	12,866	15,046	13,691	18,805	22,470	21,483
Flint Glass ..... ,,	5,513	5,916	4,997	18,922	16,998	15,854
Glass Bottles .....gross	63,602	67,351	69,016	40,075	41,983	46,604
Glass Manufactures, other sorts .....cwts.	35,384	35,563	32,017	30,458	29,345	25,579

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE AND GLASS FOR JANUARY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian.....cwts.	4,551	4,432	4,503	£21,619	£21,485	£20,687
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,			45			92
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)..... ,,	22,443	24,307	3,313	41,014	40,517	1,664
Sanitary Ware ..... ,,			10			28
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... ,,			14,764			30,644
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta.. ,,	1,684	—	14	340	—	83
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware .. ,,	2,821	1,207	3,659	524	556	2,735
Other Sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) .. ,,	1,928	1,994	2,474	2,680	2,754	3,337
Window and German Sheet Glass ..... ,,	127,974	129,916	96,661	73,696	73,596	55,959
Plate Glass ..... ,,	38,236	40,391	23,517	50,027	49,013	29,372
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass .... ,,	69,312	68,881	56,787	117,286	103,402	84,592
Glass Bottles .....gross	129,657	115,748	119,280	52,837	46,285	48,595
Glass Manufactures, other sorts .....cwts.	5,627	1,202	817	6,984	1,319	1,047

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR JANUARY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian .....cwts.	2,165	2,131	1,570	£8,384	£9,727	£7,699
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,			3			12
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)..... ,,	946	1,560	—	2,261	2,101	—
Sanitary Ware ..... ,,			—			—
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... ,,			884			1,694
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta.... ,,	16	—	—	60	—	—
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware .. ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings, and Chemical Ware).. ,,	1	—	—	17	—	—
Window and German Sheet Glass ..... ,,	3,038	168	316	1,503	88	187
Plate Glass ..... ,,	793	661	300	1,429	453	365
Flint, plain, cut or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass ..... ,,	5,198	650	535	10,538	1,510	1,382
Glass Bottles .....gross	2,672	3,392	3,878	1,346	1,665	2,183
Glass Manufactures of other sorts .....cwts	824	1,248	361	1,981	2,133	1,209

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

(Compiled from the Returns of D. Inglis & Co.)

To	Shipments from Jan. 1, 1908, to Jan. 29.	Corresponding Period, 1907.
	Packages.	Packages.
Boston	421	494
New York	665	439
Baltimore	1,492	1,433
Philadelphia	186	198
New Orleans	532	668
Newport News	41	173
San Francisco	12	85
Portland, Maine	867	432
Galveston	201	94
Portland, Oregon	...	20
Inland Points	36	84
Total.....	4,453	4,120

BRITISH TRADE WITH CANADA.

SUMMARISING his report on the conditions and prospects of British trade in Canada to the Advisory Committee of the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence, Mr. Richard Grigg, their special commissioner, gives the conclusions which he has reached as follows :—(1) The geographical position of Canada, and its contiguity to the United States, give American trade very great advantages, and impose correspondingly severe handicaps upon British trade. (2) The preference enjoyed by the United Kingdom, both in goodwill and in tariff treatment, is helpful in neutralising to some extent the geographical advantages which the United States enjoy, but is insufficient by itself to do more than check the decline in the United Kingdom's share of Canadian trade. The preference gives substantial aid to the United Kingdom in competition with European countries, but may be diminished at any time through the adoption of the newly established intermediate tariff. (3) Both British and American trade in Canada have to encounter the growing rivalry of Canadian industries, which, however, offer great opportunities (hitherto comparatively little used) for the investment of British capital. (4) Much could be done to promote British trade with the Dominion by : (*a*) The promotion of rapid and cheap transit and communication between the United Kingdom and Canada ; (*b*) More careful study of Canadian conditions by British traders ; (*c*) Improvements in the representation of British merchants and manufacturers in Canada ; (*d*) Great adaptability and exactness in meeting the wishes of the Canadian buyers ; (*e*) The adoption of Canadian standards, weights and measures and currency, for specifications and price quotations ; (*f*) Better advertising and catalogues and cheaper postage rates ; (*g*) More elasticity in terms of credit (rendered possible by fuller knowledge of local circumstances). (5) It is highly desirable to promote mutual knowledge of commercial and industrial conditions by a system of British commercial correspondents in Canada, and the wider distribution of commercial and trade reports, both official and other.

Among the reports on special industries are :—

CHINA AND EARTHENWARE.—The imports of china and earthenware were in 1902 $1,227,986, and in 1906 1,674,817 ; they were supplied in the following proportions :—

Country.	1902.	1906.
United Kingdom	$.684,912	$917,823
United States	241,135	275,768
Germany	202,482	191,926
Japan	28,408	95,771
France	57,346	75,899

It will be seen from the above figures that the United Kingdom is not only maintaining its share of the trade, but has substantially increased it. British plain white granite chinaware is extensively used, and sells as follows. (price landed at Toronto) :—Plates, 6 in., 41 c. per dozen ; 7 in., 49 c. ; 8 in., 56 c. ; cups and saucers, 65 c. per dozen. For the same line with coloured decorated edge, the prices are :—Plates 6 in., 50 c. per dozen ; 7 in., 70 c. ; cups and saucers, 75 c. per dozen. The next quality extensively used is known as "Mayfair," and sells at the following prices :—Plates 6 in., 80 c. per dozen ; 7 in., 95 c. ; 8 in., $1.15 ; cups and saucers, $1.30 per dozen. Ordinary sponged bowls sell at 56, 67, and 75 cents per dozen.

French china tea sets have a considerable sale in the better class lines ; the price for a 44-piece tea set (Limoges ware) is $12.50. A fair sample of an English line of equal quality, but with a smaller sale on account of lack of advertisement, is Crown Staffordshire, which sells at $10 a set. Limoges and Haviland cups and saucers sell at $5.75 per dozen. In respect of the finest quality of china, British makers hold the field, prices ranging from $1 to $6 per dozen for cups and saucers. Crown Derby sells at $2 per cup and saucer. Toilet sets are almost exclusively British, prices ranging from $1.25 to $3.50. German china is cheaper, and I think in less expensive table ware the import is increasing, though it has been checked to some extent by the surtax. The Germans have also some trade in fancy chinaware, and in this particular line there are no similar goods of United Kingdom or Canadian manufacture.

The vexed question of *packing* is prominent in the case of goods so liable to breakage ; but although I have heard it alleged that German and Japanese packing is far better than British, I am nevertheless inclined to think that the percentages of breakage do not differ very much. There is some complaint that British crates and hogsheads are too large ; in many cases they are difficult to handle, particularly in the West, and damage occurs. One important buyer told me that he had written to leading firms to use more care, and to pack in smaller packages : he had succeeded in getting them to discard crates, and use barrels, as barrels roll more easily, while crates dump over. Breakage is more serious in the West than elsewhere, because it is necessary to send to England to match, and the minimising of such damage is doubly important, because duty is paid on the whole quantity, and the difficulty in getting rebate is such as to prevent the attempt. In the case of fine china, foreigners use cardboard boxes, and the Japanese use rice straw ; both are described as excellent forms of package, and the percentage of breakage is said to be not more than 1 per cent., against 10 per cent. British. Great stress is laid upon the cost of package, which is said to equal on British goods 12½ per cent. of goods and package together. Nothing will convince Canadian buyers that a profit is not made on the charge for cases ; it was mentioned that a case costing in Montreal $1 would be charged in the United Kingdom at $3. American manufacturers are said to give more convenient terms of credit—30 days or 1 per cent. for cash in ten days, or 60 days less 2 per cent. for cash in ten days were mentioned to me, while the usual British terms are cash in exchange for documents in London, which means that buyers often pay for their goods long before arrival, particularly in the West. These are not convenient terms for traders, who, although quite solvent, find ample use for all available capital, and they are somewhat afraid that if they do arrange letters of credit, they might find themselves saddled with goods not according to contract, but which have been paid for. The large dealers find no fault with English terms, because

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the arrangement inclines to keep the business in their hands, but it is alleged to have the effect of limiting the trade in British goods. American firms do not attach the same importance as the British to accounts being paid on the exact due date, and interest is not charged on moderately overdue accounts. English firms are often unreasonably alarmed because they do not receive remittances on the day accounts are due, and think it an omission affecting the credit of their correspondents, a supposition which is often unwarranted, American firms are accustomed to draw on their buyers, and the drafts are almost always paid. It may be desirable for English manufacturers to reconsider their terms of credit. The practice of many manufacturers of placing their export business in the hands of London agents is said to be bad, because such agents have not the same interest as the manufacturer in extending the business in his particular goods, and the manufacturer is not brought into touch with the customer. These considerations which have been urged upon me seem to point to the need for British manufacturers to get on level terms with the American and German salesmen by proper representation, and by thoroughly mastering local conditions.

Freight on crockery from British works to Vancouver or Victoria via Montreal is $22 per short ton, and the rate by China Mutual Line is $8.75 per ton. The rate from the nearest United States point of production is $15 per ton. In calculating wholesale cost, I think an average of 25 per cent. might be taken as the advance on the actual cost laid down, that is, prime cost plus freight, insurance duty, and 10 per cent. for breakage, which latter, however, is alleged not to average more than 1 to 2 per cent. per annum in the case of the three leading firms. In the last 10 years imports of earthenware from Great Britain have increased 155 per cent., and those from the U.S.A., 340 per cent.; from France, 225 per cent.; and from Germany 111 per cent. One U.S. pottery has established a branch in Canada, which employs 100 hands.

Glass and Glassware.—The total imports in 1902 were $1,932,539, and in 1906 $2,680,274. The following table shows the shares of the various countries in each of these years :—

Country.	1902. $	1906. $
United Kingdom	388,504	761,748
United States	523,820	678,763
Belgium	600,549	823,927
Germany	300,425	169,791
France	47,294	86,080
Austria-Hungary	37,434	80,900
Holland	11,324	48,060

The principal items from the various countries were in 1906 :—United Kingdom : Common and plate glass, $567,994. United States : Glass jars, glass balls, crystal or glass table ware, $227,223; all other, $234,001. Belgium : Common and plate glass, $778,296. Germany : Carboys and demijohns, bottles, decanters, flasks, or phials, $104,462; silvered glass, $50,099. The census figures of Canadian production are as follows :—

Kind of glass.	1900. $	1905. $
Glass	995,401	1,421,773
Glass, stained, cut, and ornamental	88,600	209,026
Mirror and plate glass.....	265,535	458,789
Total production	$1,349,536	$2,089,588

An excellent quality of window glass is obtained from the United Kingdom, but for reasons of price Belgium holds a large share of the common window glass trade, and sends also a substantial quantity of plate glass. I was greatly interested to learn that an important British firm (the principal partner of which visited Canada some years ago) have established warehouses with large stocks at certain important points, and have not only maintained, but, as a consequence of their enterprise, considerably enlarged their trade. I found their product at many points, particularly in the West and North-west, and they were often quoted to me as an example of what could be done by enterprising and capable management, supported by a careful study of conditions on the spot. Lamps, chimneys, and globes are almost entirely of American and Canadian manufacture. The census does not show figures of production, but there are firms engaged in the manufacture, and the American import is two-thirds of the total (in 1906, $136,034), the prices being for A's 60 cents per dozen, and for B's 80 cents per dozen.

Bricks, Tiles, and Pottery.—There is a large local manufacture. The imports from the United States in 1906 amounted to $649,966, and from the United Kingdom to $136,953, being chiefly fire bricks in both cases. The Canadian production increased in value from $3,299,917 in 1900 to $4,774,305 in 1905. The capital employed was $4,210,224 in 1900, and increased to $7,110,685 in 1905. The wages paid show an increase from $1,327,533 in 1900 to $2,044,495 in 1905, but with a decrease of persons employed from 6,705 in 1900 to 6,490 in 1905, the curious result being that with an increase in production of 44 per cent., in capital of 69 per cent., and in wages of 54 per cent., we have a decrease in the number of persons employed of 3 per cent. Fire-brick prices were quoted at $19 to $24 per 1,000 for Scotch, and common structural bricks at $10 per thousand, at Toronto.

Shipping Freights are dealt with exhaustively in the report, and the charges for the carriage of crockery are specially mentioned in several cases, the following being quoted :—

Summer Season of Montreal Navigation, April to November, 1907.

Articles	Rates from Liverpool to							
	Montreal	Toronto.		Winnipeg.		Vancouver.	
		L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Crockery crates ...	22 6 W.	28 3 W.	24 9 W.	99 0 W	64 3 W.	90 0 W.	78 0 W.
„ boxes ...	8 6 M.	13 3 M.	12 0 M.	120 0 W	64 3 W.	90 0 W.	78 0 W.

Winter Season of Navigation, December 1 to April 10,

	L.C.L.	C.L.						
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Crockery crates	26 6 W.	23 9	28 3 W.	26 6	131 0	83 3	90 0	78 0
„ boxes	26 6	23 9	28 3	26 6	166 9	83 3	90 0	78 9
Hardware „	33 3	31 6	41 6	35 3	166 9	—	150 0	125 0

All Montreal rates plus 10 *per cent.*

Where weight and measurement rates are quoted, the rate whichever yields most freight is to be charged.

W. = per ton of 2,240 lbs.; M. = per ton of 40 cubic feet.

As an illustration of the difficulty of conveying an idea of rates which prevail by quoting selected commodities, it is stated that under the heading of hardware alone the Canadian goods classification shows a list of 281 items, and that much the same minute classification applies to other groups of articles. The "Ocean Proportionate Rates" used as showing the ocean charge for 1906 to points in Quebec and Ontario (except for the cities of Montreal and Quebec), and presumably the basis of the through rates to more distant points, are as follows (the rates to Montreal are in parenthesis) :—Crockery crates, 10s. net C.L., 24,000 lbs. (22s. 6d.).

A considerable proportion of the imported goods used in British Columbia reach Victoria and Vancouver by the China Mutual Steam Navigation Co. and Ocean Steamship Co., Ltd., from Liverpool, Glasgow, and London to Seattle,

Tacoma, Victoria, and Vancouver, The rate for earthenware is 25s. per ton (2,240 lbs.).

Among the railway rates from the U.S.A. are :—

—	Montreal.						Toronto.					
	From Boston.		From New York.				From Boston.		From New York.			
			All Rail.		Rail and Boat.				All Rail.		Rail and Boat.	
	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.	C.L.	L.C.L.
	Cents per 100 lbs.						Cents per 100 lbs.					
Crockery, in crates ...	19	25	22	30	20	26	22	31	22	31	20	28

C.L. rates of carriage on bottles to Winnipeg are :—From Liverpool, London, Glasgow, and Manchester, 70 cents per 100 lbs. ; from Montreal, 65 cents, and from Cleveland, Ohio, 53½ cents.

An official statement, showing the values of goods imported into Canada during the six months ending September of the last three years, supplies the following figures for earthenware, china, and graniteware :—

	1905.	1906.	1907.
	$	$	$
Great Britain	493,677	592,612	660,007
United States.....	163,873	141,858	128,577
Germany	103,790	127,834	175,773
Other countries	116,295	139,883	182,137
Totals	877,635	1,002,187	1,146,494

THE FLINT GLASS MAKERS' SOCIETY.

THE Dudley branch of the National Flint Glass Makers' Society, of Great Britain and Ireland, held their annual dinner, at Eve Hill, Dudley, on Feb. 15. Mr. W. Bradford presiding.

In proposing the "Glass Trade, Employers, and Management," the Chairman said he was sorry he was not able to speak of the glass trade as satisfactory. The glass trade of the country was passing through a dark cloud, and he was afraid they had not seen the worst of it. When he first became connected with the glass trade—about 30 years ago—there were 30 more large glass works in existence in Great Britain than there were to-day, and during the last 13 years glass works which had been in full work for almost a century had dwindled out of existence. Some little time ago he met one of the principals of a very old glassmaking factory in Scotland, who told him that he had kept his place going for many a year at an average loss of £2,000 per year. He, therefore, asked them to consider for a moment the exports and imports as affecting the glass trade in England, and if they did so they must come to the conclusion that under the present circumstances the British glass trade had to meet with unfair competition. It was gratifying, in face of the great depression in the trade, to know that at Messrs. Lane & Co.'s factory there was plenty of trade, which, he thought, must speak volumes for the tactics of the firm, and the commercial ability thrown into the business—whilst the spirit of friendship between employer and employee was a factor in the success achieved. There had been a recent change in management, due to Mr. Lane finding the work too heavy for individual shoulders, and Mr. Jinks had been appointed manager, but he felt sure that the good feeling and confidence between masters and men would continue.

Mr. Josiah Lane, C.C. (Messrs. Lane & Co.), responded, and said that when he considered the number of firms that had gone down, and the condition of things to-day, he was forced to the conclusion that the glass trade was in a very unsatisfactory condition. Only that week he was asked to quote for the supply of certain articles, and he cut the price down to as fine a point as it could be. Then he was told that it must be lower, or the order would go abroad. He told them to take it, for he knew it was impossible to make them at a less price in England. Although there might be a good volume of trade, the prices were cut so very fine that they were almost better without the orders. They were cutting each other's throat to get the order, and that was the reason the English-made goods were at such a low price. To his mind—and he said it advisedly—tariff reform, protection, and preference to the colonies would be the salvation, not only of the glass trade, but of all other trades. If, however, that reform did come, 10 per cent. duty on glass would be quite insufficient. With respect to their union, he was sadly afraid that they had to keep unemployed men on society pay who were really of little use as expert glass-makers, and who would do far better in other trades. He understood that in the society they had about 1,200 members, and not more than half of them were employed. That was a sad state of affairs, but he was afraid that if there was work for them to do, it would be difficult to find really expert men to make the articles.

Mr. Blackham, responding to the toast of "The Visitors," said that one way of meeting the foreign competition was such recognition of mutual interests by employers and employed, as was evidenced in the affairs of Messrs. Josiah Lane, Ltd. They, however, were all looking to a brighter future under tariff reform. After the visit of Major Griffith Boscawen and himself to the works, they were both convinced that glassmaking was a very skilled art, and he might also say that Major Griffith Boscawen, who was unable to be present, had in a letter to him expressed the opinion that tariff reform was the only way to preserve the glass and other trades in the country that were assailed by unfair foreign competition.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL GLASSWARE CONTRACTS.

(Special Report.)

PROBABLY the most interest ng and important report ever presented to the London County Council affecting the glassware trade was submitted by the Stores Committee at the meeting on Feb. 25. Last November the Council referred back the Committee's recommendation with regard to the acceptance of a tender for the supply of table glassware, and the information since obtained and brought forward at the meeting, relative to the conditions of labour in the industry at home and abroad contains much that is noteworthy. According to details given by the National Flint Glass Makers' Society, the wages for workmen in England are :—First-class, castor-place sets or chairs, making clarets (handled), jugs, decanters, heavy dishes, tankards, &c., 46s. per week's work consisting of five turns of six hours and half a turn of three hours, viz., 33 hours, overtime being paid for at the rate of 8s. 4d. per turn. The servitor is paid 30s. per week's work of 33 hours, or 5s. 7d. per turn of six hours, and the footblower draws 21s. per week's work, or 3s. 11d. per turn. In the second class the wages are 40s. per week for the workman, 27s. 6d. for the servitor, and 20s. for the footblower, with overtime pay in proportion. For the making of a first-class wine set, and light finger basins, plates, custards, &c., the wages are :—Workman 38s. per week, servitor 27s. 6d., footblower 21s. ; for second class workman 34s., servitor 25s. 6d., footblower 20s. ; for tumbler set, all kinds workman 30s., servitor 25s., footblower 19s., all overwork wages being in proportion. There are other

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grades of employees (electric and otherwise) at rates of wages about the same as those paid to the second-class wine set. In Germany 4,000 labourers are employed in the table glassware trade. The time of labour of those who work in the "German way," as it is called, is nine hours a day, including the intervals. This has to be done because the labourers work at what is called a basin stove. The wages of the glass labourers amount in general to 200 marks (about £10) per month, and the wages of the assistants, stretchers, glasscutters, &c., very seldom amount to more than 24 marks (about 24s.) a week; and as a rule they hardly reach this wage. The wages are all calculated in accord, the amount depending upon the size, strength, and conditions of the individual rolls, and therefore no definite statement can be made. The table glassmakers who work in the "Rhine way" after eight hours of labour have an interval of rest of 24 hours. The wage varies considerably, some glassmakers earning up to 300 marks (£15) a month, whereas others only earn 150 marks (£7 10s.). The wage depends upon the skill and intelligence of the labourers, and, as the work is extremely difficult and trying, a glassmaker seldom works after reaching the age of forty-five. In Austria the conditions are exactly the same as in Germany. In Belgium the conditions are very good. The Belgian glassmakers, according to the Internationale Transportarbeiter Fédération, are all organised; in Germany only 250 out of the 4,000 glassmakers are organised "on account of the oppression on the part of the employers." The wage is nearly twice as much as in Germany, but there are a great many unemployed at present. The time of labour is exactly the same as the German glassmakers who work in the "Rhine way." The British Consul-General at Düsseldorf informed the County Council that his information is that in Germany the hourly wage in the table-glass trade varies from 30 to 70 pf. (3½d. to 8½d.) according to the class of work, and overtime is only exceptionally paid for at above the usual rate. The men work from nine to ten hours per day, out of which one and a half hours is allowed for lunch and a quarter of an hour for coffee. In regard to Austria the British Vice-Consul at Vienna finds that all wages are paid by piecework; the blowers and other skilled workmen make from 10 to 15 kronen (9s. 4d. to 12s. 6d.) a day, and the ordinary workmen 6 to 8 kronen (5s. to 6s. 8d., a day. There are no fixed hours, which vary from six to eight hours per diem. The average wage in Italy, other information showed, is 9 lire (about 7s. 2d.) a day, the normal hours of labour being nine. The gangs number usually three workers, and two ovens' work lasts six hours for each group, and the four ovens' work ten hours. In some factories the work stops at night, and the glass is melted in mints. Wherever the work is made by alternating gangs basin-shaped ovens, or wedged shovels, allowing an uninterrupted flow of liquid glass, are used. The work is usually carried on for ten months in the year, but the employers can stop it whenever they wish.

The L.C.C. Stores Committee reported having selected a set of samples of suitable articles, and invited alternative tenders for goods of British and foreign make, respectively. Nine tenders were received, but in the case of six out of the thirteen items no prices were quoted for articles of foreign make. The lowest tenders which could be accepted were :—(1) glass dishes, 10½ in., badged, British, 8½d. each; (2) 8½ in., British, 4¼d.; (3) round dishes, for jam, badged, British, 2½d., foreign, 5d.; (4) salt cellars, badged, British, 2d., foreign, 1¾d.; (5) butter dishes, complete, badged, British, 4½d.; (6) butter dish bodies, badged, British, 2½d.; (7) butter dish lids, badged, British, 1¾d.; (8) sugar bowls, badged, British, 6¼; (9) tumblers, badged, No. 1, British, 1¾d., foreign, 2¾d.; (10) tumblers, badged, No. 2, British, 3¼d., foreign, 4⅜d.; (11) carafes, badged, British, 3d., foreign, 3½d.; (12) cups, badged, British, 2d., foreign, 2d.; (13) glass water jugs, badged, 2 pints, British, 9d., foreign, 6¼d. In all but two items, it was pointed out, the British prices were lower than, or equal to, the foreign prices. The extra cost of purchasing British goods under these two items was £4 11s. 6d., which was a little over 5 per cent. on the total value of all the contracts in respect of the schedule.

The Council in December also referred back to the Stores Committee for inquiries the recommendations with regard to the tenders received for the supply of horticultural, window, plate, &c., glass. As a result of their inquiries with regard to this matter, the Committee stated that if their recommendations in favour of the acceptance of the lowest tenders had been adopted about 94 per cent. of the purchases under the contract would have been goods of British manufacture. It was therefore necessary to reconsider only the remaining 6 per cent. represented by nine items. The comparative prices of British and foreign made goods for these nine items are :—(1) Glass, horticultural, 21 oz.: (*a*) lowest tenders to Council's sample, British 1¾d., foreign 1½d. per ft. super; (*b*) total cost, based on estimated quantities, British £30 19s. 9d., foreign £26 11s. 3d.; (32) glass, green, 21 oz., cut to template: (*a*) British 1s. 5⅞d., and foreign per doz. 9d.; (*b*) British £26 1s. 4d., foreign £13 2s. 6d.; (33) glass, blue, 21 oz., cut to template: (*a*) British 10⅞d., foreign 8d.; (*b*) British £15 17s. 2d., foreign £11 13s. 4d.; (34) glass, amber, 21 oz., cut to template: (*a*) British 1s. 2d., foreign 9d.; (*b*) British £20 8s. 4d., foreign £13 2s. 6d.; (35) glass red, 21 oz., cut to template: (*a*) British 11⅞d., foreign 8d.; (*b*) British £17 6s. 4d., foreign £11 13s. 4d.; (36) glass, red, 21 oz., circular, for trailing light, cut to template: (*a*) British 6d., foreign 4d.; (*b*) British £1 4s., foreign 16s.; (37) glass, red, 21 oz., for lanterns: (*a*) British 4½d., foreign 3¼d. per ft. super; (*b*) British £3 15s., foreign £2 14s. 2d.; (38) glass, green, 21 oz., for lanterns: (*a*) British 6d., foreign 3¼d.; (*b*) British £5, foreign £2 14s. 2d.; (39) extra for cutting to sizes, items 37 and 38, (*a*) British 2d., foreign ¼d. The total cost based on estimated quantities according to foreign goods prices was £82 7s. 3d., and according to the prices for British goods, £120 11s. 11d. If, therefore, in respect of the above items British-made goods were purchased, it was pointed out, an extra expenditure of about £38 4s. 8d. would be entailed, which represented about 4 per cent. on the whole of the contracts recommended in respect of the schedule. Having regard to the small percentage of additional cost involved, the Committee recommended the acceptance of tenders for British-made goods only in respect of both schedules for the supply of glass. The following tenders for table glassware were recommended for acceptance :—(14) Burtles, Tate & Co., Glass Works, Manchester, according to schedule of prices; (4, 11, and 12), Clayton, Mayers & Co., 28, Gray's Inn-rd., Holborn, W.C.; estimated value of goods to be supplied £10; (3, 9, 10 and 13), J. Defries & Sons, Ltd., 146 and 147, Houndsditch, E.C., £54; (1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8), the Hotel and Restaurant Supply Co., 49, St. Mary-axe, E.C., £19. The appended tenders for horticultural, window, plate, &c., glass were recommended for acceptance :—(37 to 39), Adamant & Asphalte, Ltd., 42, Berners-st., W., estimated value of goods to be supplied £9; (2 to 15 and 36), Joseph Chater & Sons, St. Dunstan's-hill, E.C., £620; (30 and 31), James Clark & Son, Ltd., Scoresby-st., Blackfriars-rd., S.E., £243; (22 to 29, 32, 33, and 35), George Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., 34, St. John-st., E.C., £59; (17 to 21), T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., Rochester-row, Westminster (in this case no quantities were given); (1, 16, and 34), Pilkington Bros., Ltd., Horse Shoe Wharf, 10, Upper Thames-st., E.C., £68. In the cases of the tenders of Chater & Sons and Geo. Farmiloe & Sons quantities were not given for certain items.

At the meeting of the Council the report of the Stores Committee was reached too late to be dealt with, and the consideration of the matter was adjourned. In reply to a question, Mr. Isidore Salmon (vice-chairman of the committee) said he believed the foreign glassware referred to in the report as costing 4 per cent. less than British goods was manufactured in Belgium. He did not know whether wages in the glass trade were twice as high there as they were in England. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Gosling as to the hours and rates of labour in the countries with which comparison was made, Mr. Salmon said the Committee had been unable to get complete information. The report had taken three months to compile, and they could not add anything to it.

TYPICAL POTTERY AND GLASS DEALERS.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

MR. MARK NATHAN, BANBURY.

THE securing of suitable subjects for these sketches is not so easy as it no doubt appears to those who have never undertaken it, or a similar duty. I can imagine a manufacturer, or a traveller who is constantly moving about amongst the members of our trade, saying, "What—typical dealers! why there is any number of them! I know a dozen myself!" So do I, but that is a very different matter from getting them to talk to you. I venture to say, though the fact may not have been noticed by the majority of those who will read these lines, my experience is that modesty is a prevailing characteristic of dealers in our trade. Since these sketches commenced to appear, I have been constantly looking out for likely subjects. When I meet a dealer for the first time, of whom I have already heard much, I always look at him with the view to find out if there is likely to be anything interesting in his history. Very frequently I soon ascertain that there is not. On the other hand I have in my mind now, half a dozen dealers whom I have known for many years, and of whom I could write quite enough to interest my readers, without troubling even them or their friends for an interview, but they will not consent to anything about them being published.



MR. MARK NATHAN.

During my recent short tour in the Midlands, I was at Banbury, and called at a glass and china shop in the Market-place, with a really business-like appearance. I do not remember ever having been in the shop before. I gave my card to an assistant, who handed it to someone who at once came to me. "Mr. Nathan?" I queried. "Yes," he replied, "that's my name." I then said I was merely looking at some of the shops at Banbury, and I began asking some questions about his business. After answering a few, he said, "I should like you to see my father—I'll tell him you are here." He went away, but quickly returned with his father, Mr. Mark Nathan. I commenced to ask him my usual string of questions about his shop and his business, and he answered me without any hesitation or restraint. He explained that the business was now his son's, but that he, living a little distance away, put in an appearance on most days. I quickly discovered that Mr. Nathan could tell me much about the trade, his business, and himself, if he only would. I at once altered my tactics, dropped the shop, and made the conversation personal to Mr. Nathan. Having obtained some information, and wanting more, I ventured to ask him if he would allow me to give some account of his experience as a dealer in THE POTTERY GAZETTE. "Oh dear no!" he said, "I do not want to appear in print; besides I cannot tell you anything of much interest." I answered this by saying I was sure other dealers would be interested in reading over what he had already told me. He still said he would rather not. "Write about the shop and the business if you like, and I will tell you about them, but never mind me." We resumed our conversation about the shop and his connection with the trade, and he spoke very fully and freely. After we had been conversing some time, I told him he had already given me very nearly enough matter for a sketch of himself—a few more questions would suffice, if he would let us publish an account of my interview with him, and ultimately he consented. I asked him some further questions, and he gave me full replies, in some cases adding some little fact not exactly covered by my inquiry. For convenience' sake (the convenience of the printer among others), I shall give Mr. Nathan's very interesting account in narrative form, and not in the way of question and answer.

He was born in 1845 at Portsea (Portsmouth), and was the son of Mrs. Kate Nathan, who was in business as a china and glass dealer at 121, Queen's-rd., Portsea, for 25 years. He was thus born into the trade. His father died in 1848, when he was only three years old, leaving his mother to control the business, which she did for a number of years with considerable ability. He received his early education at "Esplanade Academy," Portsea. He left school when he was fourteen years of age, with a fairly good all-round ability, and a slight smattering of Latin and French, which knowledge he has studiously tried to improve ever since.

Youths commenced to work early in those days, and, when he was 14, young Mark went as assistant to Mr. Hart of Bedford-st., Plymouth, with whom he remained one year and left then to go to his mother's business. He remained with her until she gave up business in 1868. He then went as manager for one year to Mr. Vanderlyn, High-st., Coventry, and later on was engaged to open a business, as manager for Woolf Bros., in the Bull Ring, Birmingham. This would be 1870 to 1873. These changes were of service to him, as they gave him varied experience. In 1873 he commenced business on his own account at Banbury. He

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was fond of the china and glass business, and he eommenced with those alone, but the requirements of the distriet made it neeessary to stoek other goods, so he stocked hardware for household purposes. He has always carried on what are ealled "Stores," but glass and ehina have formed the greater part of his trade, and they do so to-day. In 1903 after thirty years' elose applieation to his business he transferred it to his son, Joseph Nathan, who is now the proprietor. But Mr. Mark Nathan reserves to himself the right to assist in the business whenever he wants to amuse himself, and he says that often happens. He was at the shop at the time of my eall, but, of course, does not stay long there. The premises are very extensive for a town like Banbury, and they are filled with middle-elass goods from roof to basement. Mr. Nathan has a large warehouse for brown ware and flower-pots (in which he does an extensive trade) at the Castle Wharf. I shall speak of the shop in another place, so I shall deal here only with the founder of it himself.

Mr. Nathan is what we sometimes eall, a "self-made" man. In his ease I use the term to indieate that the suecess he has achieved has been won by his own effort. It was evident from what he had said that he had always been hard working and persevering; but I asked him if, for the benefit of young members of the trade, he could say what else had contributed to his sueeess. I am glad I asked the question, for his reply is worth the serious attention of young men eommeneing business in any line. He said: "My adviee to young men is, do not look upon your business merely as a means of gaining your living or of making a fortune. Be interested in your goods and learn to admire them. Learn all you ean about them, especially about the production of them. Your business will then become a source of pleasure to you, and it will also be an additional advantage if you are able to edueate your customers and yourself at the same time. Customers soon find out when a tradesman knows all about the goods he sells and when he is able to give them information about them. I have found it often very useful—always very interesting—to tell customers the differenec between good English glass and foreign glass, to explain why some pottery crazes and others do not, and to point out the beauties of neat china patterns as compared with gaudy eoloured deeorations."

"You were interested in your business, evidently, Mr. Nathan?" I remarked.

"I was, and, for the matter of that, I am still. I always tried to make my shop and a visit to it interesting to my customers, and to impress on their minds the idea that if they want an intelligent appreeiation of their requirements, and some advice in their seleetion of goods, so that they may buy without mueh trouble to themselves, I was the man to come to! I certainly have gained the confidenee of many customers by studying their wants and taking trouble to please them in the first instance. Some of the present regular customers are children of my original customers, and a few of them are grandehildren."

Mr. Nathan's experienee, I found, was so long and varied that I ventured to ask him a series of questions, with the object of obtaining a record of some of it. He says he has found manufaeturers on the whole, agreeable in business, but he thinks they should study the wishes of dealers more than they do. He does not find them so willing to meet the wants of dealers as they used to be. And on the other hand, he says, customers are more difficult to please than they were formerly. Faeilities for travelling rapidly and eheaply have made the public dissatisfied with the smaller stocks, and have induced them to go to the larger towns to make their purehases. So that, altogether, Mr. Nathan says the conditions of business have not improved for the dealer. I asked if he had adopted any method of dealing with his customers that had helped him in his business, and that might, perhaps, help others. He said he had always tried to aet liberally in the ease of any dispute. It was always his desire to make his customer feel that their interests were quite as much his eoneern as his own. He was not satisfied that they were pleased at the time of making a purchase, unless they also felt pleased in looking at their purehases at home. This was one reason why he always preferred to sell British goods rather than foreign. But the mischief was that the public now wanted things so much eheaper, that they would not pay the priee for the better British artiele, and so he had in later years sold more foreign goods—partieularly glass—than he used to sell. Still, in the faee of this, his opinion was that free imports of pottery and glass, had, on the whole, been an advantage to the eountry, and also, on the whole good for the glass and ehina dealer.

Referring to the diseussions that take plaee from time to time as to our manufaeturers' methods of fixing priees, adding inereases at foot of invoiee, dedueting diseounts, charging for packages and straw, and requiring eustomers to pay earriage, I asked if he had any eomments or suggestions to make on these matters. Mr. Nathan thinks it would be well if manufacturers eould quote priees for goods delivered, but he admitted that, with the numerous railway rates, to priee all goods "delivery free" would entail great trouble on manufacturers. But he eonsiders the eharges for paekages and straw are obsolete and absurd, and that priees of goods ought always to inelude the eharge for the paekage, as is done in other trades. He says it is simply ridiculous how these charges in the pottery trade vary, aeeording to the ideas of different manufaeturers. One firm charges 8s. for a "erate and straw," while another firm eharges 11s. or 12s. for exactly the same size erate and straw. Then the methods of dealing with returned empties differ as widely. Whatever it is, there should be something like a uniform method in the trade. I remarked that we had both seen some very striking changes in the pottery trade. "Yes," said Mr. Nathan, "espeeially in priees. The first erate of white and gold ehina I bought for myself on opening in 1873 was invoiced at £24—and the goods only filled a moderate sized fixture. The teas were then 4s. 6d., breakfasts 8s., S.S.C. and B. and B.'s 8s., and the 5-in. muffins were 2s. 6d. I wonder what the slaughtering drapers would think of those priees?" Besides these changes in prices, there have been ehanges even in the classes of goods sold. In my young days, silver lustre tea-pots were in regular demand in large quantities—they were made by Allerton & Green—enamelled earthenware tea sets were also then in demand, sueh as Beech and Hancoek, of Tunstall, used to make. I even remember their patterns, the "Pekin" and "Canton."

"You must have been well aequainted with the manufacturers of a generation ago, Mr. Nathan?"

"I elaim," said he, "that there are very few men now in the trade who have had—as I have—a personal acquaintance with the late Mr. Benjamin Atkinson, traveller to the late John Shorter, and brother of Mrs. Shorter. I remember James F. Wileman and Charles Wileman, James B. Shelley (a prinee of good fellows), Thomas Allan Green, Riehard Green, Joseph Sparks (London agent for Ridgways), and W. T. Till, of Till & Sons." (I did not tell Mr. Nathan so at the time, but I may mention that, with the exeeptions of Mr. Atkinson, Mr. James B. Shelley, and Mr. Till, I also had a personal aequaintance with all he had named.) After mentioning Warburton & Britton, of Leeds, whom I do not remember, and Samuel Barker & Sons, the Don Pottery, Rotherham, who were amongst the earliest advertisers in THE POTTERY GAZETTE, Mr. Nathan said he recolleeted the end of Badgers, of Dudley, and added "I wish I had some of their glass now!"

I well remember Badgers and four or five other glass-houses at Dudley, which have all gone now! But I am writing Mr. Nathan's reminiscences and not my own.

Speaking of the changes in popular wares, Mr. Nathan remembers when good-class people were satisfied with yellow chambers, and with black tea-pots, such as were made by John Ellis, of Bristol, who advertised them in THE POTTERY GAZETTE 28 years ago. He remembers when 32-piece tea sets were in vogue, and when lustre patterns were considered the acme of excellence. He says he recollects when the workman's cottage was not considered complete without a pair of "lustre" dogs, made by Sampson Smith and W. Stubbs, of Eastwood. Mr. Nathan called to mind that Mr. Stubbs' traveller was his brother Joshua, a "man of Cromwellian appearance."

Though frequently asked to do so, Mr. Nathan has taken no part in public life, neither has he been associated with public movements beyond always supporting local charities. He is an enthusiastic Mason. He has served every office in his Mother Lodge, the "Cherwell" 599, Banbury, also in the Cherwell Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons. He is a P.M. and a P.Z., a Past Prov. Grand Senior Warden of the Province of Oxfordshire, and a Past Prov. Scribe N. of the Prov. Grand Chapter. He is a life Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for girls and boys.

It did not take many minutes' conversation with him to tell me he had been a great and judicious reader. I asked him if he had any recreation or hobby. He is fond of walking, and can walk from 8 to 10 miles right off. He is also an enthusiastic rose and bulb grower. He tells me he has sold a large number of bulb-vases through growing bulbs in them—an interesting combination of amusement and business. Mr. Nathan has been fond of travelling as far as his leisure would permit. He has made several visits to Berlin, where he has friends. He considers the condition of the masses in England as far in advance of that of the same classes in Germany. Our people have more enjoyment, and, altogether, he thinks social life here is better.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

The Caledonia China Stores have been opened at 11, Caledonian-rd., King's-cross, N.

Gilbert's Stores (china, glass, &c.), have been opened at 103, Dartmouth-rd., Forest-hill, S.E.

Mr. W. Bridge, china and glass dealer, &c., has opened premises at 6, Leigh-st., Burton-cres., W.C.

Mrs. A. McGowan, china and glass dealer, has relinquished the business at 72, High-st., Tooting, S.W.

Leinster Bottle Machine Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £4,100 in £1 shares. Objects, to carry on business as indicated by title.

Evans & Co., china and glass dealers, owing to fire at their premises 515, High-rd., Leytonstone, E., have taken premises at 414 in the same thoroughfare.

Riley & Godwin, Old Hall Works, Hanley, engravers and designers for pottery printing, &c., have taken over the business lately carried on by F. Wood & Son at that address.

Mr. F. J. Mills, of Gloucester-terrace, Hyde Park, London, and formerly of the firm of Boulton & Mills, glass manufacturers, Audnam, Stourbridge, left estate to the value of £50,985.

J. Spence & Co., Cambridge, have had a new shop built at 38, Burleigh-st., to enable them to make a good display of glass, china and earthenware, and are removing thither from 44, Burleigh-street.

Anthesian Stained Glass Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £30,000, in £1 shares. Objects, as indicated by title, and to adopt an agreement with Edwin Lloyd, Ltd. Registered office, 65, London-wall, E.C.

W. Adolph & Co., 9, Bury-court, St. Mary Axe, E.C., have forwarded us a handsome poster advertising the Franco-British Exhibition, and state that they are open to arrange for exhibits, visits, &c.

Mr. John Cameron has retired from the co-partnership of Peter Brown & Co., tile manufacturers, Corsehill, Springside, Ayrshire. The remaining proprietor, Mr. Peter Brown, continues for himself, under the old title of the firm.

Brown & Mackay (W. C. Lowe), china and glass merchants and shippers, have removed to 133, Fenchurch-st., E.C. They have also relinquished the ordinary retail trade which they carried on in conjunction with their merchants' and shipping business.

Mr. W. P. Pattenden, 14, Bartletts-buildings, Holborn, EC, is the representative for London and the suburbs of Mr. Wm. Goebel, Oeslan, near Coburg, manufacturer of figures, vases, busts, plaques, &c., in china, and shows samples of all his principal lines.

Mr. C. J. Pratt, Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C., in addition to agencies mentioned elsewhere, has been appointed the London representative of the Blythe Porcelain Co., Longton. Mr. Pratt has for some time represented the National Glass Company of America in this country.

Old Yorkshire Pottery.—A Yorkshire subscriber writes: It might interest you to know that a few of the museums here in Yorkshire have been striving lately to have a good collection of local pottery—black, brown and yellow, inlaid, decorated, &c., in slip. I have been fortunate in finding for them a good variety of old pieces.

Northolt Tile Works, Ltd.—Registered capital, £20,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with C. D'Huc Dressler, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in bricks, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, terra cotta, and ceramic ware of all kinds, &c. Registered office, Hayes End, Middlesex.

British Clay Exports.—The exports of unmanufactured clay from the United Kingdom during the month of January last amounted to 58,641 tons, valued at £66,947. This included 2,206 tons of fire clay, valued at £2,685, now shown separately for the first time. The total export for January shows a steady increase during the last three years.

Mr. Thomas J. Usher has been appointed London representative of the Soho Pottery, Ltd., Tunstall, whose show rooms are in Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C. Mr. Usher has also been appointed London agent for George Procter & Co., china and earthenware manufacturers, Longton, and for Mr. John Sadler, jet and rockingham manufacturer, Burslem.

Pottery as Prizes.—The Longton and District Photographic Society has been holding an exhibition of photographic pictures. It has been well advised in giving pottery as prizes to the successful exhibitors, in place of medals. A souvenir in Staffordshire ware is a more acceptable prize from a Pottery town, than a copper, or even silver medal would be.

Dust and Fumes in Factories.—On Friday evening last, Feb. 28, Dr. John Scott Haldane, F.R.S., University lecturer, Oxford, was announced to deliver a lecture before the Royal Society of Arts, at the headquarters of the Society, John-st., Adelphi, London, W.C., on "The Removal of Dust and Fumes in Factories." This is one of the Shaw Lectures on Industrial Hygiene.

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Company Liens Registered.—Ringsend Bottle Co., Ltd., Dublin. A trust deed securing £6,000 debenture stock has been registered (charged on premises situated at Fitzwilliam Quay, Ringsend, and other assets.——Carne Stents China Clays Ltd. (Plymouth), £5,000 5 per cent. debentures charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital have been registered.

Tenders Accepted.—For supply of water bottles and glasses required for the equipment of additional buildings at the Manor Asylum for the London County Council. Molineaux, Webb & Co., £2 5s.——For supply of 700 ft. super glazed tile dado 5 ft. high and 205 ft. run, vitreous tile border in connection with the construction of engine-houses at Selhurst for the Metropolitan Water Board :— Craven, Dunhill, & Co., £80 12s. 8d.

The Conway Stone Quarries, Ltd.—The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies has sanctioned a change in the name of Carder's Stone-Lino Ltd., Conway, North Wales, which will in future be known as "The Conway Stone Quarries, Ltd." Mr. L. W. Carder has relinquished his official connection with the company, and the chairman (Mr. Alderman Price Lewis, J.P., of Wolverhampton) has undertaken the duties of managing director.

Travelling in China is a rather ambiguous phrase. The resemblance between the common name for porcelain wares and the country from which the industry was introduced into Europe often leads to some curious errors. A recent number of the "Bookseller," in its classified list of. publications of the month, placed the brochure on china collecting of Mr. H. E. Kidson, "About Old China," amongst books on "Travel, Sport, and Adventure".

Mr. J. Pointing, who has successfully represented Burgess, & Leigh, Burslem, in London for the past eleven years, is shortly relinquishing his connection with the firm. This is a perfectly voluntary act on his part, and the firm regret the necessity for it. We heartily wish Mr. Pointing improved health and all prosperity in any enterprise with which he may be associated. We have reason to think that Mr. Wm. Henry Leigh will represent the firm in London.

Lead Poisoning in January.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during January was 45 and 2 deaths, as compared with 37 and 1 death in January, 1907. In addition to the above, 17 cases of lead poisoning (including 3 deaths) were reported during January among house painters and plumbers. For the china and earthenware trades there were 7 reported cases and 1 death in January this year, and 6 reported cases and 1 death in January last year.

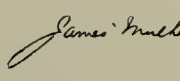
Pottery Workers' Dinner.—A number of the members of the Pottery Workers' Society—very nearly one hundred —met at dinner at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Hanley, on Feb. 4, Mr. S. Clowes, the President of the Society, in the chair. Representative working potters from Langley Mills, Denby, and Scotland were present. Amongst other toasts "The health of the visitors" was proposed by Mr. Jabez Booth, who expressed the hope that the number of members and the finances of the Society would be greatly augmented, so that the working potter could strengthen his position, live respected as a citizen, and do justice to the trade he served and to his family. A pleasant musical evening was spent.

Pottery Classes.—At a meeting of the Longton Education Committee on Feb. 4, the sub-committee reported a meeting with representatives of the English China Manufacturers' Association at which the accommodation at the Sutherland Institute for Pottery Classes was considered. The members of the China Manufacturers' Association said it was their wish that the laboratory should be devoted to the exclusive use of pottery students, if that could be arranged, accommodation being found elsewhere for the students in metallurgy. Dr. Mellor having said it would be satisfactory to him if the laboratory was devoted to pottery students, the sub-committee recommended that the metallurgy classes should be discontinued at the Institute and the laboratory devoted to pottery students exclusively. This recommendation was agreed to.

Travellers' Samples in France.—The text has been published of the agreement entered into on October 23 between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial travellers' samples. The treaty does not alter much, but it simplifies the formalities observed in the passage of commercial travellers' samples through the Customs of the two countries. It is agreed that articles marked as samples shall only be subjected to a summary verification, for the purpose of establishing their identity, when they are enumerated on the descriptive list under denominations admitted by the tariff of the country of entry, in the language and in the weights and measures of that country. The Customs Authorities of either country may further affix a supplementary mark to such samples in all cases where they may consider this precaution necessary.

Annual Outing.—On Feb. 1, the staff of Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge, dined at the "Old Royal" Hotel, Birmingham. After the loyal toasts had been proposed by Mr. Congreve Jackson, the managing director, who was in the chair, the vice-chairman, Mr. Parrish, proposed the toast of "The Firm," coupling with it the name of the managing director, and alluding eulogistically to the spirited manner in which he had directed the affairs of the firm, winning the entire confidence of staff and employees. Mr. Jackson expressed his thanks for the confidence reposed in him. Whatever success had been experienced by the firm was in no small degree due to the hearty co-operation of every member of the staff. The past year, he was happy to say, had shown an improvement, and the prospects were very hopeful. Thanks were voted to Mr. Edwin Hall for the arrangements made, and the party adjourned to the Theatre Royal.

New Trade Marks advertised during February included the following :—J. Mulhern & Co., 36, Belmore-st., Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland.



Glass bottles sold empty, i e., independently of any contents. Class 15. 298,840.——"Uacolite." The United Asbestos Co., Ltd., Dock House, Billiter-st., E.C. Porcelain and earthenware. Class 16. 298,357. Also "Uacolith." 298,360.——"Cheerup." A. E. Wilson, Dechmont, Merrylee-rd., Newlands, Glasgow. Teapots, included in Class 16. 298,957.——East Manufacturing Co., 375, Ellicott-st., Buffalo, New York, U.S.A. Address for service in the United Kingdom is, care of Marks & Clerk, 18, Southampton-buildings, W.C. Mark as illustrated. Cement for



mending articles of crockery. Class 50. 299,109.—— "Mayntnens." M. Bateman & Co., 27, Shoe-lane, E.C. Glass. Class 15. 299,416.

Lead in the Pottery Trade. (From our own Correspondent).—In the House of Commons on February 10 Sir Charles Dilke asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he could state when the new draft special rules for the china and earthenware trade, to replace those depending on Lord James's voluntary scheme, and rendered necessary by the inclusion of lead poisoning among industrial diseases for purposes of workmen's compensation, would be issued. Mr. Gladstone has replied in the following terms :—I propose to appoint a Departmental Committee of Inquiry with regard to the use of lead in a number of industries, including the one mentioned in the question, and pending the report of that

committee I do not think it would be worth while to undertake the revision of the existing special rules. No serious difficulty has arisen from the temporary co-existence of Schedule B of those rules with Section 8 of The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and none is anticipated.

O. C. Hawkes, Ltd.—The directors report for the year ended Dec. 31 last as follows :—The net profits, after allowing for bad and doubtful debts and charging cost of replacement and repairs, amounting to £504 6s. 4d., to revenue account, amount to £13,149 8s. 4d., including balance brought forward from last year ; from this must be deducted managing director and directors' fees, £1,065, and balance of income tax, £35 17s. 10d., leaving a balance of £12,048 10s. 6d. The directors have paid interim dividends of 5 per cent. on preference and 5 per cent. on the ordinary capital, which absorbs £4,250. They have also paid 5 per cent. per annum on preference capital to Dec. 31 last, amounting to £2,125. They now recommend 5 per cent. per annum for the half-year on the ordinary shares, making 5 per cent. for the year, which will require £2,125, and to carry forward a balance of £3,548 10s. 6d. The results are not so good as those of a year ago. The net profit is £3,710 less, and the dividend rate for the whole year is 5 per cent., as compared with 7½ per cent.

Contracts Open.—EARTHENWARE (March 10) : The Guardians of the Parish of St. Mary, Islington, invite tenders for the supply of earthenware for 12 months commencing March 29, to be delivered at the St. John's-rd. Workhouse, the Cornwallis-rd. Workhouse, the Highgate-hill Infirmary, and the Guardians' School, Hornsey-rd. Tenders must be delivered at the offices, St. John's-rd., Upper Holloway, N., on March 10.——EARTHENWARE (March 11) : The Greenwich Guardians invite tenders for the supply of earthenware for 12 months commencing March 29, 1908. Forms of tender are obtainable from the Clerk's office, Union Workhouse. Tenders must be delivered at the Clerk's office, Union Workhouse, before noon on March 11.——EARTHENWARE (March 10) : Tenders are invited for supplying earthenware for one year to the West Riding Asylum at Scalebor Park. Forms of tender may be obtained on application to the Clerk to Visiting Committee, Wakefield. Tenders must be addressed to "The Committee," Room No. 30, County Hall, Wakefield, and be received not later than 9.30 a.m. on March 10.

Old Potteries of Glasgow.—The following correspondence was recently addressed to the Editor of the "Glasgow Herald," and published in that paper :—Sir,—In an old history of Glasgow I find reference to the "Delftfield Company of Glasgow." It started in 1748 on the Broomielaw Croft, where James Watt-st. now is, and was in operation for some seventy-five years. It was a very large work, and produced all kinds of ware, some of it of the finest quality, richly gilt and highly decorated. I have not seen nor heard of a single piece, nor have I heard of anyone who has, though there must still be "bits" of this pottery's production somewhere. Probably among your readers there may be one who is the possessor of an authentic example, and can inform me what pottery or potter's mark is used.—I am, &c., Jason.——Sir,—I have seen a letter in your issue of 20th inst. asking for some information about the old "Delftfield." I am a descendant of the owner, William Young, and have some of his pottery. There are no marks on it, and I see nothing distinctive about it, but I am not an expert. If I can be of any service to your correspondent "Jason," I shall be glad to hear from him and enclose my address,—I am, &c., R. Græme Watt.

Tunstall School of Art.—At the exhibition of art students' work recently held at the Victoria Institute, Tunstall, naturally many of the exhibits related to pottery. Edwin Woollam was awarded a bronze medal in the National competition for designs for jugs treated as to shape and decoration, with the object of meeting commercial requirements. There was an exhibit of tiles designed and executed in the schools. Arthur Pointon received first prize, for panel of Viking ship, John Bishop second, for panel of peacocks, and was highly commended for some figure tiles. Walter Cumberlidge received a National book prize for set of tiles, and Edwin Woollam was commended in National competition for a set of tiles. Walter Cumberlidge also received a first in the local competition for tiles. John Bishop received a first prize for a design of a plate, and Dora Billington, Ada Jones, and Hilda Lindop were highly commended for similar exhibits. Ada Jones, Alice Lewis, and David Marsh were commended for art studies in the National competition. Stanley Gilman was awarded a prize for designs for drinking glasses, Ada Jones was commended for designs for coloured glass vases, and Laura Booth was commended for designs for jugs and wine glasses.

Unhealthy Industries.—In the course of a series of lectures at the Birmingham Women's Settlement, Miss Matheson dealt with "Industry and Health," on February 6. She spoke of the diseases associated with dangerous trades, referring especially to the pottery, enamelling, matchmaking, and brass-casting industries, and detailed the precautions which ought to be taken against lead poisoning, "phossy" jaw, and consumption. "Workers liable to lead poisoning ought to avoid alcohol, drink plenty of milk, eat good food, and pay particular attention to personal cleanliness. One of the effects of working in a leaden atmosphere was to take away the appetite for breakfast, and many factory girls ruined their health by starting work on a cup of tea. Employers in the enamelling trade ought to insist on the workers having at least a glass of milk before starting work. Lead poisoning was especially serious in the case of women, for it was largely responsible for infantile mortality. It was very difficult to get ignorant workers to wear inhalers because they were hot and uncomfortable to work in. An ideal inhaler had not yet been discovered, and the man who would invent one would confer a great benefit on the workers. When they visited a sick person they should inquire whether he belonged to a sick club, for the Workmen's Compensation Act had not removed the necessity for provision against sickness. The effects of industries on consumption was now engaging public attention, and legislation on the subject might be expected. Many employers out of a mistaken feeling of compassion continued to employ consumptive workpeople, to the great danger of others working in the same factory."

Death of Mr. Walter Weir.—We regret to record the death of Mr. Walter Weir, aged 58, one of the directors of Twyfords, Ltd., sanitary ware, &c., manufacturers, Cliffe Vale, Hanley. Mr. Weir had not been ill long. Some five or six weeks ago he caught a severe chill from which complications ensued, with the result that he died on Feb. 21 at his residence, Hillesden, Newcastle-under-Lyme. A few months ago he appeared to be in the prime of life. He was born at Paisley, and after considerable business experience he became associated with Twyfords as travelling representative. For many years he acted in that capacity throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland. When Twyfords' firm was converted into a limited liability company twelve years ago he became one of the directors, and from that time took part with Mr. T. W. Twyford in the management of the business. He was widely known and respected in the trade, and was held in esteem by the employees of the Company. Mr. Weir was well read, and was an effective speaker, but was not often heard in public. He was an earnest politician, though he took no part in public proceedings. He was associated with the North Staffordshire Caledonian Society. He never forgot that he was a Scotsman, and did not want others to forget it either. At the annual Burns dinner in the

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Potteries it fell to him to propose the toast of the evening —"The Immortal Memory of Burns"—and his eloquent speech on that occasion, and his graceful references to the poet and his works were the subject of great admiration. He was a genial friend and his presence will be greatly missed at many social and friendly assemblies in North Staffordshire. His generosity was proverbial, as he could never resist a request for assistance if the object was a deserving one. The funeral took place on Monday, Feb. 24, at the Cemetery, Newcastle, and was attended by a large number of friends in addition to relatives. Mr. Weir has left a widow and four children.

A Midland Captain of Industry.—As one of a series of notices of "Midland Captains of Industry," the "Birmingham Gazette" gives a sketch of Mr. E. P. Evans, J.P., managing director of the Worcester Royal Porcelain Company, Ltd. The selection of Mr. Evans was suggested by the circumstance that this year is the bicentenary of the birth of Dr. John Wall, the founder of the Worcester porcelain works. A large part of the sketch is devoted to a rapid history of the porcelain works, and then reference is made to the development of the industry under the late Mr. R. W. Binns and Mr. E. P. Evans. The former devoted his artistic skill and the latter his commercial experience and shrewdness to the business of the company. "How much the modern fame of Worcester porcelain owes to the unceasing labours and courageous enterprise of those two men may not easily be reckoned. Whatever was done should be done well, and with this high resolve unfailingly kept in sight, the Worcester Royal Porcelain Company is able to command a reputation unsurpassed and hardly equalled in the whole contemporary world of ceramic art. This it is which forms the well-worn crown to a life of strenuous endeavour, and this it is which sets the seal of success on Mr. Evans's long association with Worcester's famous industry." . . . The development of the company is sketched, and the part taken by Mr. Evans in it is described. "Forty years' honourable service has been marked by numerous noteworthy changes. The calm spirit of the vast establishment is happily described and accounted for. The visitor finds himself in an atmosphere pervaded by a simple dignity, a grave courtesy, a quiet refinement curiously in keeping with the traditions of an old cathedral city. They are attributes of the managing director himself—a grave, kindly man who effaces his own personality in an attractive embodiment of the traditions of the potter's art and of the great and historic business in his charge. The happy relations between employers and workpeople are due to Mr. Evans's wise and enlightened administration, while he has won the affectionate regard of those about him by his practical counsels, his large-hearted sympathies, and kindly nature."

Lecture on Enamels.—Mr. J. Arnold Fleming, F.C.S., gave on Thursday evening, Feb. 13, in the Glasgow School of Art, an interesting lecture on "Enamels, their Construction, Defects and Qualities." He introduced this fascinating subject by giving an account of the historic enamels, "The Sword of Charlemagne" at Vienna in cloisonné enamel, the Pala d'oro or altar front at Venice, the shrine of the Three Kings at Cologne Cathedral, and lastly that most interesting jewel at Oxford, supposed to have belonged to King Alfred. De plique à jour, imitating transparent stones, Bassetaille work, and the more general champléve style of enamelling were also briefly dealt with. Mr. Fleming then demonstrated the inseparable connection of the chemical composition of an enamel with the physical combination that in mixing an enamel the artist has always to bear in mind the effects of a temperature more or less high. Some of the early enamels, previous to the thirteenth century especially, show efflorescence, showing that excessive dampness had attacked the overflux colours. Carbonic acid gas and sulphuretted hydrogen were also enemies, and these often went by the name of an "odour of sanctity" in many old, damp, and badly ventilated churches. The wonderful powers of fluxes that cause the molecules of a substance to change from the solid to liquid and from the liquid to the solid state of aggregation were next dealt with. It is really extraordinary how little we know about the formation of crystals of even common substances, as ice from seawater and salt from salt water. It is well known a flux can only absorb its known quantity of colouring base, that if at a greater temperature it absorbs more than that given amount it will reject that excess on cooling. The laying of the colours on the metal or pottery was, if anything, the most interesting point of the lecture. It was duly impressed on the students not to lay the colours on too thickly with a view to giving vigour of tone to the painting, but to obtain this by the simple colours alone and without thickness. But if depth of colour must be obtained it must be solely done by retouches followed by as many firings, success depending entirely on details of manipulation, and labour that seems useless, such as grinding and mixing enamels that already appear fine enough, will abundantly be repaid by the superior quality of resulting colours.

A MANUFACTURER'S VIEW OF THE POTTING TRADE.

ON Feb. 21, a crowded meeting was held in the Victoria Hall, Hanley, to hear an address by Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., on "Tariff Reform." In supporting a vote of thanks to Sir Gilbert, Mr. Cecil Wedgwood said that, as a master potter who knew the anxieties of trying to provide work for workpeople every day of their lives, he fully endorsed all that Sir Gilbert Parker had said. Looking over the 140 years covered by the history of the firm to which he belonged, he saw that at one time they had done a great trade in Russia. Where was that trade now? Dead. They had done a great trade in Germany; but where was that trade now? Largely dead, and largely killed by goods made in Germany from our own raw material from Devon and Cornwall. They used to do a large trade in Italy, but where was that trade now? Dead—killed by goods made in Italy from clay obtained in Cornwall. Mr. Wedgwood spoke of the constant difficulties which manufacturers had in competing against the tariff walls reared against them, and referring to the unfairness of the position, he remarked that some countries not only copied British goods and used our raw materials, but the goods were sold in English names. In three years his firm had had nine law-suits to protect their own trade mark. Most of the law-suits were in respect of ware made in Germany. These were a few of the difficulties which the master potter had to contend with day by day. The interests of the master potter and the workpeople were identical on this fiscal question. They could not have the interests of the workmen benefited, and those of the master potter damaged, or vice versâ. When a master potter came to consider the matter he could only endorse Fiscal Reform. Sir Gilbert Parker had put very clear arguments before them, and he had pleasure, as a representative of masters and the workpeople in the potting trade, in supporting the vote of thanks to him.

The Growing Trade of Canada.—The total trade of the Dominion of Canada for the 12 months ended January amounted to $635,840,681 (£127,168,136), an increase of $45,895,877 (£9,179,175). The exports to Great Britain show a decrease of $8,713,849 (£1,742,769); those to the United States show an increase of $10,149,547 (£2,029,909).

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE thoughts of a good many people besides those of us who live in the Potteries are turned to this district just now. The outside world, through the medium of the daily press, has already been made aware of the fact that the wheels of the potting industry are not running as smoothly as they might do, and if there is any activity in our trade at the present time, it is undoubtedly to be attributed to the circumstance that china and earthenware dealers, having inwardly digested the intelligence given in their trade journal and daily newspapers, are preparing against possible contingencies, by increasing their stocks of ware. And, indeed, the retailers who have recently been buying a little ahead of their immediate needs, are exercising a wise discretion, for, at the present time, the position of affairs here is such that nobody can say what will happen during the next three or four weeks. There is no disguising the fact that a crisis has arisen, the seriousness of which has rarely, if ever, been equalled in the history of our trade, and it is well to be prepared for the worst, though the worst may not come. Up till a fortnight ago, trade was depressingly slack in almost all branches. This is generally the case during the early part of the year, but just now the slackness was more keenly felt because of its contrast with the busy times we have been enjoying. But things have livened up within the past week or two in the home trade. A large number of buyers have been down making purchases ahead of requirements, and this has given a temporary fillip to the trade of those firms making general ware. But this fillip is wholly artificial, as must be obvious to everyone, and must not be taken as an indication of "good trade." If the worst should happen, and there should be a stoppage in the industry, the extra supplies will serve to tide retailers over difficult times. But for the circumstances to which allusion has been made, this trade would be in a depressed condition in practically every department, as, indeed, it still remains in most. Stocks have accumulated enormously since Christmas, with many of the leading firms, and some of the principal manufacturers have now enough ware on hand to last for three or four months. Foreign trade is far from being brisk, and much depends, financially, upon what happens during the next few months. A tightness still exists in the United States, exercising more or less a reflex action upon all the great markets of the world, and particularly of Canada and the South American States. One of the American trade journals, the other day, was lamenting the condition of the potting trade at East Liverpool, and commenting upon the conservatism of buyers, adding that the American potters "take a grim comfort in knowing that import orders are still scarcer than for American goods, and that the slowly improving commercial conditions may bring business more quickly and generously to the domestic plants than to the foreign houses for a while at least." It is perfectly true that manufacturers on this side find American orders much scarcer, but things are at last beginning to "wake up" in South Africa. There is no evidence to this effect, yet, in the Board of Trade returns, the exports of English ware to this market in January were only £5,761 compared with £13,777 two years ago. but still we are assured by those in this district having dealings with the Cape that the improved tone is distinctly observable, and that orders are coming in more freely. In this connection it is interesting to recall that Mr. J. C. Wedgwood, M.P., who is particularly well informed as to South African trade conditions, prognosticated some years ago on his return from the Cape, where he had been acting as a resident magistrate, that business would not recover until the summer of 1908. Present indications are that this prophecy is going to be fulfilled. This will be all the more gratifying because South Africa, in the past, has been a really good customer of the Potteries, and if our manufacturers here can meet the present keen competition of Germany with success, there is no reason why it should not be so again. The Board of Trade returns for January show that the exports of British ware amounted to £214,078, compared with £212,109 in January of 1907 and £186,954 in January of 1906. There were decreases in the exports to Germany, France, the Argentine, South Africa and minor countries, and increases to the United States, Brazil, the East Indies, Australia, and Canada, the exports to New Zealand being virtually stationary. More detail is now given in the returns as to the composition of the exports, as is pointed out elsewhere in this issue.

We must now study the details of the question which has overshadowed all other topics of discussion in the Potteries during the past month, viz., the situation which has arisen between the masters and operatives respecting prices and conditions of employment. The whole matter is extremely complicated; there are several different questions involved, and not a single one of them can justly be termed a "straight issue," because customs and prices vary so greatly on different factories, although the class of goods produced may be very much the same. This explains how it is that labour troubles in the Potteries are often so confusing, and it incidentally furnishes a strong argument in favour of a thorough reorganisation of the trade with a view to the rectification of the many inequalities and anomalies at present existing—anomalies which masters, no less than operatives, would like to see put straight However, ignoring the innumerable minor points which have arisen at individual works, we find that the main questions at issue are five or six in number. It would perhaps assist in making the position clearer, if, before discussing them, an outline were given of the various developments which have taken place in the situation since our last notes were written. When the February issue of this GAZETTE went to press, the trade union operatives had commenced to hold meetings in the six local towns, at which resolutions were passed pledging the workpeople to give employers the customary six weeks' notice prior to "potters' settling day" (March 25), of certain proposed alterations in wages and conditions. Those meetings have since been continued at Burslem, Fenton, and Longton, with the result that when Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb 11 and. 12, arrived (being dates six weeks prior to Lady Day), notices were handed in by a very large number of operatives. To give even an approximate number of the notices is impossible at this stage, since they have gone in not only in the Potteries but also in Derby, Glasgow, Bristol, and elsewhere, and have been given by non-unionists as well as by unionists. It is not too much to say, however, that twenty-five thousand workpeople, or even more, are affected either directly or indirectly. Most of the potters, oven-men, printers and transferers in the general earthenware branches have given notice for five things: (1) an increase of 15 per cent. in making prices; (2) a revision of "counts"; (3) a revision of sizes; (4) the abolition of the "good from oven" system, and (5) the limitation of apprentices on the basis that from March 25 next, not more than one apprentice shall be employed to every four journeymen. These are the principal points of the "general" dispute. Then in the jet and rockingham trade the workpeople have sent in notices demanding numerous increases in making prices and the limitation of apprentices, while the manufacturers, on their part, have served notices on their employees of a 10 per cent. reduction on all articles. The china trade employees are seeking a 15 per cent. advance and the limitation of apprentices, and the sanitary pressers have asked for definite prices to be fixed for the "casting" process. The sanitary manufacturers, in turn, have served notice on their pressers for a 10 per cent. reduction on closets and a 20 per cent. reduction on lavatories and all other articles except pans and traps. So far as the six weeks' notices handed in by the operatives are concerned, they are intended to furnish a period for negotiation only, and are not "terminating notices," but it is expected at the time of writing that a definite month's notice to terminate contracts will be given on Feb. 25, so that the two notices will run concurrently during the last four weeks, and will expire simultaneously on March 25.

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, the Rector of Stoke (the Rev. Prebendary Stuart), who arbitrated so successfully in the sanitary dispute last year, published a powerful plea for conciliation, in the course of which he remarked with great truth that it must be obvious that the position and prospects of trade rendered any universal advance in wages quite unlikely. As to the "good from oven" system, he said—again with truth—that it was one which admittedly could be abused, and that it might be made more satisfactory. Uniformity of sizes and counts, he observed, was desirable in the interests of both masters and men, while a uniform system of apprenticeship would add enormously to the stability of the trade even if it should be proved that figures suggested in the operatives' notices would be impossible in actual work. On Monday, Feb. 18, a general meeting of manufacturers was held in private at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke, to consider the position, and, after a conference which lasted for two hours, it was announced that the following resolution had been passed unanimously, viz., "That this meeting, whilst being of opinion that the present time is not opportune for a general advance in wages, is prepared to recommend that a committee of manufacturers should meet representatives of the operatives to discuss any particular instances where there are inequalities on either side, and that, at such conference, it should be pointed out to the operatives' representatives that the manufacturers see no possibility of the re-formation of a Board of Conciliation so long as the oven-men refuse to join in such a Board."

Following this, on Wednesday Jan. 19, an important mass meeting of operatives was held at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, when a denial was given to the statement that the oven-men have refused to join in a Conciliation Board. However this may be, we can only say that at a conference between masters and men on Jan. 24, convened to discuss the question of a Conciliation Board, Alderman Thos.

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Edwards, the Secretary of the Ovenmen's Union, stated that the oven-men were not disposed to submit to arbitration their present demand for an advance of wages, and that from that day up to the time when these notes were penned, Mr. Llewellyn, the employers' secretary, had received no further communication from Mr. Edwards as to the willingness or otherwise of his society to join a Conciliation Board. But this is digressing from the Victoria Hall meeting. There were probably two thousand persons present, including many female operatives, and the principal business was the submission of a set of new rules suggested by the operatives' representatives, for governing the Conciliation Board, which it is proposed to bring into being again. These rules, which were agreed to by the meeting with virtual unanimity, provide for the creation of an authority consisting of 10 employers and 10 operatives, four of each to form a quorum, and a new Board to be elected in January of each year. The Board would have two secretaries, one for the masters and one for the men, and a reference to the Board would be made by either party to a dispute. In the event of the Board failing to effect a settlement of the dispute, the rule provided that an independent chairman, appointed by the Board of Trade, should be called in, and, if the parties still failed to agree, the chairman would be invited to settle the question, his decision being binding on each party. The rules further stated that when, at any meeting of the Board, the number of employers and operatives was unequal, only an equal number should vote, and that a committee of four (two of each side) should deal with disputes at individual manufactories if necessary, with the assistance of the independent chairman. Various other provisions were made, and Rule 21 ran as follows :—"That the independent chairman, whenever he may be called in to settle any question upon which either the Board or the Committee appointed under Rule 15 (the committee of four) fail to agree, shall have full opportunity to verify any figures or statements made in evidence, providing that such verification be not allowed to interfere with, or expose, the private business of any firm, and shall be disclosed to no other person. The operatives shall have power to call for the books of any firm for the independent chairman's inspection when deemed desirable." The rules thus summarised, it should be distinctly understood, are those suggested by the operatives and not by the employers. It has been suggested in some quarters that the employers have agreed to the elimination of the rule of the old Aubitration Board which excluded from arbitration the questions of "good from oven" and the limitation of apprentices, but this is not the fact. Moreover there are various other points in the operatives' suggestions to which the employers object, but no step has been taken to discuss the matter with the operatives because it was felt that, until the oven-men had agreed to the re-formation of the Conciliation Board, no useful purpose would be served by having another joint meeting such as that which was held on Jan. 24. This, then, is how matters stand now. No fresh step had been taken since the Victoria Hall meeting, up to the time of writing, so far as the dispute in the general trade is concerned. As soon as the oven-men agree to come into a Board of Conciliation, negotiations will apparently be renewed, but not till then.

On February 25 a large number of workpeople formally handed in a month's notice of their intention to cease work, and these notices will take effect on March 25, unless, in the meantime, a settlement is arrived at, or the Conciliation Board is formed. Further similar notices were handed in on Feb. 26, and it is believed that in all about 15,000 or 16,000 of these notices were handed in by the Wednesday night. Of course there are many more people affected by the various disputes than this. It is estimated that in the earthenware section of the trade about 14,000 notices have been given, in the sanitary trade 1,000, in the jet and Rockingham branches about 800, and in the tile trade about 250. Only about a third of the operatives are trade unionists. The jet and Rockingham trade employees are agitating for a uniform price list, whereas their employers have given notice for a 10 per cent. decrease.——A meeting of the sanitary pressers was held at the Temperance Hall, Hanley, on Feb. 24, when a letter was read from Mr. Llewellyn (the masters' secretary), suggesting that certain experiments should be made to see how much can be earned at the casting process, with a view to the fixing of reasonable prices. The conditions which the manufacturers proposed should govern the experiments were discussed in private, and the men decided that they could not accept them all. They then formally decided to give four weeks' notice of their intention to cease work on March 25.——A joint meeting of the masters and men was held at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke, on Wednesday, Feb. 26, when the whole position was reviewed, and the re-formation of the Conciliation Board, as well as the wages question, discussed. The Ovenmen's Union was represented, and the proceedings were of a highly important nature. The masters pointed out the impossibility of giving any advance in wages at the present time, but suggested that all notices and counter-notices should be withdrawn, and that masters and men should meet at an early date to consider other matters in dispute, such as limitation of apprentices, &c. The men's leaders replied that, while they were not prepared to accept these suggestions, they would lay the proposals before the operatives and arrange another conference. —— By wire, Feb. 27 : — Outlook more hopeful at yesterday's conference. Masters suggested withdrawal of all notices, and that early meeting should be held to discuss limitation of apprentices, good from oven, counts, and sizes, general inequalities on either side, and levelling of prices paid to operatives, and re-formation of Conciliation Board. Manufacturers said they were prepared to do everything possible to remove grievances. These proposals will receive consideration by full meeting of men at early date.

Having traced the development of the situation, it is now necessary to say something as to the various points involved, and perhaps the best way to do this is to refer to each point separately. To begin with, there is the demand for a fifteen per cent. advance, and as to this, we are fully assured that there is not the slightest prospect of any such increase being granted. We are acquainted with the views of many leading manufacturers on this subject, and are persuaded that the men, in making this demand, are asking for that which it is quite impossible for their employers to concede. That there are some factories where increases ought to be granted is possible, even probable ; but, as the Rector of Stoke says, it is obvious that "the position and prospects of trade render any universal advance in wages quite unlikely." If the men had demanded an advance last year of say 5 per cent., when trade was booming, they might have succeeded, for many employers would have been glad had there existed some common incentive which would have compelled them to revise selling prices earlier than was done. But the commercial situation has since changed completely. Mr. Coxon, one of the men's leaders, stated at an operatives' meeting at Longton, three weeks ago, that "there was every prospect of the pottery industry enjoying another twelve months of good trade." Unfortunately, manufacturers not only in the potting trade, but in a good many other trades besides, know only too well that the direct contrary is the case. We have only to glance at the newspapers day by day to see that the industries of the whole world are in a state of unrest at the present time. In our own country, we are threatened at the present moment with the biggest strike in our history amongst the engineers and shipyard employees, involving probably 83,000 families. The iron trade, as well, may be affected if the efforts which Mr. Lloyd-George is now putting forth do not stave off a strike. And even if this trouble is averted, there still remains the fact that unemployment and distress exist to a most disturbing degree in the North of England. Does this look like a hopeful prospect at home for the potting trade—the trade which, we have always been taught, is the first of all trades to feel depression, and the last to recover ? Looking abroad, what do we see ? Financial unrest and unprecedented unemployment in the United States, with the promise of another early tariff revision. A financial crisis in South America ; Political upheaval in Portugal and Russia : Famine in India, with three-quarters of a million of people in receipt of relief, and unsatisfactory prospects in Australia. Can Mr. Coxon still say, after this, that prospects for the potting trade are good ? As a matter of fact, not a few manufacturers would be positively glad of the opportunity of easing the unusually heavy stocks they are carrying, and would be glad to cease making for a time, were it not for the distress which a stoppage would cause. Further than this, it is unquestionably the fact that in the countries affected by the financial crises, North Staffordshire manufacturers have already given quite as much credit to their customers as is desirable, and they do not care to grant more.

If it were true, as Mr. Clowes is constantly telling us, that the master potters have been putting £300,000 into their pockets as the result of last year's 5 per cent. increase in selling prices, one could understand the workers growing dissatisfied, but a more absurd calculation has rarely been made by any responsible official. The method by which Mr. Clowes arrives at his £300,000 is this :—Mr. Leonard Grimwade, during the fiscal controversy, estimated that the English production of pottery was equal to a value of £6,000,000 per annum. Calculating 5 per cent. on this sum, Mr. Clowes arrives at £300,000, and—there you are ! But I pointed out last month that the increase was not a general increase, and that, therefore, such a calculation was quite misleading. Mr. Grimwade amplifies this point in a letter which he addressed to the local press on February 14, in which he reminds Mr. Clowes that the increase did not apply to sanitary goods, tiles, high class vases and china, goods made under contract prior to the advance, goods made for markets where an advance was impossible on account of high tariffs, and seconds were from goods made for foreign markets and dumped on the English market to be got rid of on almost any terms. As a matter of fact, Mr. Grimwade estimates that, on the most favourable calculation, the 5 per cent advance made by manufacturers in September last has not, so far, yielded more than £10,000, which is scarcely sufficient to pay the increase on the coal bills alone, quite apart from the heavy increases in flint, stone, and other material. It may be added here, in passing, that there does not seem any prospect, in view of the Miners' Eight Hour Bill, of coal ever going back to its old price, while, only this week, we heard from a responsible source that quite

a famine prevails in china stone and clay. Any suggestion, therefore, that the manufacturers have been reaping great benefits from the 5 per cent. increase is wholly misleading. This is how the position was stated by the head of one large firm which does nearly as much business abroad as it does at home :—"The advance in coal last year amounted to 4 per cent. on our gross turnover, and as against that. all we have got is 5 per cent. on our English market. It has been even more serious for firms which do an entirely export trade, because they have not been able to get the 5 per cent. advance at all, and they are now in this position, that if the application of the men for an advance went to arbitration. and an advance, however, small, were granted, they would be absolutely compelled to put up prices, with the result that their business would most certainly be cut down. The men have chosen a very bad time for their application. Of course they say that that excuse is always made ; but the very fact that a certain firm are not opening their china works until Thursday morning, and have not done for weeks, is enough to show that there has been a real slump in trade."

The demand of the operatives for a revision of counts and sizes is one which has the sympathy of most employers, but any revision will have to be carefully carried out, and, no doubt, will involve fresh negotiations as to prices. But there is no reason why these reforms should not be amicably carried out by the Conciliation Board, if it is re-established, as we trust it will be. Next in order comes the suggested abolition of the "good from oven" system. There are several reasons why the employers cannot see their way to arbitration on this point. Many up-to-date firms, with ample capital at their command, are already paying "good from hand." We quite agree with the men that the good from oven system is open to abuse. but the men have their remedy if, as they have alleged at some of their meetings, any illegalities are committed. The limitation of apprentices is another point which the employers do not feel justified in submitting to arbitration. The operatives seek that there shall only be one apprentice to every four journeymen, but what is to be done in works where there are only one or two throwers, turners,and so on ? Many firms admittedly have too many apprentices, but was it not the men themselves, who some few years ago contested the legality of the indentures in the potting trade on the ground that they were not mutual, and thus caused the indentured apprentice system to become a thing of the past ? We believe it was the operatives themselves who were responsible for the abolition of indentures. The consequence was that manufacturers began to advertise for apprentices who had "served part time" and the objectionable system of "allowing twopences" sprang up. Apprentices in the clay making generally begin now by allowing sixpence in the shilling, that is to say that during the first year they are paid half the journeyman's price. The sceond two years they are paid two-thirds, and "allow fourpences," while during the last one or two years they perhaps get five-sixths, or, as the term goes locally, they "allow twopences." These apprentices not being bound, a boy who has been "allowing sixpences" for a year and a half will often seize the opportunity of transferring himself to another factory, where he "allows" only "twopences." Certain manufacturers have taken advantage of this system, and if an unemployed journeyman applies for the post of an apprentice who has served part time and offers to "allow twopences" in the same way as an apprentice would do, he has been taken on. This explains all the talk about grey-bearded apprentices. The consequence of the system which has grown up is that manufacturers have been compelled to put down more apprentices than they used to do. The whole thing could be put a stop to if there was a proper system of indentured apprenticeship, such, for instance, as the printers have got. Although the manufacturers are not willing to send this matter to arbitration, it is believed that they are quite willing to talk it over with the men and endeavour to find a remedy for what is, undoubtedly, an unpleasant feature of the trade.

Coming to the consideration of the "Rules" approved at the operatives' Victoria Hall meeting, it is quite certain that the employers will never agree to that portion of Rule 21 which provides that the operatives shall have power to call for the books of any firm for the independent chairman's inspection when deemed desirable. The operatives seem to consider this rule a very simple and unobjectionable one, but the manufacturers regard it in a very different light. If such a rule were passed we may be sure that the workpeople would be very careful in selecting the firms whose books they called for. Those businesses would be selected which possess ample capital, enabling them to buy on the best terms, and take cash discounts, which have the most up-to-date machinery and premises, and are able to adopt bustling methods in their commercial arrangements. But it would be extremely unfair to take two or three, or five or six firms of this kind, examine the books, and then generalise from the details thus obtained as to what are the average profits of the trade. Some of the large houses here are undeniably making money, but they have to employ large capital and incur grave risks to enable them to do so, and the proportionate return is not large. For every factory which is doing well, there are many which have difficulty in finding regular work for all their operatives, and if the profits of them all could be averaged, it would probably be found that the average manufacturer is making little more than he would do if he invested his capital in railway stock. If in any arbitration proceedings a manufacturer were to give evidence as to his profits, we do not think the masters would object to the workpeople calling for the books of that particular firm, so that they might be examined by the independent chairman (or by an accountant if he wished to appoint one), in order that the evidence given might be verified. But that is a totally different thing to giving the workpeople a free hand to examine the books of any firms they might choose to select.

Apart from the dispute in the general trade, issues of great importance are awaiting decision in the sanitary branch. The sanitary pressers, it appears, have only just awakened to the fact that the "casting" process has come to stay. Their opinion, at first, seemed to be that casting had only been introduced with a view to the lowering of prices for pressing, a singular idea which they now find to be erroneous. They therefore ask for definite prices to be fixed for "casting," while the employers have given notice of reductions of 10 per cent. on closets and 20 per cent. on lavatories and various other articles. Masters and men met in conference on Jan. 19, when it was pointed out by the masters that owing to foreign competition it is now only possible for them to get into the oversea markets at prices that they contend admit of no profit whatever, while continuing to pay the present prices. With regard to casting, a good deal of discussion took place respecting a certain type of closet. The masters hold that this article is made in Germany at 10½d., while the men say that the German price is 1s. 5½d., and that, anyhow, they are not going to be "dragged at the heels of Germany." They contend, naturally, that they want to be able to earn the same wages at casting as they are doing now at pressing, and they offer to make the article mentioned at 1s. 6d. The employers' price, however, is said to be 1s. 2d., and they have proposed to the operatives that certain actual working tests should be made, at the end of which both sides should meet at a round table and endeavour to settle what the prices shall be; failing an agreemont, the question to be referred to a third party. This seems a fair offer to make, and, as to the notices which the employers have given for a reduetion, it is believed that the masters are willing to submit these matters to arbitration.

No doubt this account of the troubles which have arisen in our trade is very disjointed, but so many different points are involved that it could scarcely be otherwise. At any rate, it is quite clear that the position is extremely grave. The one great hope is that the Conciliation Board will be re-formed, and that all the question in dispute will be referred to it, excepting those which, for ths reasons given, the manufacturers cannot agree to arbitrate upon. If the Board should not be formed, and the operatives still persist in their impossible demand for a 15 per cent. increase of wages, there seems no prospect of an amicable settlement. It is to be hoped that the workpeople will think twice before they force a stoppage and plunge the district into the miseries of a great strike. We would commend to their most earnest consideration the words which that wise and cautious leader of the miners, Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P., used at Longton, when speaking of the dispute a few days ago. Mr. Edwards said, "In the interests of a trade itself, it were better that a strong combination should seek to improve its position step by step, both slowly and surely, than that, in an unguarded moment, they should make a mistake that might cost years to remedy." This advice ought to be taken most seriously to heart.

Those operatives who so defiantly refuse to be "dragged at the heels of Germany" should take note of a letter which has just been received by the representative of a Longton china firm from a large crockery buyer in the North of England, in response to an invitation to inspect his samples. The letter is very terse. It simply says, "Not buying any English goods this journey." The recipient of the letter, after quoting the sentence recorded above, remarks in a letter to our local newspaper that this ought to interest some of the Pottery workers who are just now asking for a 15 per cent. advance of wages when the demand for English china and earthenware is anything but lively. He adds : "I have just concluded a six weeks' tour through the great northern cities, and every hotel I have stayed in has been simply swarming with Germans, and in some cases Englishmen, selling Continental china and earthenware. And they do sell it too, I can assure you. Some of the orders they book would make most of the most successful men from the Potteries blush, for quantities and price." In concluding he appeals to the potters "not to quite kill the trade there is left in the home market, or the only alternative left to travellers will be to turn to and sell Continental stuff—and the operatives will perhaps go over the Channel and help to make it for us."

LIBRARY OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

An inquest was held on Feb. 6 at the North Staffs. Infirmary on the body of John Sproston, a potters' dipper, of Burslem, who had died on the day previously. Sproston had been employed as a potters' dipper since he was a lad, and for the last four years was engaged at C. Simpson & Co.'s earthenware works at Burslem. He had complained of pains in the stomach and head for twelve months. He received notice from Messrs. Simpson last November, in consequence, it was stated, of his work having been unsatisfactory. Dr. King Alcock, the certifying surgeon for the Burslem district, gavc evidence that Sproston had never made any complaint to him, and had even denied all feelings of illness. Evidence as to a post-mortem which had been made showed that death was due to kidney disease, and that the tissue had been replaced by inflammatory fibrous tissue. The jury returned a verdict that Sproston "died from kidney disease, probably set up by working in the lead."——An inquest was held at the Infirmary on Feb. 6 on the body of Samuel W. Jones, a young biscuit placer, who had been employed by Alfred Meakin, Ltd., of Victoria Pottery, Tunstall. Last July, while drawing an ovon, deceased sustained an accident and was incapacitated for a fortnight, but afterwards worked until November. Medical evidence showed that death was due to exhaustion, as the result of tubercular trouble. Deceased was also suffering from an abscess in connection with the spine, which might have been caused by the accident sustained last July. The jury found a verdict in accordanco with the medical evidence, expressing the opinion that there was not sufficient evidence to show whether death was accelerated by the accident or otherwise.——At the Stoke County Court last month, Mrs. Annie Lewis, of Fenton, was awarded £240 under the Compensation Act, in respect of the death of her husband, who met his death a short time ago, under circumstances reported in THE POTTERY GAZETTE at the time, whilst attending the boilers at Gimson & Co.'s stilt and spur works, Fenton.

Mr. R. Vernon Wildblood, of Longton, has been the victim of a terrible accident which has aroused widespread sympathy for him throughout the Potteries. Mr. Wildblood, whose family is highly respected throughout the Potteries, has recently taken over factory premises in Heathcote-road, Longton, and on the afternoon of Feb. 18 he was at the works superintending certain work prior to the premises being opened, when his coat was drawn into the mechanism of a pug machine, near which he was standing. Mr. Wildblood was pulled over, and, in trying to save himself, his right arm was caught in some cogs. The wheels made only one revolution, but the limb was so badly mutilated that it was necessary to convey the sufferer to the Cottage Hospital forthwith, and amputate the arm below the elbow. Mr. Wildblood was also badly cut about the head, but throughout his ordeal he never lost consciousness, and he behaved with extraordinary pluck though suffering terrible agony. We are glad to be able to say that he is now nearly convalescent.——Mr. R. S. Hastings, china and earthenware dealer, of Piccadilly, Hanley, has, I am sorry to learn, been exceedingly ill. He is now, happily, progressing towards recovery. Mr. Ludlow, son of Mr. R. Ludlow, of Burslem, is also recovering from a serious illness.——It is with sincere regret that we record elsewhere in this issue the death of Mr. W. Weir, of Twyfords, Ltd., which took place on Feb. 21 at his residence, "Hillesden," Newcastle.

Mr. William Burton, the well-known potter-chemist, has promised to give a lecture on pottery at the Hanley Museum, in connection with a conversazione the Hanley Town Council are arranging in order to bring the institution more prominently under public notice. Under the curatorship of Mr. L. H. Jahn, who was formerly with Messrs. Minton, of Stoke, the museum is making splendid progress, and its collection of pottery is unrivalled in the district. Mr. Burton's lecture should be the means of drawing a large audience, who will doubtless be interested by what an expert like Mr. Burton will have to tell them.——Mr. J. Hamilton Fleming, of Grindley & Co., Tunstall, presented the prizes to the successful students attending the Tunstall Technical Schools, on Feb. 17, delivering a stimulating address in which he emphasised the importance of scientific methods in the potting industry. Mr. Fleming is a son of Sir James Fleming, of Glasgow.

The members of the English Ceramic Society spent another profitable evening together at Hanley on Feb. 22, when Mr. C. E. Ramsden, of Woolliscroft & Co., Ltd., read a paper on "The Solubility of Metallic Oxides in Glazes." In a previous paper the lecturer dealt with manganese and nickel, and he now devoted his attention to describing the action of the oxides of chromium, iron, and copper in glazes. Many "trials" were shown in the lecture room, a fine range of colours and effects having been produced by the gradation of the different colouring oxides. In the course of subsequent discussion, M. Solon, President of the Society, called attention to a beautiful tint which was to be obtained by the introduction of oxide of nickel into a glaze which, when fired up to a high temperature, say between 1,200 and 1,400 degrees, produces an effect upon white china comparable to the colour of a meerschaum pipe, viz., one of the finest browns obtainable in the whole range of ceramics. It was an effect (M. Solon said) which, he believed, had never yet been referred to by any writer on porcelain manufacture. He produced a specimen showing the effect, which he had produced personally, but he added that he feared it would be impossible, or, at any rate, very difficult, to produce this result with the existing English ovens.——It was announced that Mr. E. Schmatolla, the expert on gas firing, would attend the next meeting of the Society and open a discussion.

W. H. Grindley & Co., the progressive firm of Tunstall earthenware manufacturers, have commenced the erection of a commodious new model factory, which is expected to be in full working trim before the spring is over. It is to be built on a site in Scotia-road, adjoining the Chatterley-Whitfield wharf, and will occupy an area of about 7,000 square yards. The factory will all be built on one story, and is intended to supply exclusively hotel ware. Its cost is to be between £8,000 and £10,000, and the contract has been let to Mr. James Grant, of Cobridge. There are to be four ovens, a special dippers' drying tower is being installed, and the paving is to be stone sets, special arrangements being made to ensure perfect drainage. The most up-to-date machinery is to be installed, and the works will find employment for a large number of workpeople.——Blair & Company, china manufacturers, of Longton, have just installed a new gas firing kiln at their Beaconsfield works, capable of dealing with 6,000 dozen of china ware in a week. The gas producer is built into the kiln, and therefore a separate chamber is unnecessary. The firm state that they are in every way satisfied with the results of gas firing as they have applied it.

The staff of the mechanical department at Bullers', Ltd., Hanley, electrical ware manufacturers, held a social gathering recently at which a presentation was made to Mr. A. Heath, who has accepted a post under the Hanley Corporation.——Mr. Richard Brown, one of the foremen in the engineering department of Twyfords, Ltd., has been presented with a handsome marble timepiece by his colleagues as a souvenir of his marriage.——The china potters of Copeland & Son, Stoke, on Feb. 14, bade farewell to their foreman, Mr. Haughton, who has taken an important post at Longton, and the oldest china potter, Mr. John Keeling, on behalf of his colleagues, presented Mr. Haughton with a gold mounted umbrella and walking stick.

At the last meeting of the North Stafford Chamber of Commerce a singular complaint was brought forward by Cauldon, Ltd., respecting the tariff treatment of British earthenware and sanitary ware imported into Russia. It appeared that the Russian customs officials, in testing the body of bulky articles to ascertain whether they are of china or of earthenware, have hit upon the expedient of chipping an article in some unseen place and then drawing ink lines along the chipped surface. If the ink lines can afterwards be wiped off without leaving any mark, they class the goods as china, charging a duty of 26s. per cwt., but if the ink cannot be wiped off the ware passes as earthenware, at a duty of 10s. 10d. per cwt. This process is only followed in cases where the articles are so bulky as to prevent the usual transparency test to be applied, but it is, of course, an absurd test, for vitreous earthenware and many other kinds would come out of such a test as china. Mr. T. C. Moore has undertaken to bring the matter under the notice of the Board of Trade.——Those manufacturers who are agitating for the provision of better water carriage facilities to and from the Potteries, will be interested to hear that two great canals are projected in Germany at a cost of practically £10,000,000 sterling. One of them, between the Neckar and the Danube, is estimated to cost £5,600,000, and the other, from the Danube to Lake Constance, will absorb £4,000,000. It is time English manufacturers woke up to the importance of improving our inland waterways.——There does not appear to be any truth in the rumour that a pottery is to be started at Kidsgrove by a German firm.

THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE state of the flint glass trade in the Midlands during the past two months was far from being what either manufacturers or workpeople would have liked it to be, though in some respects it shows an improvement upon what its condition was, say a year or even six months ago. In Stourbridge, and Wordsley the houses producing the best classes of work, especially in table ware, have had a rather better time, owing to the receipt of orders from West End (London) dealers and those in the chief provincial centres,

for the reputation of the firms stands high and customers able to pay a good price for real artistic excellence know that in that district they can be served with what they desire. But the general trade has not the volume or value it formerly exhibited in its output the reason being the competition of foreign firms. This was made the subject of comment at the annual dinner held on the 15th ult. of the Dudley branch of the National Flint Glass Makers' Society by Mr. W. Bradford, the chairman. A few of his remarks are worth recording. He said that when he first became connected with the glass trade, thirty years ago, there were thirty more glass works in the United Kingdom than could be found to-day, and that within the past thirteen years some that had been going for about a century had dwindled out of existence. The speaker attributed this state of things to unfair foreign competition, though he owned that a few firms (specially naming one) appeared to have good orders in hand. Mr. Lane spoke in similar terms, and said the salvation of the glass trade, and of other home industries might be brought about by Tariff Reform, Protection, and Preference to the Colonies, hazarding the opinion that for that trade an import duty of 10 per cent., which somebody had suggested would be insufficient. Without endorsing such an opinion it may be asserted that what with free imports and the assistance given by the shipping and the railway companies handling large consignments of French, Belgian, Austrian, and other Continental glass intended for this country, our own manufacturers are placed at a serious disadvantage.

The active supporters and other friends of the Stourbridge Technical Institution are able to continue instruction in the classes of the school of design to youths engaged in the glass trade; but the number of pupils is certainly not as large as it ought to be. There is reason to fear that many parents do not see the value of the work done in training their sons. In no trade is the trained hand and eye of the worker of more importance than it is round the furnace in a first-class flint glass manufactory. To young cutters and engravers, also, the instruction imparted in the class rooms is of the utmost worth. It is pleasing to be able to report that a better feeling prevails between employers and workpeople of all grades than was the case a very few years ago; and so far as the skilled artificers are concerned, it is being increasingly recognised that their interests and those of the manufacturers are mutual. It is to be hoped that this condition of things will continue.

There is at present a moderate demand for dessert and other dishes (including epergnes), wines and champagnes, and spirit bottles; decanters are going moderately well, but tumblers are not just now in active request by buyers of best cut goods. About the lamp trade there is nothing of importance to report. In fancy coloured glass more trade is being done.

The glass trade in Birmingham has not shown very great activity since the publication of our last article in January. Cutters who have a connection with silversmiths report a fairly busy time, but the goods they operate upon, smelling bottles, fancy cruets, and small dishes, &c., are largely foreign. Our own glass manufacturers are asked to engage themselves to some extent in matchings—unprofitable employment and not altogether pleasant, as frequently the article sent to be matched in form and cut to pattern is found to be of foreign origin. The demand for cut and pressed goods for the table is less than it was at the beginning of the year or even in the middle of February, and then it was certainly not brisk. The lamp and chimney trades are flat, though there is something doing in fancy glass for electroliers, &c. The flower tube branch is looking up a little. There is no change to report in the looking-glass trade, beyond a slight improvement. At Spon-lane employment continues to be found for a large number of skilled and ordinary workmen. The output of Flemish glass, so called, is large, attention being given to the productions of new designs, and other steps being taken to meet the wants of customers. In lenses for lighthouses there is activity at Spon-lane as well as in other glass for scientific purposes.

The flint glass trade of Lancashire is not in a brisk condition, and present prospects are in many quarters regarded as unfavourable. In Warrington pressed work shows some flatness, and blowers and cutters are rather slack. The bottle works find trade improving somewhat. At Manchester there is little if any improvement to report, the demand for table work remaining sluggish, indeed a little shrinkage has taken place. At one large works cutters are being employed in working up stock, for which there will be a demand as spring further advances. Coloured and otherwise ornamented flower-vases, in which some novel and pretty designs are now out, are finding customers, and there should be a brisk demand when bright, warm weather is vouchsafed to us. Such weather will give an impetus to the bottle trade, which, during February, has shown more animation. For machinery glass there has not been an active demand for more than a month, but now, as there is a better feeling in the cotton trade and machine-makers have booked further orders, this branch is sure to benefit ere this month runs out. Since the American financial crisis, water-tube makers have had a check, not only in the over-sea trade but in the home market, the former especially, owing to a want of confidence in the United States houses.

A bankruptcy case in Manchester has been noticed by many people in the glass, china and other trades. The debtors are Abraham & Louis Ellman, late auctioneer and general dealers, who, on January 17 applied to Judge Parr, at the County Court there for their discharge. After investigation it was refused, the Official Receiver reporting that their trading and conduct generally were marked by discreditable features. On two creditors visiting their place of business, in September, they found about 200 packages, apparently containing stock, but which were filled only with wood shavings, straw, and wrappers for glass, china, &c. Judge Parry, in, refusing the application for discharge from bankruptcy said he could see nothing but evil in their conduct. There is reason to fear that some firms in the Potteries were amongst those whom the Ellmans had victimised.

St. Helen's window glass manufacturers are doing somewhat better than formerly; there has not been as much "dumping" as during last year, and there is ground for the belief that that policy has not paid. The Belgian Syndicate held a meeting recently, and resolved to make no further reductions in prices for such glass for the export trade to the Far East and Canada, "this business being far from profitable already." It is likely to become less profitable, for the Japanese are establishing a well designed and equipped sheet glass works at Osaka, as has been reported in THE POTTERY GAZETTE. If these should prove remunerative, others, no doubt, will be built, and British makers, as well as those on the Continent and in the United States of America, will have to bear the brunt of their competition. As to the last-named country, it may be mentioned that on the 5th ult. there was a conference at Pittsburg of window glass manufacturers who operate with "hand blower plants" in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and three other States, and they agreed upon a plan which means cutting down wages by a sliding scale. Mr. A. L. Faulkner, head of the National Glassworkers' Union, was informed of this, and objected. The men are about to hold a conference. Whatever decision be arrived at, it will not affect the St. Helen's firms because of the high duty imposed on English glass to keep it out of the United States.

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Plate glass is in fair demand for the spring and summer trade, and benders have a fair amount of work. There is less doing in steam tubing. On the other hand, bottle makers have done moderately well, partly in supplying Liverpool shipping and bottling orders. The mineral water manufacturers have placed some fair orders, and more are expected, but unless the weather is favourable the spring season will fall below the average. The workmen are discussing amongst themselves the advisability of pressing for certain concessions, which will really amount to a rise in wages. Machine-made goods—jars, pickles, and the like—are in increasing favour.

In West and South Yorkshire the glass bottle trade has been in anything but a good condition, and slackness was felt with some severity in the Barnsley district, and also in Castleford and Hunslet. Present prospects are not considered very cheering, but much depends upon the weather. A spell of dryness and warmth during spring would give a much-needed fillip to the mineral bottle branch. In carboys there has been a little improvement, but the general run of work has been much below the expectations of some firms, and of their workmen. The number of unemployed bottle makers has increased, and there is a consequent heavy drain upon the resources of the Yorkshire Union. Extra levies have been made upon the men who continue in work, and the funds in hand, the present writer is assured, stand at well over £30,000. Be that as it may, in the case of men long out of employment and drawing weekly pay the allowance has been reduced; and a number of hands, discharged because of a lack of orders, have had to take up other occupations.

The increasing use of bottle and jar making machines, and the improvements effected in their construction, has placed several firms in a very good position, notably at Knottingley, and has led to much comparatively unskilled labour being employed. Not all classes of bottles can be made by the machines, but those so manufactured, and especially jars for jams, pickles, &c., appear to give satisfaction to customers, for they are strong, and the "metal" is evenly distributed. The greater use of these goods tends to debar out-of-work bottle blowers, and chairmen also, from being reinstated; their wages were much higher than are those of the machine-hands. Then there is another factor affecting the glass bottle labour market—the continued and increasing foreign competition, which in the Yorkshire districts is felt severely both by masters and men. The bulk of the "flint" hands are in full work at the time of writing, and have been more or less since the beginning of the year. There is a good demand for proprietary medicine bottles of various sizes, and sauce and relish goods.

Small "burst-off" bottles, which are not provided with moulded or warmed-in mouths, and form another branch of business, are reported to be meeting with ready sale, being wanted by ink, gum, liquid glue, &c., manufacturers, but ordinarily speaking their production is not considered a very remunerative job, as the cribs of Lancashire and other seats of the glass trade compete eagerly for this class of work, and prices have a tendency to run down. Relish bottles, to retail, filled, at a penny and twopence each come under the same category. The manufacture of syphon bottles, dull, as is usual during late autumn and winter, but shows signs of revival. Coloured bottles in amber and dark green as well as black are having a fair sale just now.

In York city the glass trade, carried on there largely as a speciality, is in a healthy condition, but further north, in the Newcastle district, there is not full employment either in the flint or the bottle branches, and glasscutters' frames are not all filled. A notable leader in the glass bottle trade passed away on the 9th ult. in the person of Mr. Archibald Hall, who for about half a century had been connected with the Seaham Harbour manufactory, being manager for the major part of that time. An occurrence in his career, which the late Bishop of Durham declared was the finest incident in industrial life he had every known, deserves to be recorded. It occurred in the early days of the works, and the then head of the firm, Mr. Candlish, it was reported, was involved through the alleged failure of a bank. Mr. Hall at once called a meeting of the men, told them the news, and asked, "Can you see your way to work without wages for a month to help the master out of his difficulties?" All agreed to do so, and when Mr. Candlish came to the works he was told, and was profoundly touched. Happily the report of the collapse of the bank was untrue, and there was general rejoicing.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

IT is regrettable to have to state that the slight dislocation owing to the strike of the throwers in a Glasgow pottery (the Caledonian Pottery, Rutherglen) still continues at the time of writing. Indeed, the position is not merely a stationary one, for during the course of the month the kilnmen of one more of the pottery works in the immediate neighbourhood of Glasgow were called out by the officials of the Union, this leading, of course, to the closing of the pottery as a whole. Up to the date of the despatch of this report, the movement is not known to have spread further, and the bulk of the pottery and glass works of the country continue production in the ordinary way. But of course there is apprehension abroad, and it is impossible to say what may happen. The agitation in Scotland is understood to be under the direction of Staffordshire manipulators, and, indeed, it is the outcome of a policy systematically pursued for some time, taking the shape of meetings on the part of the Scottish pottery workers to listen to the speeches of the English spokesmen deputed for that purpose. The time is inopportune for any aggressive fight on the part of the pottery workers in Scotland, for the trade continues dull, and the prevalence of disputes in other industries (shipbuilding for one) tends to increase that dulness. Market prices, owing to recent advances, make the obtaining of orders by the travellers of the trade much more difficult than it otherwise would be. There is, indeed, nothing in the aspects of the industry at present to give countenance to any policy of striking for more advantageous conditions, except the slightly lowered prices for coal; but these are not at all substantial enough as yet to make any practical lightening for the makers of their heavy costs of production.

The retail houses of the trade report business during the month of February as poor, and not at all near to the mark of the same month during good times. One of the quarterly rent-paying terms has fallen in during the month now referred to, and in advance of these terms, as also for some weeks in their wake, there is always a slackening off in the purchases of domestic earthenware and similar pottery goods. March, no doubt, will bring some amendment, and this is much needed. The reports of the wholesale merchants and their travellers are more cheerful, with regard to the outlying towns, and landward districts of the country. The booking of new orders during February for the spring and early summer retail trade has been more than up to expectations; but then expectations were very modest, owing to the prevailing dulness. The orders booked do not come up to more than quite an ordinary season, but still, owing to the disastrous cereal harvests of last autumn, a greatly worse state of things would not have caused surprise.

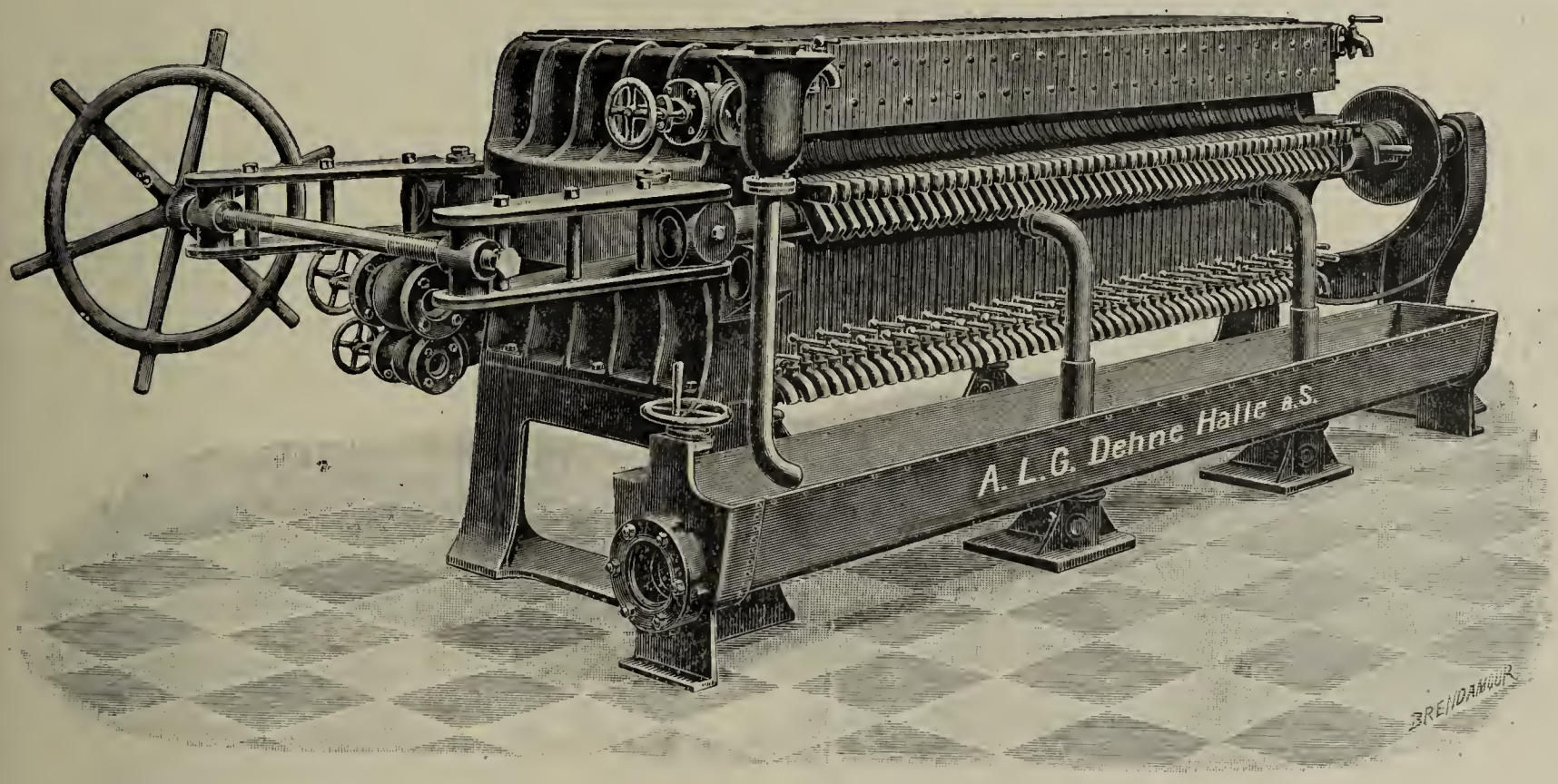
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Rockingham reports on the whole continue favourable, and the late re-arrangement seems to be still holding fairly well. But for the fear of an extension of the strike movement amongst the potteries, and consequent interruption to the normal course of distributive business, the outlook on this particular section would be satisfactory under the general circumstances. This is the quiet season for jam jar production, but the works are fairly active, and it is to be hoped that events will so develop as to make for nothing in the way of forced interruption.

On the morning of Feb. 23, a main block of the premises of Love & Co., 360, Townmill-rd., Glasgow, glass bevellers and mirror manufacturers, was found to be on fire, and the fire brigade could do no more than prevent the flames spreading to the detached buildings; complete destruction of the main block resulted, with loss estimated at £5,000, including much valuable material (worked glass and mirrors) in every stage of manufacture. The fire is supposed to have been caused by burglars in attempting to blow open the safe.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, *Feb.* 15.

MY reference in the February number of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, to the present methods of placing British pottery on the Canadian market met with a considerable amount of commendatory criticism among the importers here, who have long realised the handicap under which they were suffered to enter the race of competition if they desired to handle the lines of certain more or less famous factories. They had fought against the discrimination singly and the thought of enlisting the co-operation of the trade press had not occurred to them, neither had they done battle as an organisation. They submitted individual arguments spasmodically, but they were up against the characteristic British disinclination to change front unless there is excellent reason for so doing. Perhaps their arguments were half-hearted. However that may be, it is absurd that goods with the highest reputation, cannot be sold by a Canadian jobber or wholesaler in Canada without paying toll to the New York importer or manufacturer's agent who controls "the United States and Canada," really the entire North American market! And now that the absurdity has been pointed out in type, the Canadian pottery and glassware men are hopeful that British manufacturers will break away from old traditions and acknowledge that Canada is big enough and financially competent to buy her dinner and tea dishes direct from the Mother Country, whenever she feels so disposed without being subjected to the five per cent. commission attached now for the personal benefit of the shrewd Yankee agent.

Early in February, I learned that preliminary action has been taken in the organisation of a company to manufacture fine china in Canada. This is not the French proposition of which mention has been made in this correspondence, but a company of Anglo-Saxons. English capital is behind the new company, and plans are so far matured that the question of a site has been already considered. The promotors hope to be able to proceed with the erection of a factory in the spring. J. F. B. Vandeleur, of this city, Canadian agent of Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., electrical engineers, London, England, is the active spirit in the enterprise. Primarily, the company of which he is the active promotor will bring its fine clays from England, escaping the import duty. It is intended to employ the very best skilled labour from British potteries and to add to the staff some of the most artistic decorative talent of the Continent. Mr. Vandeleur declined to give the names of his associates for publication. He gave me to understand, however, that they were men of standing in the London world—one, at least, being prominent as a pottery manufacturer in Staffordshire. As soon as the promotor deems it advisable to disclose the identity of the men behind the project the names will be given to your correspondent.

The travellers who started out early in February looking for import orders had a rough time of it for a week or ten days. The weather was the severest known in Ontario for many years—here in Toronto the thermometer hovered around about 20 degrees below zero for nearly a week, and most of the men were snowbound in out-of-the-way places. Merchants, too, were unusually late in taking stock, and were unready for the advent of the men with the new goods. Still, there is every prospect of a lively spring trade. In the agricultural districts the travellers have invariably found that the stocks are very low, and houses which are in a position to supply immediate demands are jubilant. The orders received by one Toronto house in the first week in February aggregated 182 crates, mostly of the cheaper grades of goods. In the towns and cities there is less stocking up, but the tendency to order generously for import is marked, and seems to have been assisted by the unusual attractiveness of this season's samples. The manufacturers' agents have drawn upon the factories for altogether the finest lines of samples that were ever brought into Canada, and the fact still further demonstrates that the Canadian trade is demanding the best products of the ceramic artists in the world. This is particularly true of the larger cities of Ontario, Montreal, and some of the greater cities of the Maritime provinces. The travellers who cover the North-west have not been out long enough to have felt the pulse of trade in that promising territory. Experience has taught the commercial men that the average Manitoban is disinclined to buy crockery with his mittens on and his head wrapped in a blanket to keep his ears from freezing. But they will all be on the ground by the time this letter reaches THE POTTERY GAZETTE, and a month hence there will be something to report from the vast section of the Dominion to which the eyes of the East are steadily turned. It is estimated that the addition to the population of the North-west last year will reach upwards of 600,000. Buyers from the West on their way to New York and England and the Continent, say they will buy more largely than ever.

There are rumours of important changes in the organisation of a number of Canadian wholesale and jobbing houses in the pottery and glassware trades. The firm of McMahon, Broadfield & Co., Toronto, is undergoing reorganisation, necessitated by the recent death of Mr. Broadfield. New blood and new capital, with the veteran J. S. McMahon at the head, will place the organisation in a position to increase its business. Although the corporate style of the new firm has not yet been publicly announced, I am told that it will be the McMahon Crockery Co. President J. S. McMahon is known in every pottery in Britain and Europe as a man of unimpeachable integrity. The Company will have an available capital of $200,000. A last-moment bit of news is, that the Canadian agency of the Myotts is to undergo reorganisation. No one here knows more than that, or if they do will not give particulars. The probabilities are that the true facts can only be learned of the Myotts themselves. This firm controls the products of a Staffordshire pottery on the import order plan, and also has the Canadian control of a number of French, Austrian, and American potteries and glass factories. H. C. Bedlington is the manager of the Candian company.

One is struck by the number of young Englishmen finding positions in the warehouses of the Canadian china and

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glassware houses. As packers and shippers they "fit in," as if to the manner born, which cannot be said for the ordinary English mechanic, of whom there are six hundred or seven hundred in this city now out of employment. The crockery men speak well of those who have been given an opportunity; but, unfortunately, there are only a few such places and they are satisfactorily filled. The distress among the immigrants who came out last year and failed to get work has been very great during the extremely severe weather. The children have been the worst sufferers. Scores have died of starvation and cold, and the whole relief machinery of the city, the Salvation Army, the Br tish Welcome League, the churches and the various national societies were unable to discover and aid many until it was too late. Those who have anything whatever to do are the most grateful beings imaginable.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

AYRES QUAY BOTTLE CO. (Walter Horn, Hugh Laing, Frank Allen Horn, Nathan Horn Scott, and Rbt. Scott), Ayres Quay, and Hendon, Sunderland, and Concordia Wharf, Coldharbour, Poplar, glass bottle manufacturers and salesmen. Jan. 15, 1907, as regards R. Scott. Debts by W. Horn, H. Laing, F. A. Horn, and N. H. Scott. (Feb. 14.)

BATE & RUDD (Jno. Jas. Bate and Arthur Rudd), St. Helens, glass manufacturers and merchants. Jan. 31. Debts by A. Rudd. (Feb. 7.)

REDFERN & DRAKEFORD (Alf. Redfern, Wm. Matthew Drakeford, and Jno. Geo. Gell Norbury), Longton, china manufacturers. Jan. 1. Debts by W. M. Drakeford and J. G. G. Norbury, who continue. (Jan. 28.)

SANDERSON & YOUNG (Walter Sanderson and Henry Jas. Young), 21, Red Lion-sq., Holborn, china and glass dealers. Dec. 31. Debts by H. J. Young, who continues at 60, Shoe-lane, Holborn, as Young & Hodgson. (Jan. 31).

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

BLACK HILL BRICK AND TERRA COTTA CO., LTD. Claims to A. Pilling, 23, Acresfield, Bolton, liqr., by March 2.

CHROMO TRANSFER CO., LTD. Resolved Jan. 9, confirmed Feb. 3:—That the company be wound up with a view to its reconstruction. A. C. Cooper, 53, Haywood-st., Stoke-on-Trent, liqr.

MOSAIC WORKERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD. H. de V. Brougham, 33, Carey-st., W.C., O.R. and liqr., released Jan. 14.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

ENGLAND THOS. H., 92, High-st., Merthyr Tydfil, china dealer. Claims to Ellis Owen, Pontypridd, O.R.

FARMER GEO. E., 26, Church-st., Wath-upon-Dearne, glass dealer. Claims to J. C. Clegg, O.R.'s, Sheffield.

Notice of Release of Trustee.

CLITHEROE JAS., 15, Manchester-rd., late 36, Lytham-st., Blackpool, glass dealer. Tr., Jno. Potter, 25, Birley-st., Blackpool.

Orders Made on Application for Discharge.

BARKER GEORGE ELI GOODWIN, commercial traveller, late earthenware manufacturer, Heatherlea, Park-avenue, Wolstanton, Staffs. At the Town Hall, Hanley, on Feb. 19, an application was made to his Honour Judge Rucgg for this debtor's discharge from bankruptcy. The Official Receiver reported that the debtor failed in 1903 with liabilities £895, and assets which realised £100. A dividend of 1s. 2d. in the £ had been paid. It appeared that the debtor was for eight years an earthenware manufacturer at Longton, and subsequently became a member of a limited liability company at Burslem, into which he put £1,500. He was managing director of the company and also travelled for the firm, receiving £4 a week salary. The company eventually went into liquidation, and debtor lost all his money. His failure was chiefly due to the fact that he was sued as guarantor to the Bank for £750 on behalf of the company. The discharge was granted, but suspended for two years.

WILSON CHAS. W., trading as Chas. W. Wilson & Co., 121, St. James's-st., Liverpool, glass bottle merchant. Dec. 20. Discharge suspended until a dividend of not less than 10s. in the £ has been paid, with liberty to the bankrupt at any time after the expiration of two years from date of order to apply for a modification thereof.

Notice under Assignment, &c.

WOODHALL GEO. H., trading as Woodall & Son, St. George's Glass Works, Great Hampton-st., Birmingham, glass manufacturer. Claims to E. W. Beech, 37, Temple-st., or H. W. Brettell, 11, Waterloo-st., both Birmingham, by March 31.

Notices of Dividends.

BERRY LEO H., 5, Nott-sq., Carmarthen, glass dealer. First and final, 1s. 10¼d., at O.R.'s, Carmarthen.

GROVE ALLAN, 17, Gillott-rd., and Blucher-st., Birmingham, stained glass artist. First, 1s. 6d., at Ruskin-chambers, 191, Corporation-st., Birmingham.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

GREEN HENRY, pot and brick manufacturer, Strensall, York. This debtor attended at the Courts of Justice, York, last month, for his adjourned public examination, before Mr. Registrar Perkins. The debtor was questioned by the Official Receiver with regard to certain furniture that had been in his possession, and also with respect to a number of payments and receipts; and in the end the Official Receiver asked for an order compelling the debtor to furnish a statement of accounts. The debtor said that it would be practically impossible for him to do this as he had no books; and Mr. K. E. T. Wilkinson, who appeared on the debtor's behalf, said that the figures would necessarily be mostly guesswork. Eventually the case was again adjourned, the Registrar ordering the debtor to furnish within fourteen days an account of his financial transactions within the six months preceding the receiving order.

GOFF G. & J. (other than the petitioner Jane Goff, a married woman not trading separately from her husband, George Goff), Registry-st., Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware manufacturers. R.O., Jan. 18. The Official Receiver, Mr. F. T. Halcomb, of King-street, Newcastle, Staff. in whose hands this matter was left by a meeting of creditors recently held at Stoke, has issued the following summary of debtors' partnership statement of affairs:—Liabilities as stated and estimated by debtor: 62 unsecured creditors. £1,524 14s. 10d.; 1 creditor for rent, £52 10s.; 2 creditors for rates, £18 15s.; making gross liabilities, £1,595 19s. 10d. Assets as stated and estimated by debtor:—Stock-in-trade (cost £300), estimated to produce £130; trade fixtures, fittings, utensils, &c., £100; book debts, viz.: 5 good £18 13s. 10d., 1 bad £59 11s. 11d., estimated to produce nil; total, £248 13s. 10d. The debtor, George Goff, alleges as the causes of the firm's failure:—"Want of capital, loss by defective machinery, bad ovens." He accounts for the firm's deficiency as follows:—

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Net loss in carrying on business since Jan. 18, 1907, £455 14s. 1d.; bad debt, £59 11s. 11d.; household expenses incurred since same date, £78; difference between cost of stock and amount estimated to produce, £170; difference between cost of fixtures, fittings and utensils and amount estimated to produce, £400; cost of County Court actions, paid and unpaid, and included in list of creditors, £30; difference between cash received from money-lenders and bills given in respect of loans, including interest on cash advanced, £254; making together £1,447 6s., less excess of assets over liabilities on Jan. 18, 1907 £100, leaving a deficiency of £1,347 6s. The Official Receiver's observations are as follows :—The immediate cause of the petition being filed appears to have been pressure by creditors. The debtor, George Goff, states that, in Oct., 1905, with borrowed capital (£100) obtained from his wife (Jane Goff) he commenced to trade as an earthenware decorator in Liverpool-rd., Stoke-upon-Trent; that the business was carried on in the name of "J. Goff" up to June, 1906, when the same was removed to 55, Wharf-st., Stoke-upon-Trent, and subsequently (in Feb., 1907), to certain premises in Registry-st., Stoke. He further states that his wife, having originally found the capital, desired that the business should be carried on in the above name; that in Feb., 1907, he and his wife agreed to trade, in co-partnership, as earthenware manufacturers, under the style of "G. & J. Goff" in Registry-st., Stoke; that the capital (represented by stock, &c., and fixtures) was, approximately, £100, and that the business was carried on up to the 11th ult. On the 16th ult. a private meeting of creditors was held; at this meeting, the Official Receiver is informed, no resolutions were passed. At the date of the receiving order several creditors had obtained judgment against the firm of G. & J. Goff in respect of their claims. The only books used in connection with the late partnership business were a sales ledger and wages book. The debtor, George Goff, is now residing at 378, Hartshill-rd., Stoke-upon-Trent. On the 16th ult. the landlord distrained upon goods at the premises in Registry-st., Stoke, for three quarters' rent due Dec. 25 last. The landlord has withdrawn from possession; no sale has yet taken place. The annual rent is £105. The household furniture in the premises occupied by the debtor, George Goff, is claimed by his daughter; her claim thereto is being investigated. Cash creditors' claims amount to £984. The debtor, George Goff, has been requested to furnish further and fuller particulars in regard to certain items referred to in the "deficiency account" of the statement of affairs. He has lodged a statement of affairs in regard to his "separate" estate. No unsecured debts are disclosed. There are two creditors stated to be "fully secured," the securities held by them comprising first and second charges on a certain dwelling-house (copyhold property) situate in and being 31, Ashford-st., Hanley. The value of the securities is estimated at £330, which is the amount stated to be due to the mortgagees. In this case the following are creditors :— — Bakewell, Shelton, £12; Borough Foundry Co., Longton, £11; — Cyples, Longton, £34; Chromo Transfer Co., Shelton, £14; — Edwards, Hanley, £10; — Gimson, Fenton, £37; Baron Harris, Hanley, £197; F. Keeling, Shelton, £46; Keeling & Walker, Stoke-on-Trent, £18; S. Keeling, Stoke-on-Trent, £12; J. Lucas, Burslem, £25; — Moxon, Leeds, £92; J. Noden, Cobridge, £23; J. Plant, Stone, £236; Scott, Greenwood & Son, London, £17; T. Shufflebottom, Liverpool, £276; — Swain, Manchester, £38; — Stanley, Leeds, £20; — Swann, Burslem, £18; — Sutton, Fenton, £10; "Bankers," Leicester, £125; Warrington & Son, Stoke-on-Trent, £87.

Goff Geo., Registry-st., Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware manufacturer, trading with, &c. Adj., Jan. 18.

Haslip Kate, china and glass dealer, 48, High-st., Dover, Kent. Last month, at the Guildhall, Canterbury, this debtor appeared for her public examination before Mr. Registrar Furley. In reply to the Official Receiver the debtor explained that she was formerly in employment, and in May, 1906, she commenced business on her own account as a glass and china dealer at her present address. She had about £125 capital, a portion of which she received under a will. She spent about £50 in fitting up the premises and £50 in purchasing stock. The business, she said, had never paid the expenses, and she had been brought to her present position by bad trade and shortness of capital. After the debtor had been further questioned the case was concluded. The liabilities are stated at £131 1s. 8d., and the assets are estimated to realise £59 16s. 10d. The following are creditors :—Burgess & Leigh, Burslem, Staffs., £14; E. A. Greenslade & Co., London, £11; H. Pilcher, Dover, £10.

Savage Joseph Edmund, glass and china dealer, 57, Devon-st., St. Helens. The public examination was held at Liverpool Bankruptcy Court on Feb. 3. Mr. F. Gittins appeared for the debtor. The statement of affairs showed the liabilities to be £243 and the assets £22. In reply to questions by the Official Receiver, the debtor said his failure was due to bad trade and losses arising from breakages of goods consigned to him at his risk. He commenced business in October, 1905. His wife claimed certain effects which she had purchased prior to their marriage. The examination was closed. The liabilities were stated at £243 against assets £22. Replying to the Official Receiver, the debtor stated that he started business in Oct., 1905, and his present position had been brought about by bad trade and losses owing to the breakages of goods consigned to him at his risk. The examination was concluded.

Wilson Alexander, 28, Berkeley-terrace, Glasgow, and carrying on business at that address under the name of Alexander Wilson & Co., mosaic and encaustic tile layers. The examination took place on Feb. 18. Mr. Hugh Muir, C.A., trustee; Mr. William Beckett, law agent in sequestration; and Mr. Mackenzie, representing a firm of creditors, were in attendance. Bankrupt stated, in reply to Mr. Beckett, that he began business in 1903 with a capital of £1,500. He took shares in an engineering concern, and lost £800. By bad debts he lost £1,100, and in connection with the building of houses he dropped £700. Replying to Mr. Mackenzie, he said he prepared balance sheets in 1904 and 1905. The balance sheet for the latter year showed that the business was progressing. It was quite solvent then. He drew about £4 per week from the business latterly, although for a time previously his income from it would be only £3 per week. The date of his affairs showed total liabilities to be £3,652 0s. 7d., and total assets to be £689 4s. 10d.—a deficit of £2,962 15s. 9d. The examination was closed.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

Ceramic Products, No. 702.—E. V. Seemen. Improved process of manufacturing products for ceramic or abrasive uses by means of bauxite or other aluminious earths. (Date applied for under section 91 of the Act, Jan. 11, 1907, being date of application in Germany.)

Composition, No. 1,925.—A. Monin. Improved composition of matter particularly adapted to replace kaolin. Jan. 28, 1908.

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CONTENTS.

Glazes and Engobes.—Glazes and their Composition—Fusing-point of Glazes—The Constitution of Defective Glazes—The Practical Testing of Glazes.

Glaze Materials.—Composition of Glazes for Ordinary Pottery, for Harder Ware, and for Porcelain.

The Preparation of Glazes.—Testing the Purity of the Raw Materials—The Preparation of the Glaze Mass—Appliances for Pulverising the Materials—Fusing the Glaze Mass—Furnaces for Refractory Glazes—The Experimental Melting Furnace.

Coloured Glazes.—White Glazes—The Preparation of Tin Oxide and Calcine—New Recipes for Glazed-Tile Glazes—Glazes for White Tiles—Recipes for Coloured Opaque Glazes (for Crockery and Tiles)—Painting White-Glazed Ware—Coloured Lustres—Gold Lustre—Copper Lustre—Glazes for Fine Stoneware and Wedgwood—Lustrous Glazes for Fine Stoneware.

Engobes and Glazes for Same.—Polychrome Engobes—Glazes Proof against the Influence of Chemicals.

Porcelain Glazes.—Glazes for Hard Porcelain—Composition of Mixed Glazes from Bohemian Potteries—Lime Glazes on Oriental Porcelain—Felspar Glazes on French and German Porcelain—Glazes used in the Royal Porcelain Works, Berlin, for various Porcelain Bodies—Special Glazes for Porcelain—Coloured Glazes—Underglaze Colours—Cracked Glazes—Imitation Craquele Glazes—Crystal Glazes.

Ceramic Colours.—Preparation of the Pure Colours—Pure Ferric Oxide—Chromic Oxide—Cobalt Oxide—Manganese Oxide—Nickelous Oxide—Cuprie Oxide—Antimony Oxide—Manganese Phosphate—Cobalt Phosphate—Copper Phosphate—Cobalt Chromate—Barium Chromate.

Underglaze Colours.—Yellows—Reds—Pinks—Lilacs—Purples—Greens—Blues—Browns—Greys—Blacks—Flowing Underglaze Colours, or Flux Colours.

Applying the Colours on Earthenware.—Applying Colours with Stencils—Rubber Stamp—Sand Blast—Application of Colours by Transfers—The Original Plates for Transfer Printing—Transfer Printing from Steel or Copper Plates—Printing of Transfer Paper—Transferring the Design—Transfers from Lithographic Plates—Colour Printing—Aluminium Printing (Algraphy)—Decorating Porcelain by Photography (Photo-Ceramics).

Glost Fire Colours.—Glost Fire Colours over Glaze.

Muffle Colours.—Fluxes and their Composition—Ordinary (Grey) Lead Flux—Green Flux—Fluxes for Carmine, Red, Purple, Violet—Preparing the Flux.

Muffle Colours.—Yellow Porcelain Colours—Antimony Oxide—Potassium Antimonate—Naples Yellow—Silver Yellow—Uranium Yellow—Red Porcelain Colours—Coral Red—Gold Purple—Light Purple—Rose Purple—Magnesia Purple—Alumina Purple—Ruby Glass—Green Porcelain Colours—Blue Porcelain Colours—Glost Fire Blue—Cobalt Blue by the Wet Method—Cobaltous Zinc Phosphate—Cobaltous Silicate—Violet Porcelain Colours—Brown Porcelain Colours—Black and Grey Porcelain Colours—Enamel Colours—Preparation of the Muffle Colours.

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Pottery Bewitched.—A Middlesbrough paper, sent us by a subscriber, gives a whole column to the description of some very "uncanny" scenes in a glass and china shop at Howden-le-Wear, a village in the neighbourhood. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, who have kept the shop for a quarter of a century, were alarmed, as well they might be, when their crockery and glass came tumbling down from the shelves. The local reporter was soon on the spot, and to him the public is indebted for the thrilling account of these mysterious occurrences. He does not say he saw the "happenings" himself; he, however, reports a policeman who was attracted by hearing the crashing when over a hundred yards away, as saying "I cannot understand it." We quite believe the policeman

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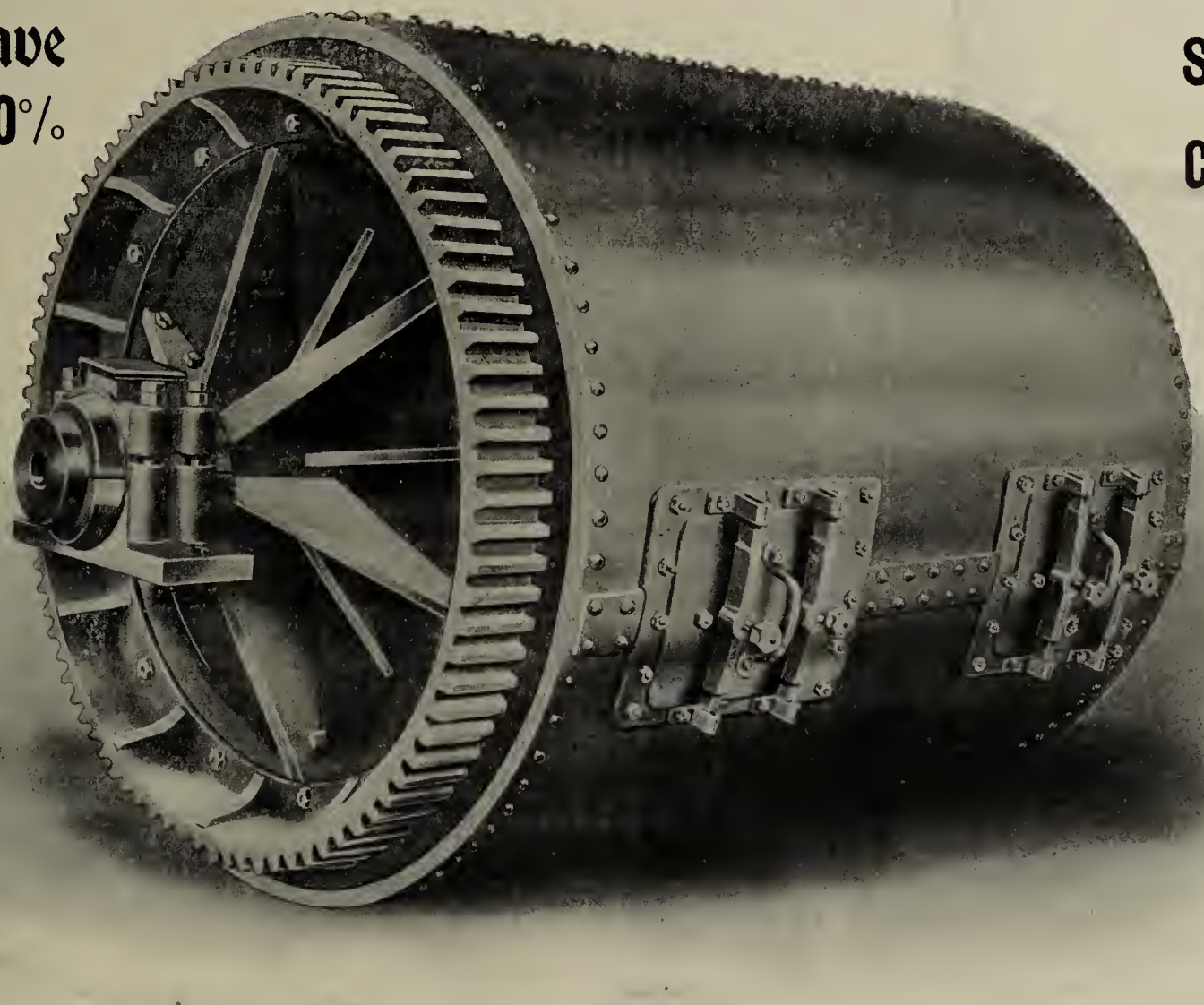
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THE PRICE PYROMETER.

BY F. G. H. MACRAE.

TO anyone interested in the indicating and recording of temperature, it must have become noticeable that the subject of **Pyrometry** does not receive the consideration it deserves in connection with the China and Glass Industry. It is true there are instances where **Pyrometers** are used, but they are, comparatively speaking, few. Among the reasons for this there are two which deserve special attention. Firstly, the



Fig. I

manufacturer is under the apprehension that he must possess a scientific knowledge in order to use a **Pyrometer**; and, secondly, because his father manufactured goods without a **Pyrometer**, he refuses to believe that such an instrument is conducive to better results, and is inclined to agree with his oldest employee that "them there clock things ain't no use." Upon reflection there appears to be some justification for the former belief, inasmuch as several manufacturers have purchased pyrometric outfits more fit for the laboratory than for workshop use.

There can hardly be two opinions as to the great advantage of an accurate mechanical instrument over the alternative calculation or guess of the fireman, however expert he may be. It is undoubtedly true that a **Pyrometer** is necessary to produce the best work, and the manufacturer who pays careful attention to his temperature can produce goods far ahead in quality to the man who works by guesswork.

There are many whose experience serves them in good stead, and who, by looking into a furnace or kiln, can give a guess as to its temperature; but this cannot be relied on, as variations in daylight and in the health of the workman at the time, &c., all tend to mislead, and are responsible for great inaccuracies.

It has been acknowledged that it is a matter of impossibility to correctly temper glassware without some means of checking the temperature, and those who depend on human judgment would find better results all round if they measured their temperature by an accurate method, and work at a temperature which they find produces the best results. Modern methods and improved furnaces for the economical use of fuel are being generally adopted for the purpose of obtaining the highest degree of efficiency. Yet the control and regulation of such furnaces are subject to the unguided skill of the men in charge, and their liability to err is very great, owing to the fallibility of the human judgment.

Any instrument designed particularly for workshop use which can safely be entrusted to the workman and requires practically no attention when once installed should prove literally invaluable—such an instrument exists in the **Price Pyrometer** shown in Fig. 1.

The simplicity and durability of this instrument renders it especially applicable to glass-houses, &c., where it may be stood on a bracket fixed to the wall, and be read with ease. There is nothing complicated about it, nothing to learn, and practically only two parts to the instrument, viz:—The Couple, or Rod, which is inserted in the furnace, or lehr, and which takes the temperature, and the Galvanometer itself which indicates at all times the exact temperature where that couple may be.

In Figure 2 is shown the adjustable couple which goes into the furnace, or lehr, and which, when placed in the crown of the latter, may be raised or lowered at will. For temperatures between 2,000° F. and 3,000° F., a couple is used which is enclosed in a fireclay tube.

A Recording Instrument is shown on advertisement facing which gives both an indication of the temperature and also a constant and lasting record. Enough paper may be put in to last six or eight months, and the clock requires winding every eight days.

There is no ink or pencil required for marking, and the attention required is practically nil. The instruments may be fixed any distance away from the furnace (if necessary a mile), and the Galvanometer will indicate the temperature of any number of kilns, by simply connecting them up by means of a switchboard, and switching on to whichever furnace it is desired to know the temperature of.

With such simple instruments as these it is within the reach of all to keep a track of their temperature, and incidentally to keep a check on their workmen. How many manufacturers find out to their cost what kind of firing goes on in the absence of those in authority?

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Fig. II.—Price's Adjustable Low Temperature Thermo-Couple.

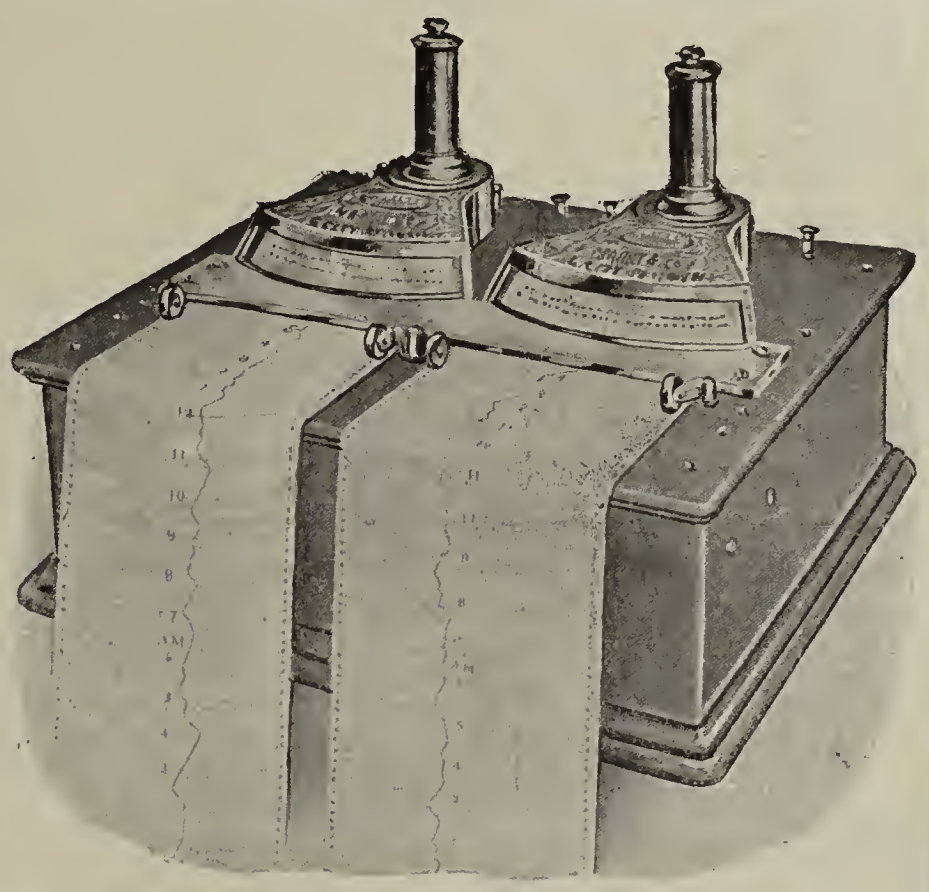
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Cobalt, Black Oxide
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Copper, Black Oxide
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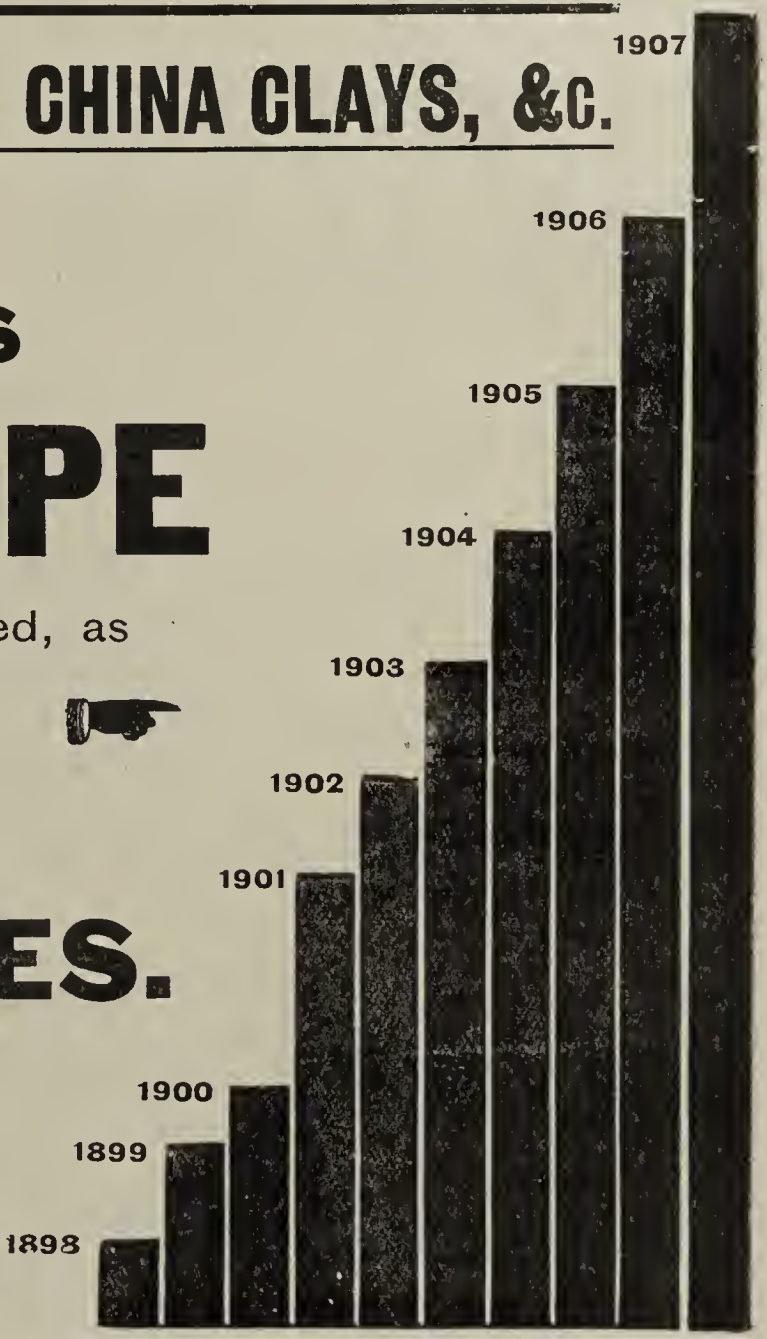
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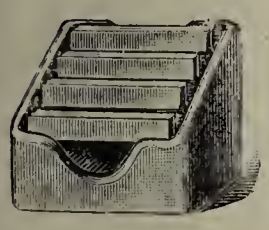
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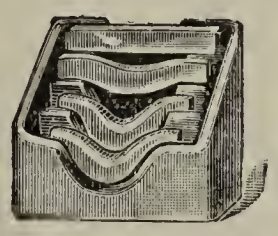
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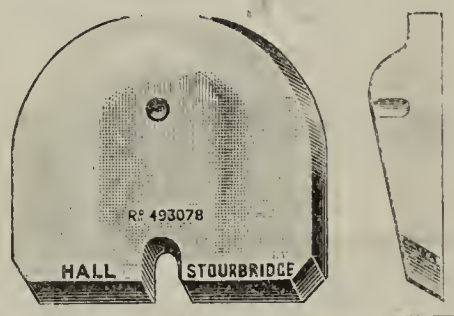
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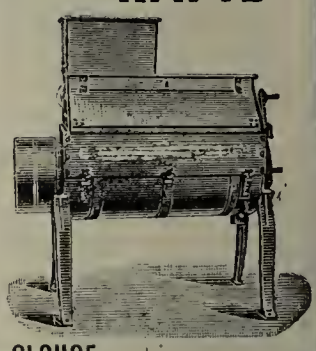
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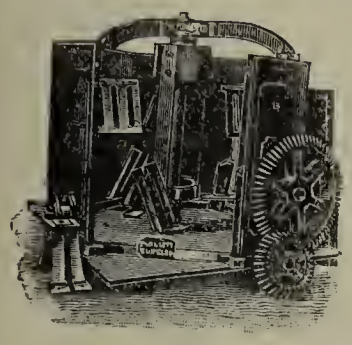
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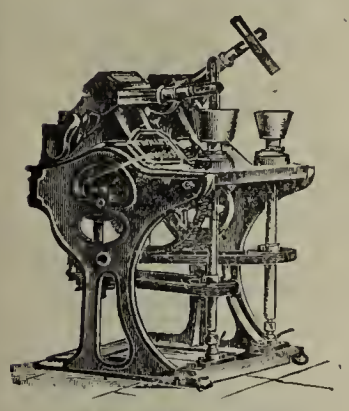
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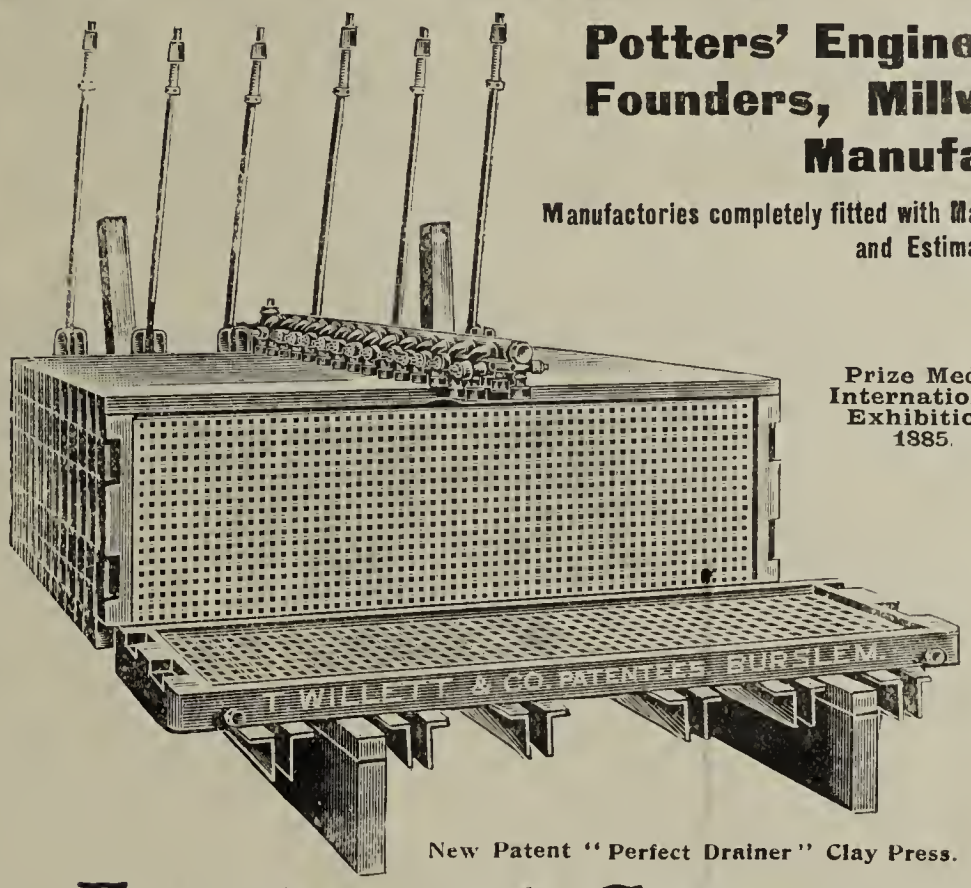
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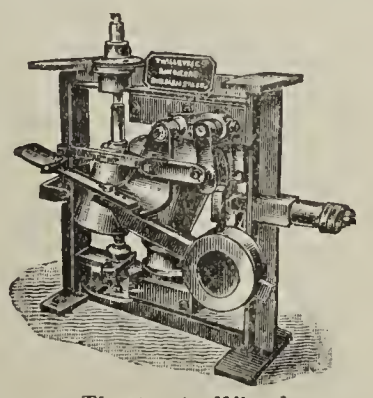


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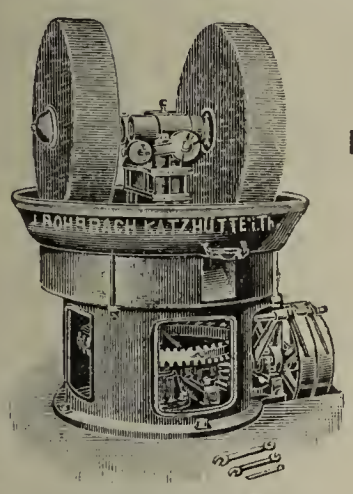
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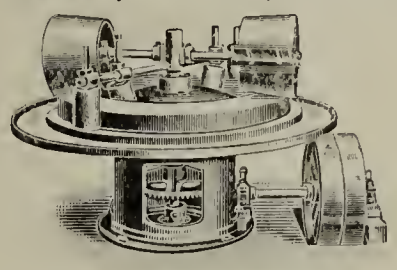
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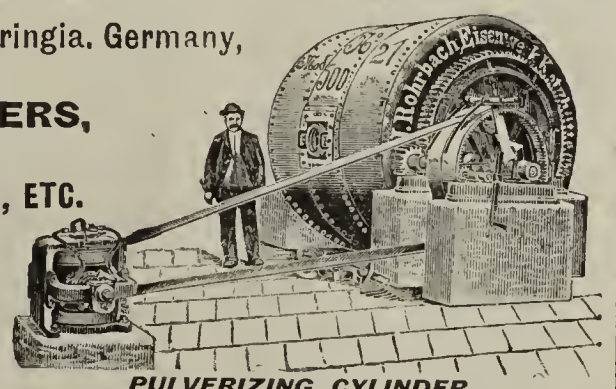
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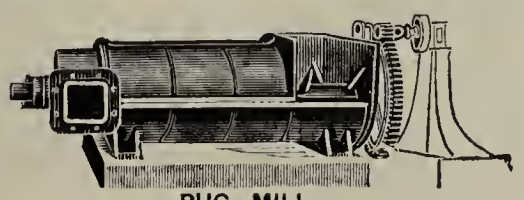
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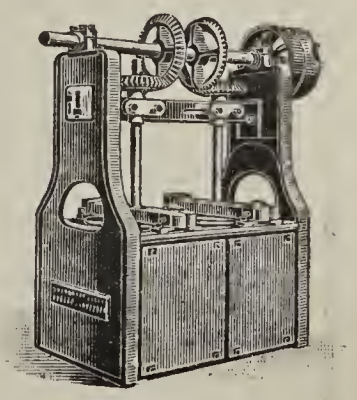
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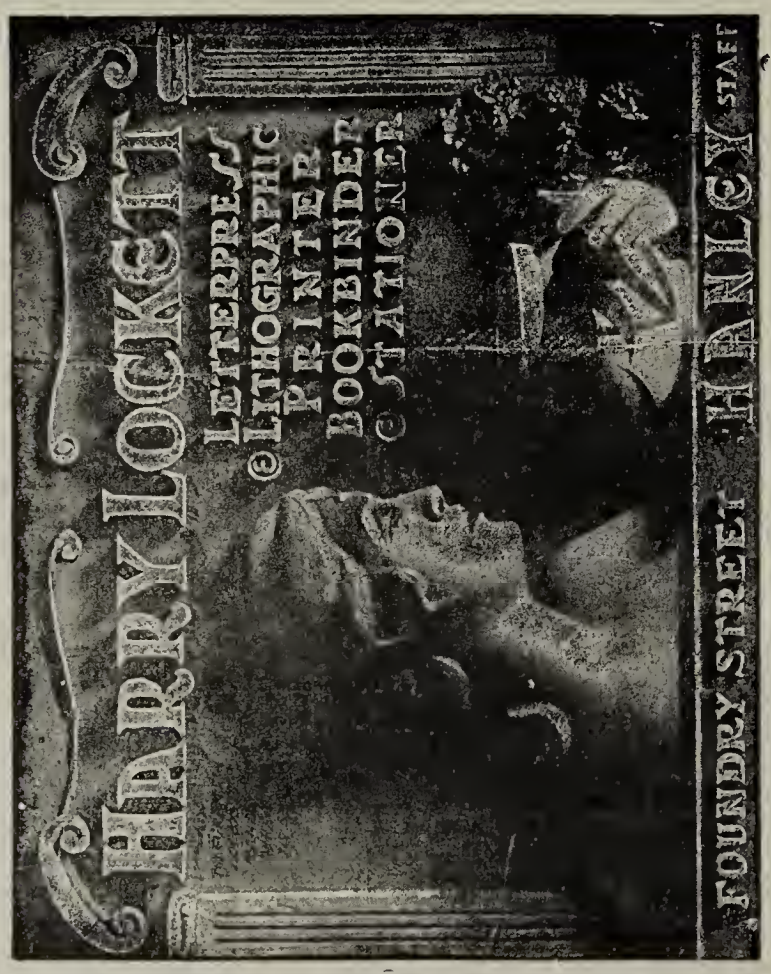
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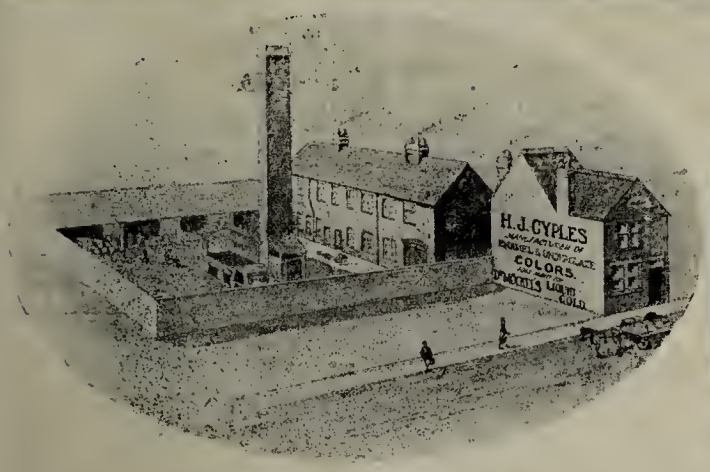
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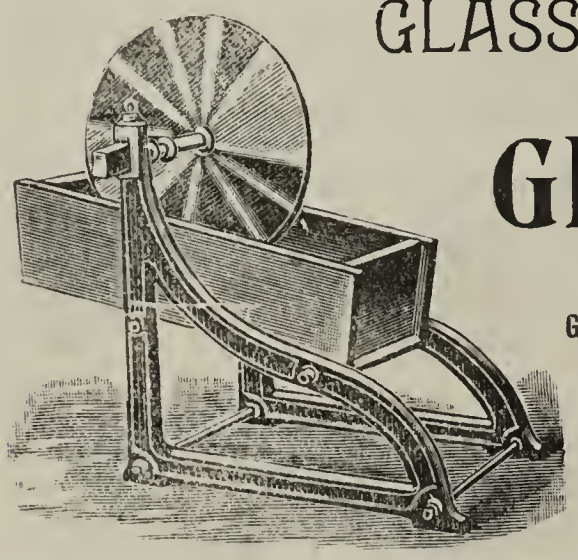
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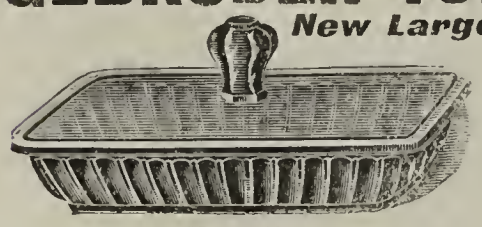
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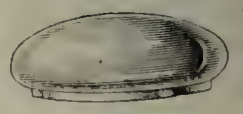
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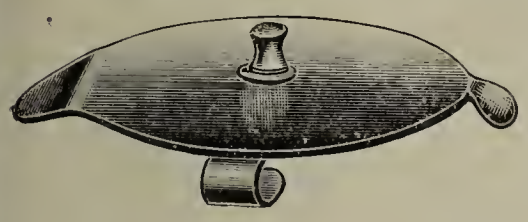
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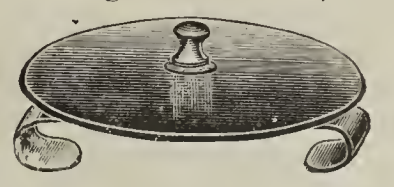
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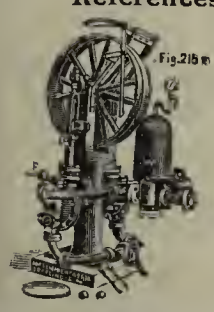
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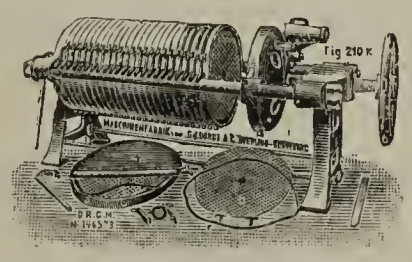
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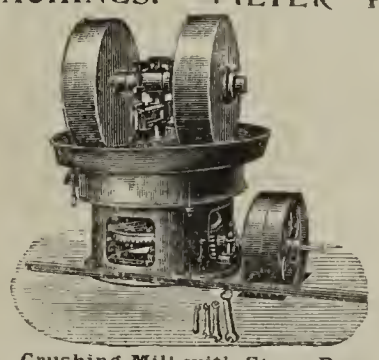
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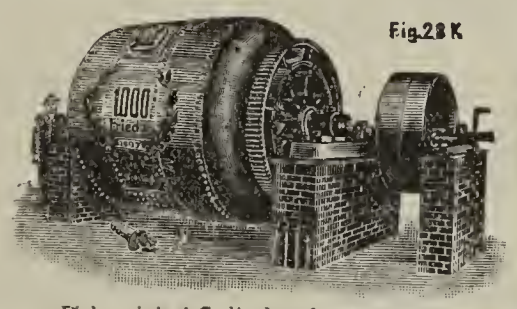
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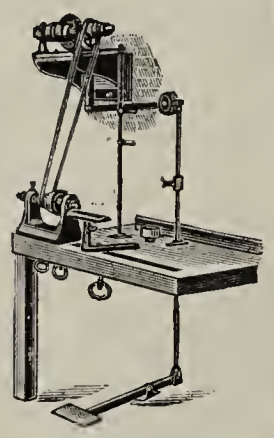
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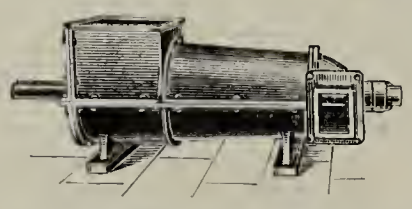


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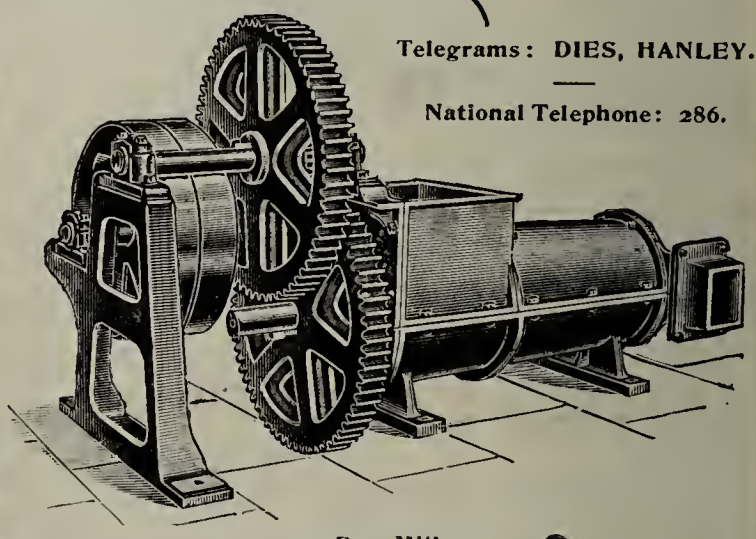
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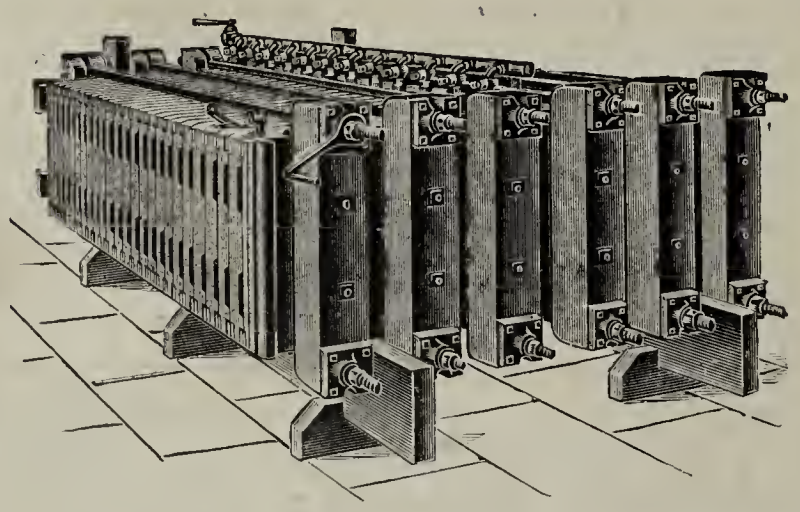
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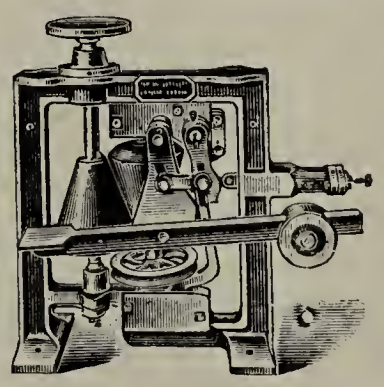


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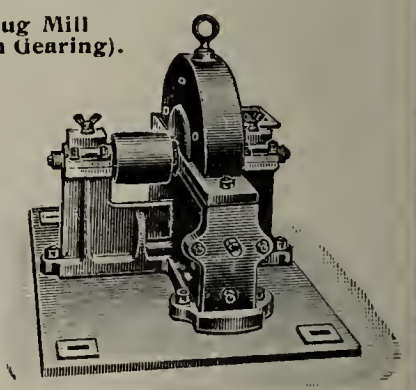


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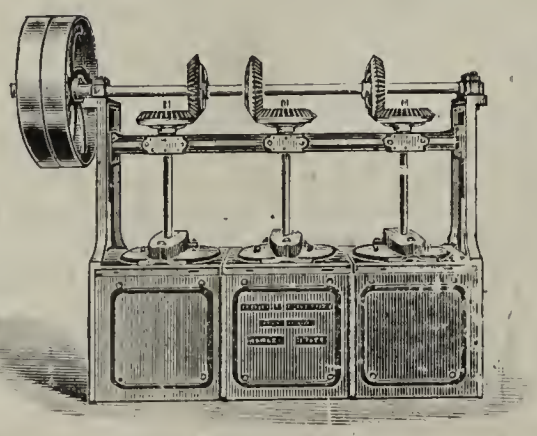


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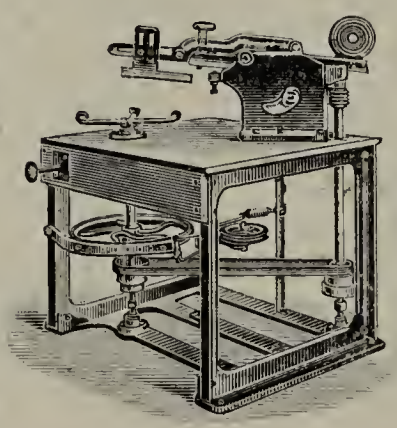
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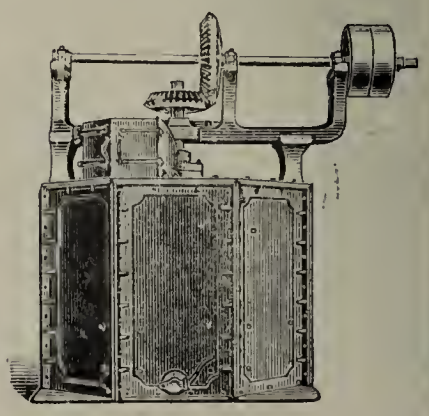
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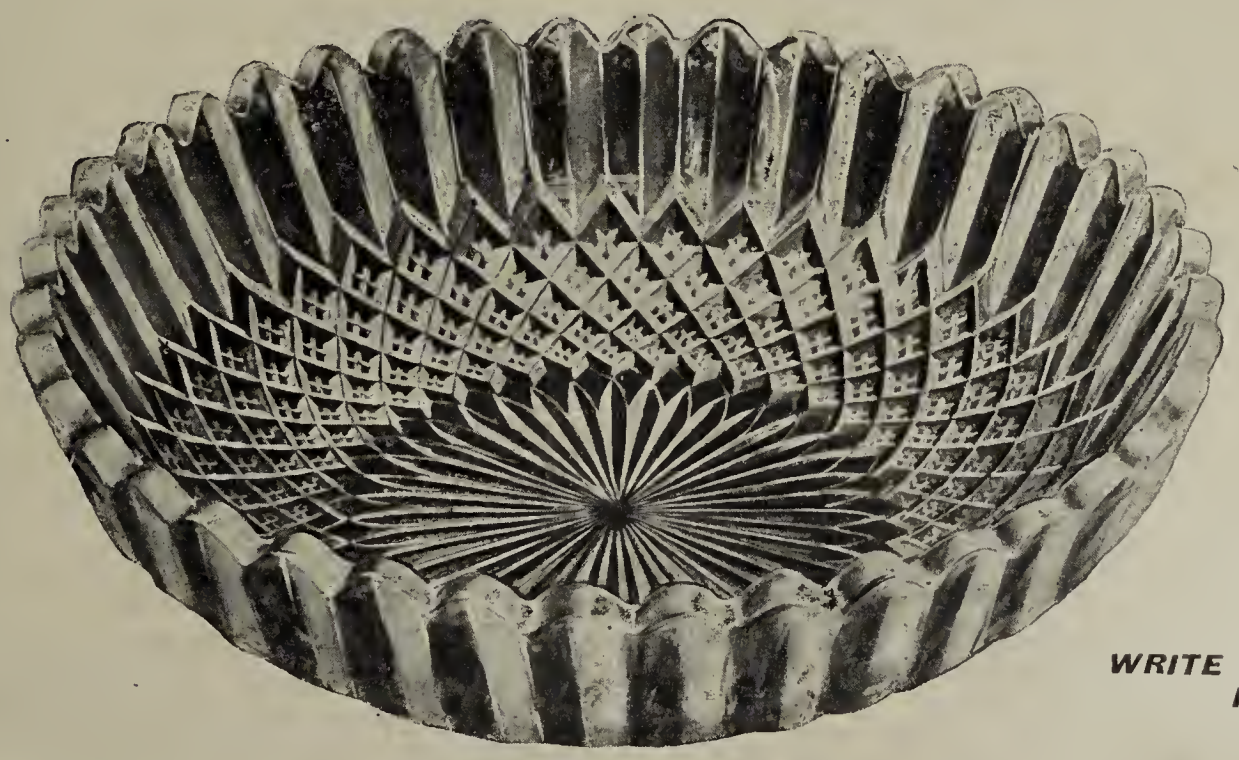
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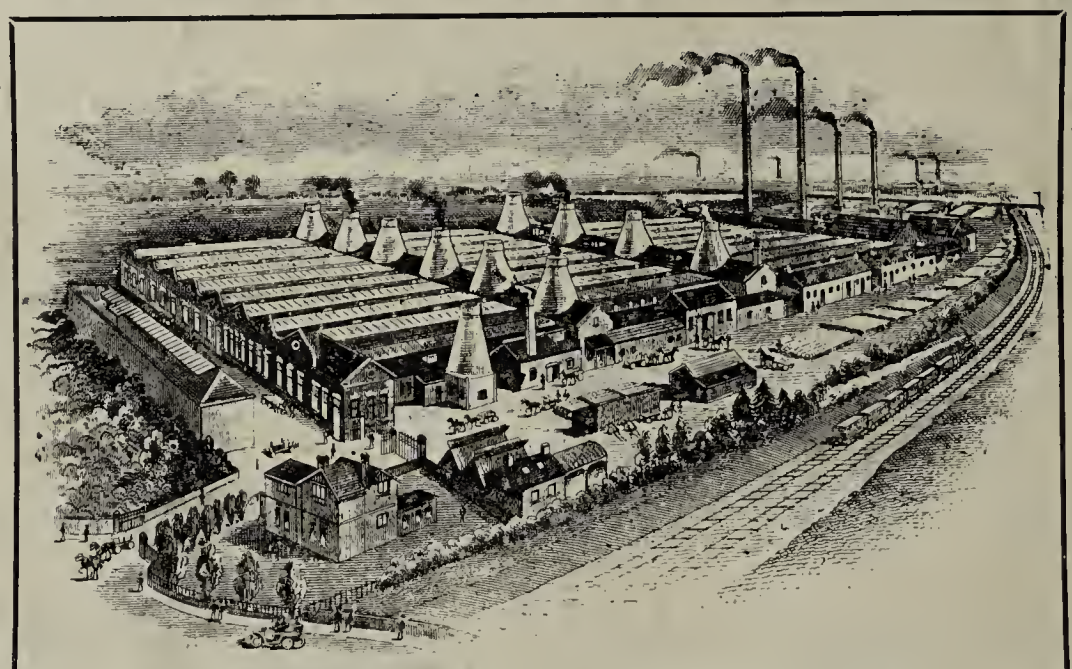
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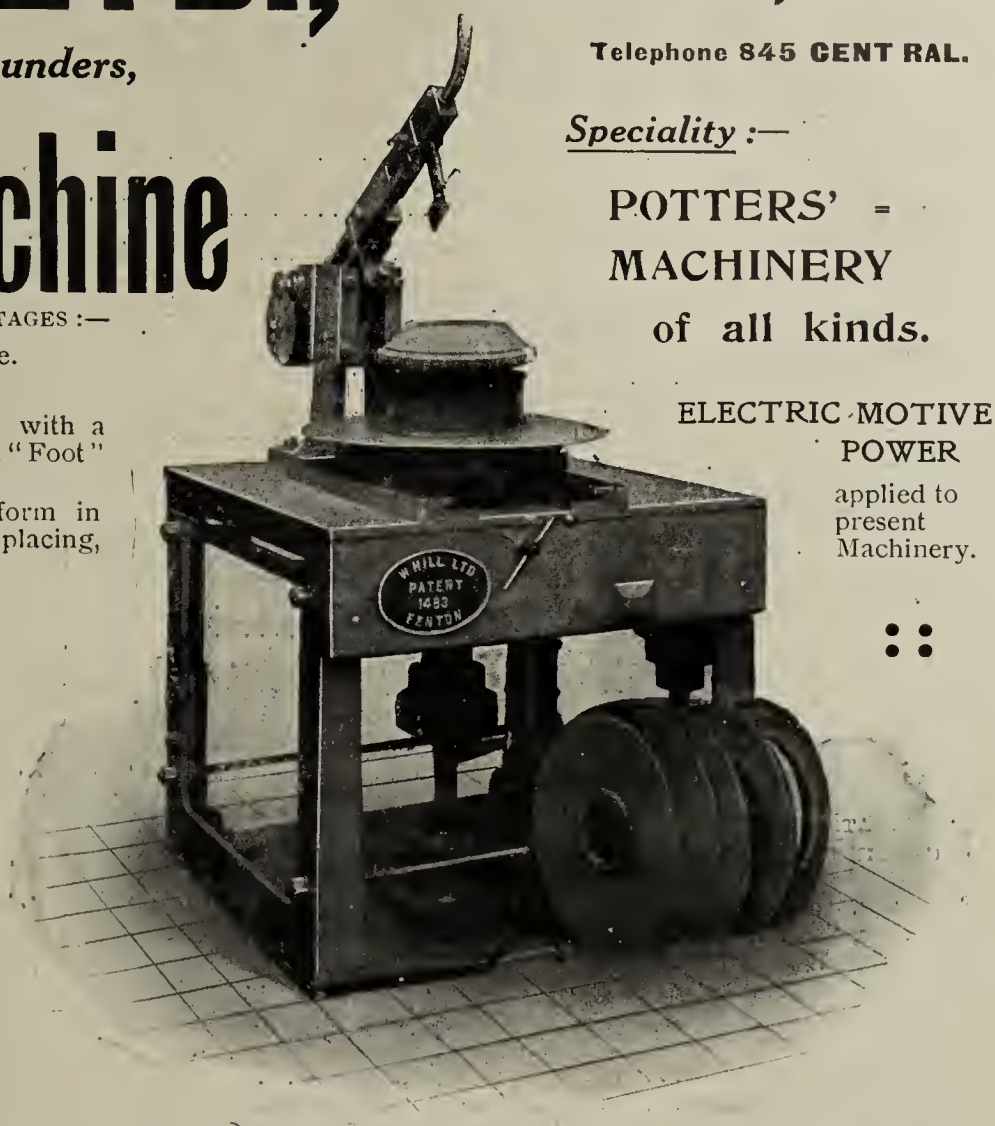
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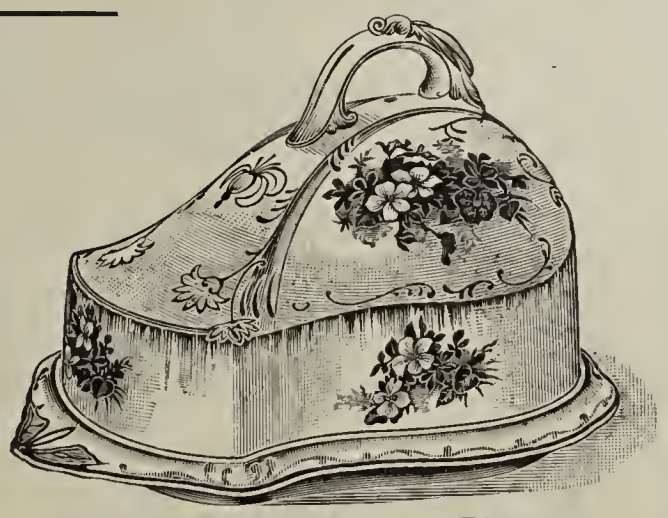
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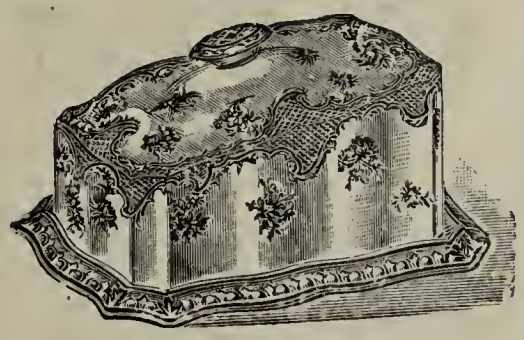
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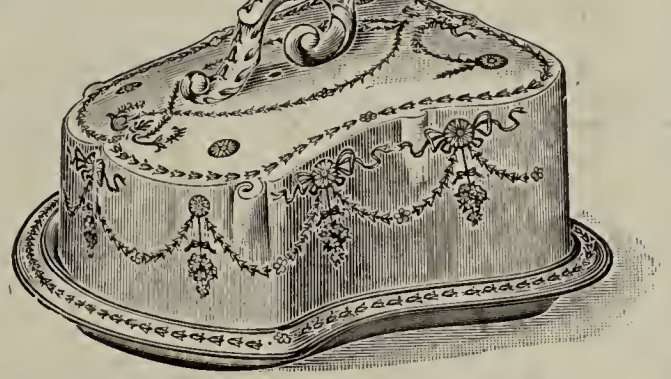


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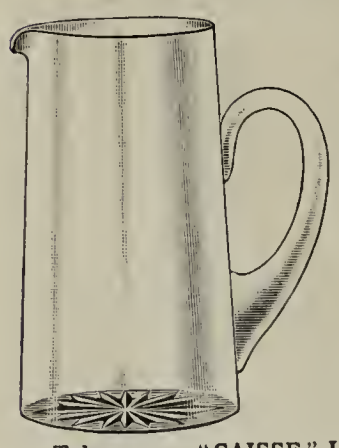
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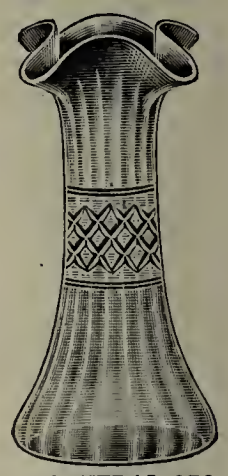
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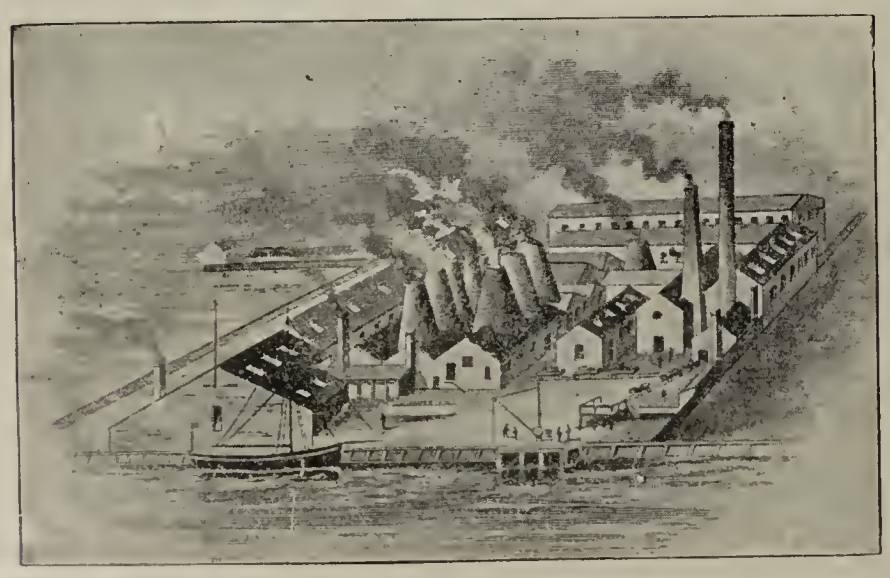
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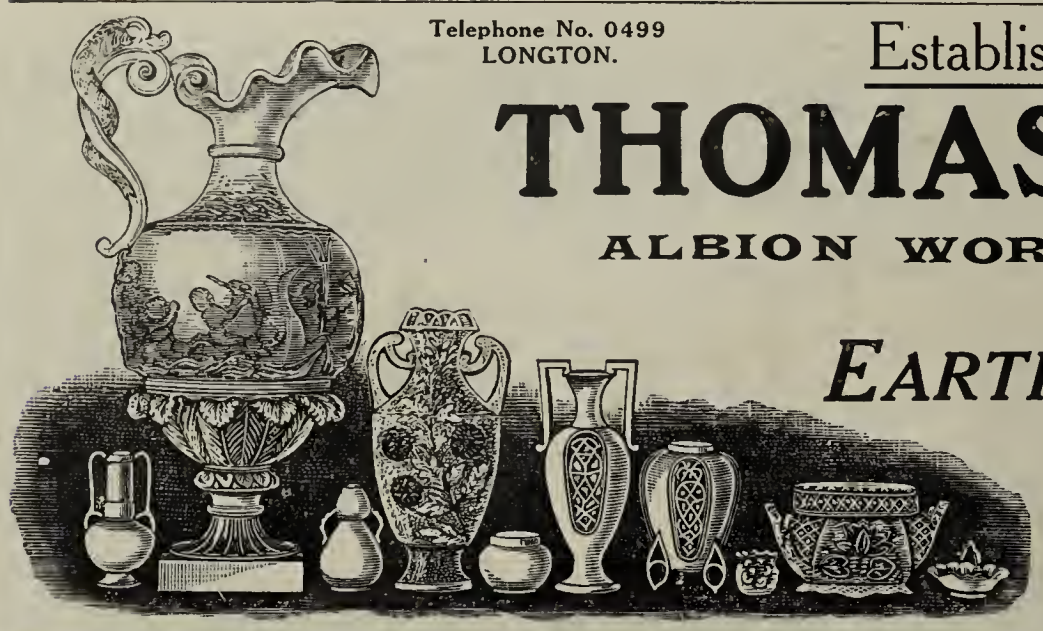
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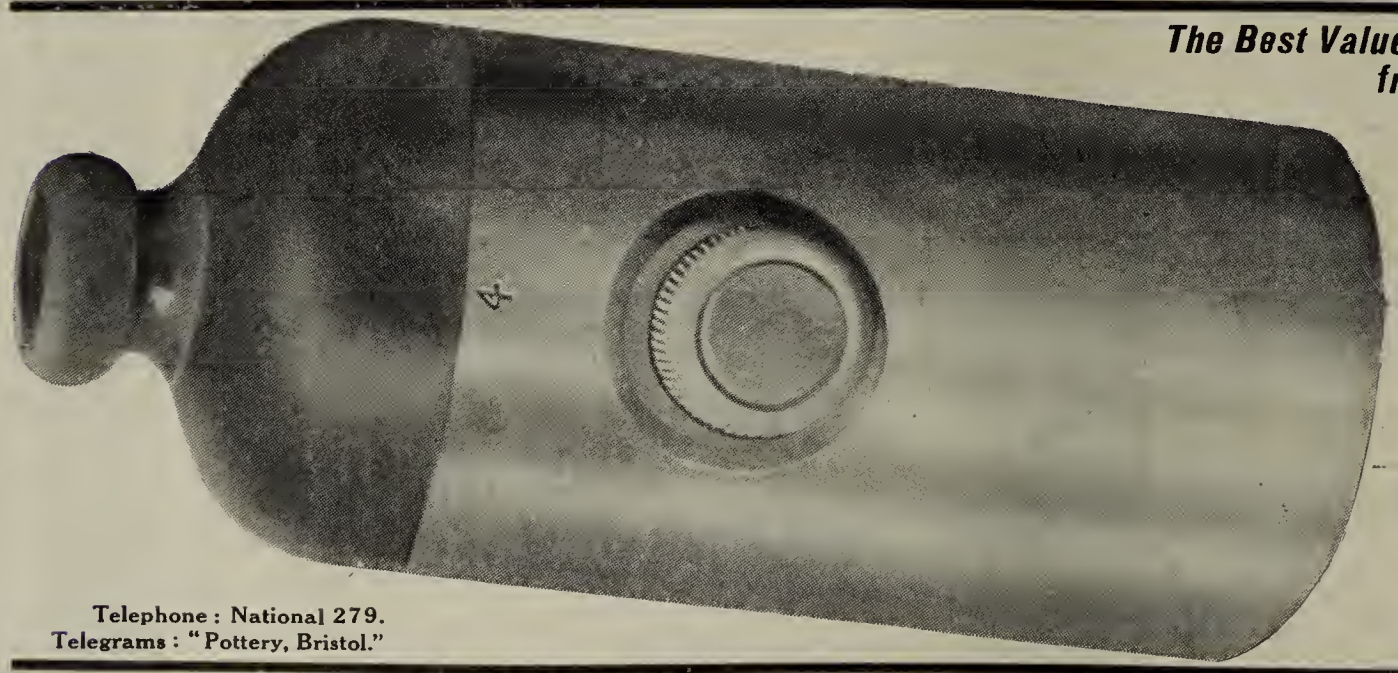
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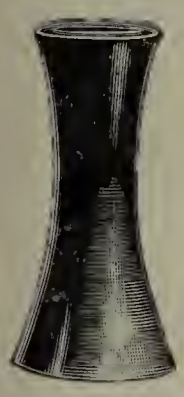






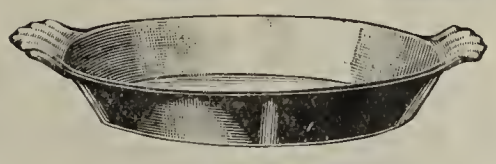




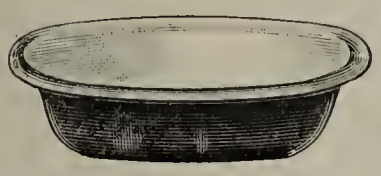
















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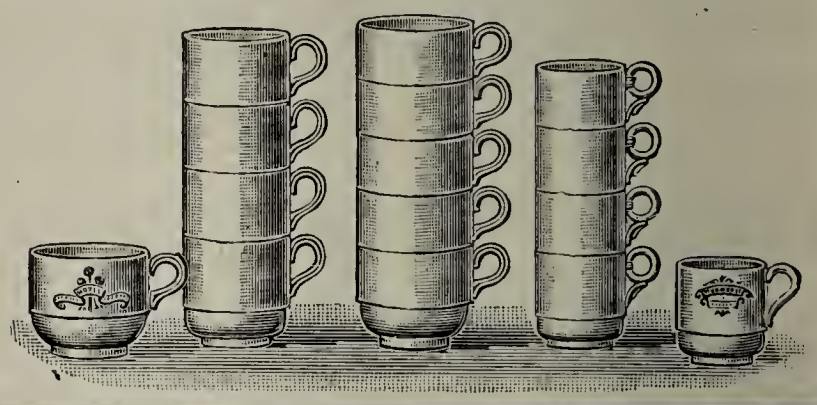
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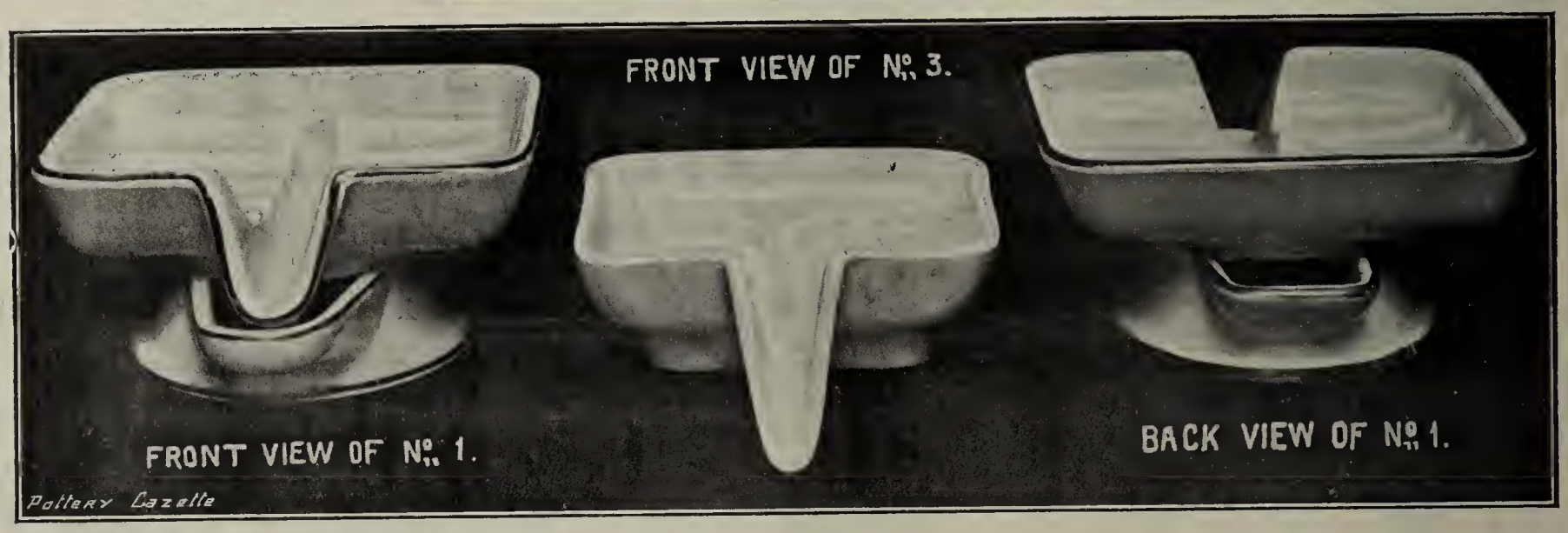
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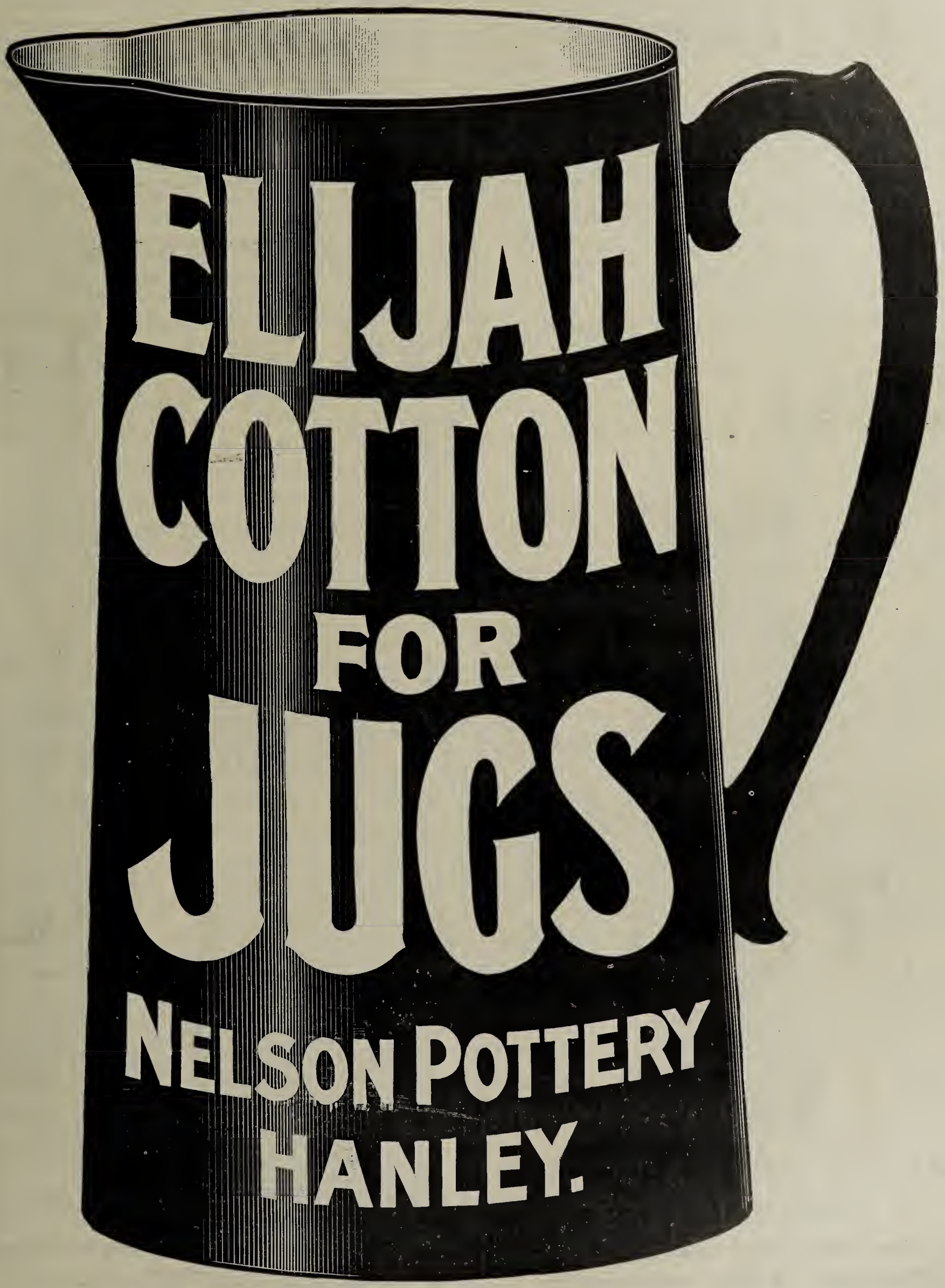
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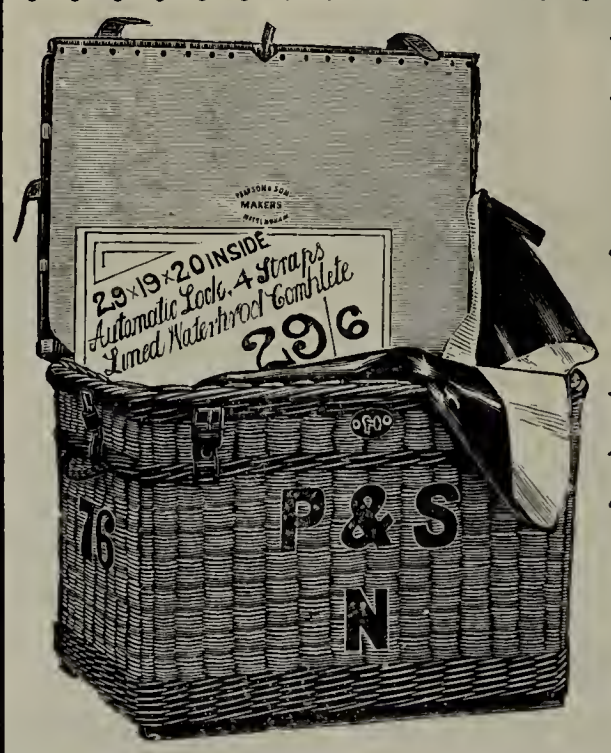
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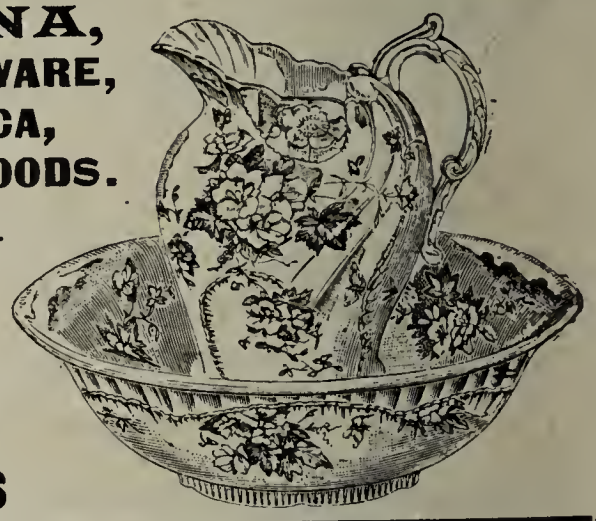
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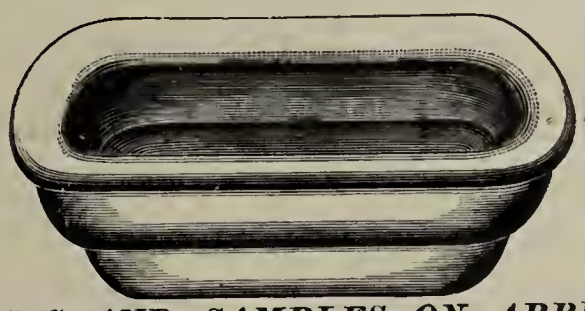
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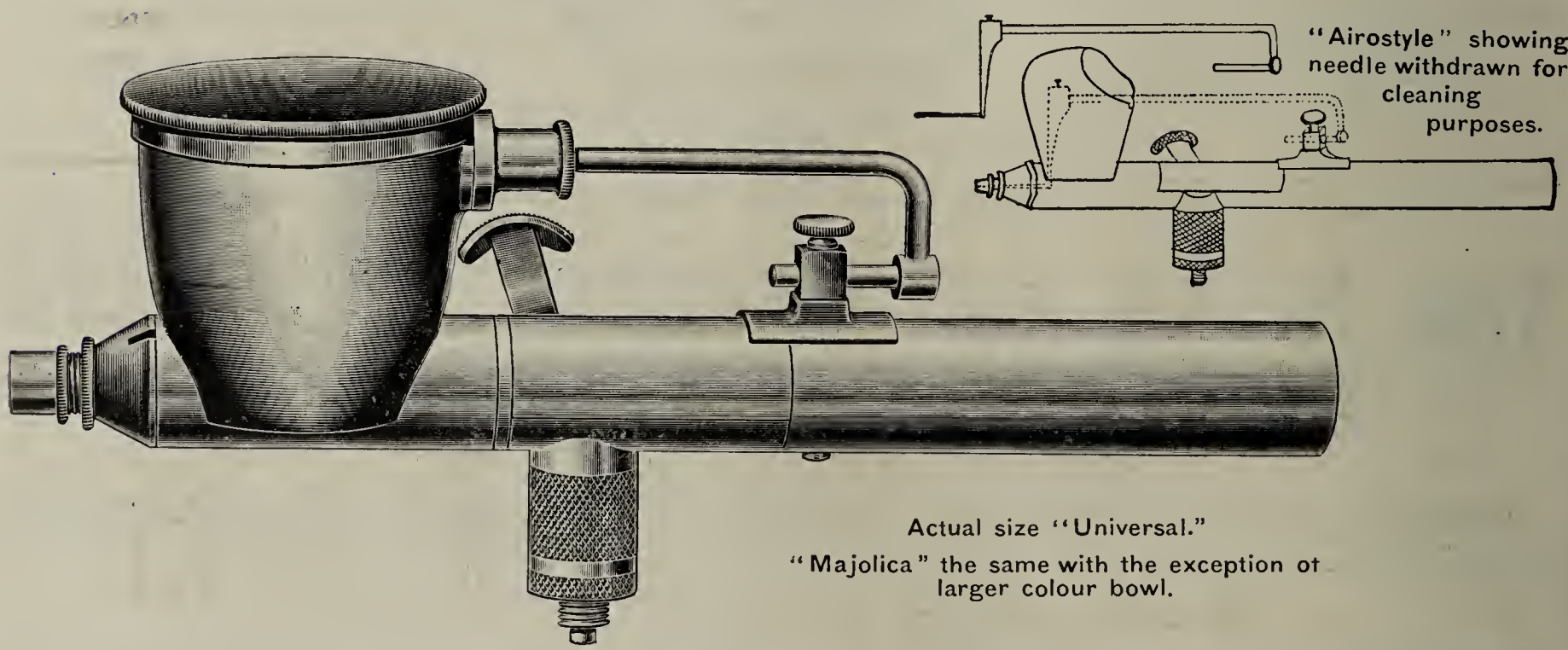
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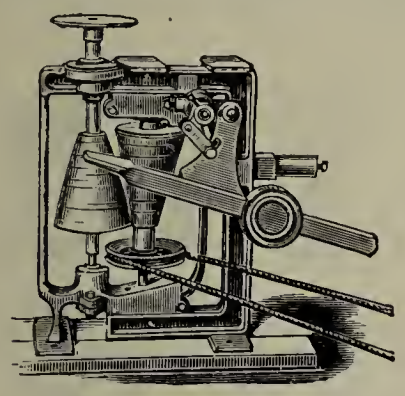
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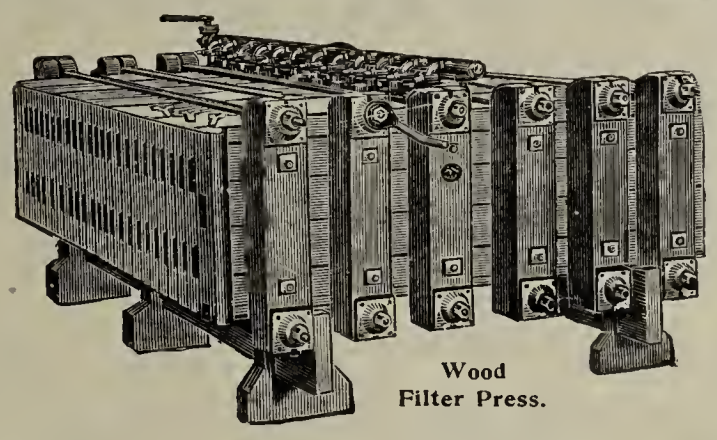
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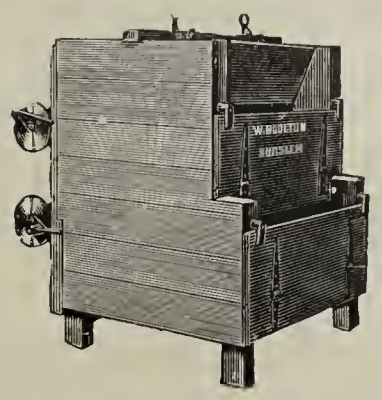
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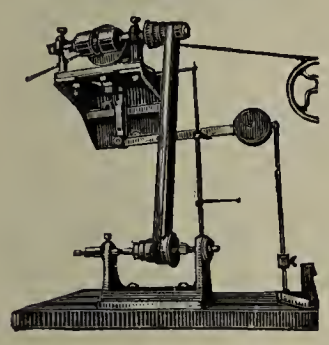
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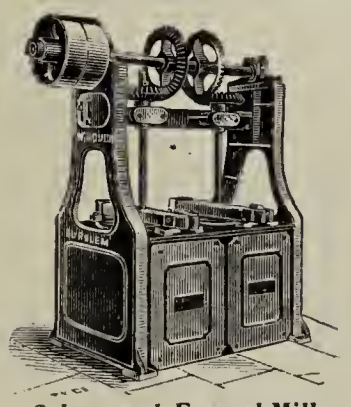
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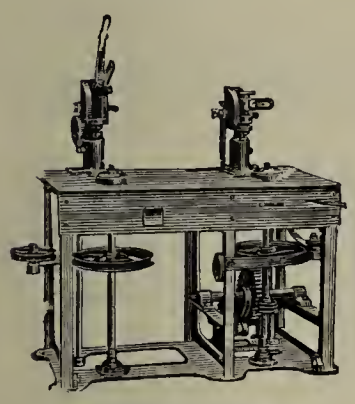
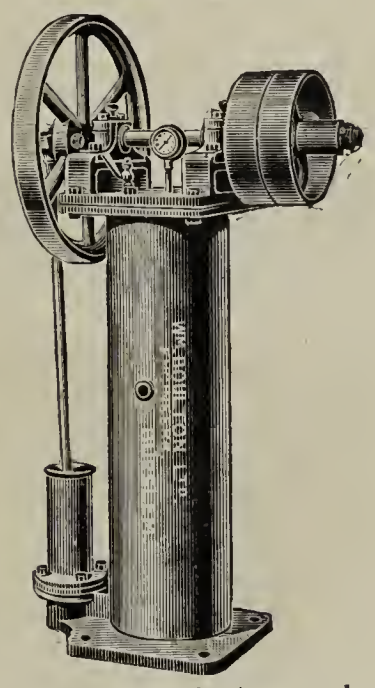
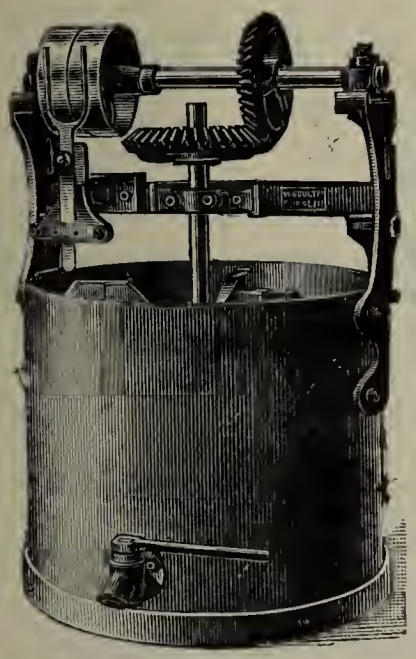


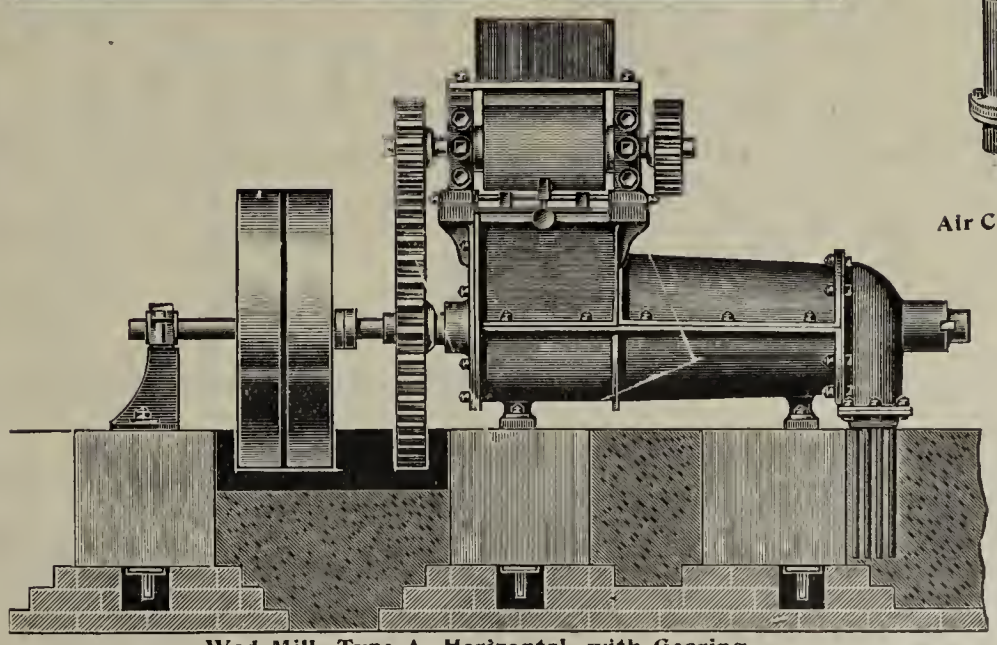
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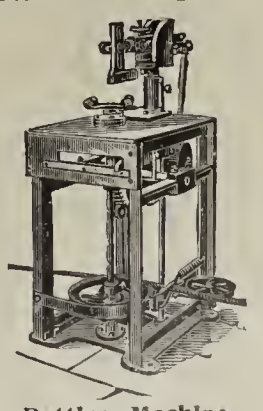
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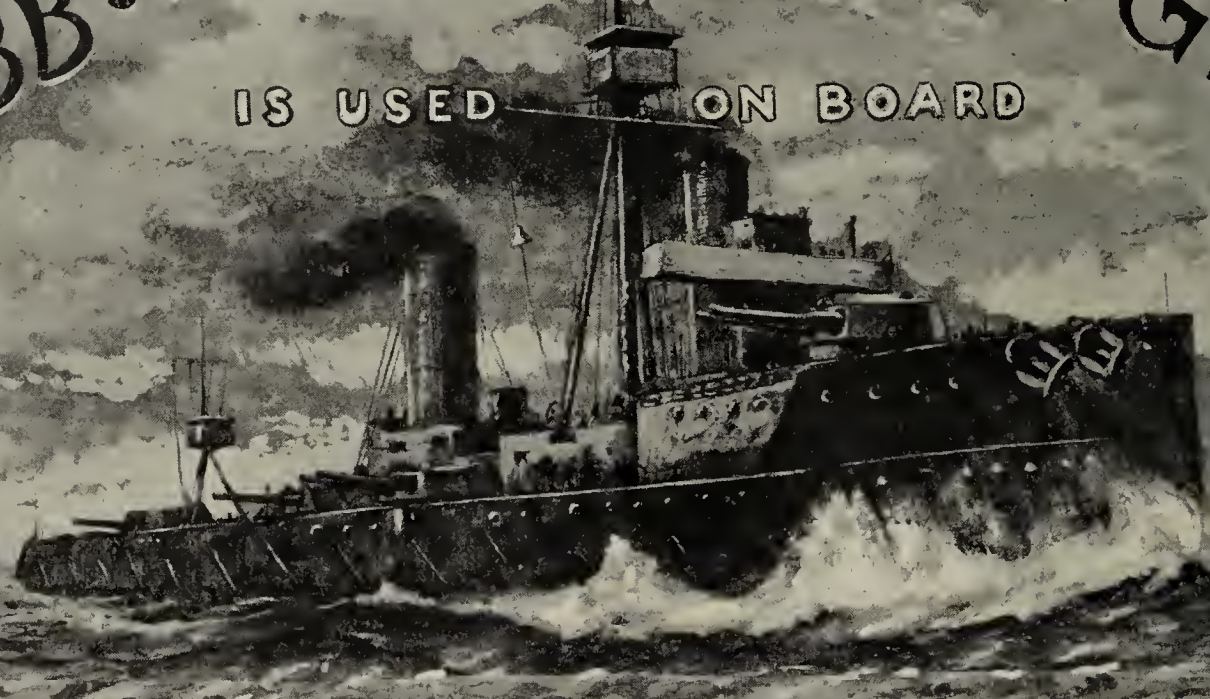
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Editorial Notes.

THE TRADE SITUATION.

WHEN writing under this heading in our last issue we said, "The formation of the Conciliation Board is only the preliminary step to a settlement, but it is an indispensable one, and until it is completed the matters in dispute cannot be discussed." We are glad to be able to congratulate employers and operatives that the "preliminary step" has been taken, and that an amicable adjustment of all matters in dispute is now only a matter of time. We may extend our congratulations to all engaged in the pottery trades. From the conciliatory attitude of both parties there is every reason to hope that all differences will be arranged without loss of time. Our local correspondent has all along dealt ably, but necessarily briefly, with the progress of events. The happy culmination was reached on Monday, March 23, when the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association received an intimation from the secretary of the "National Amalgamated Society of Pottery Workers," that "the operatives have decided to accept the suggestion of the manufacturers that all the questions in every branch of the industry be referred to the Conciliation Board." The whole-heartedness of this mutual agreement will be as acceptable to every distributing member of the trade in the Kingdom, as it is creditable to those who have entered into it. We are, ourselves, deeply thankful for this result, which will go far to assist in the prosperity of the trade in the near future. We do not wish to strike a discordant note in connection with the agreement arrived at; but it is due to the manufacturers that two points, as to which misrepresentation has been made, should be correctly stated. In the first place it is not intended that the Conciliation Board shall be called upon by any outside persons to decide a difference that may arise between a manufacturer and his workpeople. If it is found that the firm and the employees cannot come to an agreement, the Conciliation Board will decide the matter for them. But if an agreement satisfactory to the parties concerned can be reached, we take it that the views of other persons are not to be introduced. The second mis-statement that requires correction is that employers have been induced to accept arbitration on pressure from the workers. The fact is, that the manufacturers, from the first, suggested the Board of Conciliation, and that the difficulty was to get the workers to submit the question of wages to the Board. The manufacturers never threw any obstacles in the way of the reconstruction of the Board of Conciliation—on the contrary they have always advocated it. The action of the manufacturers in this connection has been grossly, we will not say wilfully, misrepresented.

The unreserved reference of all questions in every branch of the industry to the Conciliation Board is most gratifying. The members of that Board will enter upon their duties with good heart, knowing that they are implicitly trusted by all concerned in the differences they have to adjust. The advantages of judicious and wisely detailed organisation are strikingly illustrated. Without the "Manufacturers' Association," and the "Amalgamated Society of Pottery Workers," such a comprehensive agreement, affecting every branch of the industry, could not have been

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arrived at. We have pleasure in acknowledging the beneficent labours of the Rector of Stoke-on-Trent in the cause of industrial peace. He already enjoys the respect and esteem of "potters in the Potteries." He has earned the respect of thousands associated with the industry, who do not come under his personal influence.

FEDERATION AT LAST.

WE congratulate the Six Pottery Towns upon their unification. If it was merely a local question, affecting rates, police-courts, and tramways, we should not presume to comment upon it. The greatest advantage will, no doubt, be the fusion of the numerous local authorities into one central government. But we see in federation a powerful factor in promoting the prosperity of the pottery trades, which we think has not yet been sufficiently taken into account. It is because of what we consider its possibilities in advancing the interests of an important industry, that we think the federation of the Potteries is entitled to be ranked as a national question. The two trade organisations—the "Manufacturers' Association," and the "Amalgamated Society of Pottery Workers"—will do well to take into account the value of the federation to them. We think it will play an important part in stimulating the pottery trade. The railway companies have hitherto had all the advantages of united action, in dealing piecemeal with the enormous traffic of six separate towns. What chance has a single manufacturer against powerful railway companies acting in concert? Federation will not only enable the towns to act in unison on all important questions, but should lead manufacturers and workers to appreciate the advantages of concerted action in facing a common difficulty—foreign competition, for example. Properly handled, as we have no doubt it will be, federation is not only going to confer advantages on the pottery towns—it is going to improve the condition of the pottery trades. The President of the Local Government Board is to be congratulated upon his spirited action in this matter and also upon the success of it.

THE CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

IT is not easy to write about this Association without using strong language concerning the apathy of those traders for whose benefit it has been established. For years past we have been listening—sympathetically—to the complaints of dealers about the difficulties that beset their trade to-day, the anomalies they meet with in the charges of different manufacturers, and the ever increasing competition by dealers in other trades. We know many of these complaints are true, and have urged upon glass and china dealers the necessity for combination to obtain some redress. We devoted much time in assisting the formation of the Association for which Mr. Watson of Reading (as secretary) and other dealers have worked so hard. We are sorry to say that dealers have rendered very little support to the Association which has been working (and if properly supported would work still more) on their behalf. So far as we know, ours is the only retail trade without substantial organisation. There is a useful association of manufacturers, and a strong association which includes male and female workers in every branch of pottery production. And yet it has been found impossible to get 50 retail dealers together to discuss means for increasing the membership of their own organisation. The officers of the Association have worked hard, but have had but little encouragement. The Association is needed, and dealers everywhere admit it—but they neglect to support it. If retail glass and china dealers do not want their trade to be wiped out they must unite. We believe that many disadvantageous trade conditions would be altered immediately, if dealers were united, as they should be, to protect the interests of their trade. The annual meeting of the dealers' Association will be held in May. Let us see what can be done then.

THE PAYMENT OF GLASS MAKERS' WAGES.

IN a case heard at the Brierley-hill Police Court last month, we had an instance of how an innocent custom may work mischief. It appeared that in certain factories it had been the custom to pay all the men forming what are called "chairs" in a lump sum. In the case in question the money had been paid in that way, and was then taken to a public-house for division, and in order that change might be obtained. The man who paid the men was thereupon summoned for unlawfully paying wages in a public-house, contrary to the Act of 1883. The magistrates convicted him and he was fined. As the result of this, at the request of the Flint Glass Makers Society, the manufacturers have agreed to pay the men separately, or to furnish the head man of the "chair" with proper change to enable him to divide the money among his men on the works. It is true the wages were really not paid in the public-house by the manufacturers. They were paid to one man on the works. But the custom of men meeting in a public-house to receive their portion is a bad one, and manufacturers are acting wisely in deciding to obviate it.

THE SPECIAL RULES.

THE passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, has rendered revision of the Special Rules regulating the manufacture of china and earthenware a necessity. For some time past the Secretary of State for the Home Department has contemplated the appointment of a departmental committee to consider such revision. In reply to a question by Mr. John Ward in the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone said he proposed to appoint such a committee, and to include on it representatives of the workers and of the manufacturers. He stated further that the proposed inquiry was required on other grounds besides the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and that its scope will therefore be somewhat wider than the mere revision of existing rules. The reply of the Home Secretary indicated that the technical nature of some of the processes of manufacture will again come under review, and therefrom it is assumed that new light will be thrown on the use of lead in pottery and some popular errors on the subject corrected. We understand that Mr. Bernard Moore and Mr. William Burton have both been invited by the Home Secretary to serve on the committee. Reference was again made to the subject in the House of Commons on March 24, when Mr. Alden asked a question respecting the cases of lead poisoning in the china and earthenware trade, reported during February. Mr. Gladstone replied that seventeen cases were reported in that month from fourteen factories, and that one case was fatal. He expected that the proposed committee would make further inquiry with regard to lead poisoning in this industry.

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TRAVELLERS AND BUYERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I can confirm from many incidents in my own experience the statements made by your correspondent, "Traveller," in his letter in this month's Gazette. One such incident occurred to me only a few days ago. I called upon an important house whom I had frequently supplied with matchings, but the buyer would not even trouble to take my card. The result is that I have since declined (with the approval of my firm) to supply this house with the "oddments" they have asked for. These oddments were our own goods, and I have since learned that the firm's customers obtained them through another house.

When this "gentleman's" firm discharges him, he will, no doubt, ask for help.—Yours truly,

March 11, 1908. LONDON REPRESENTATIVE.

FLOWER HOLDERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—We are surprised at the contents of Mr. Walsh's letter, dated Feb. 18, appearing in your issue of to-day. Your correspondent says, "With reference to your notice of the 'Blitz' flower holder, illustrated on page 181 of February issue, it must have escaped your notice that the same thing practically is mentioned in connection with my Tulip Stands on page 1,285 of your November issue last year." Will you please allow us to say that the notice you kindly gave to our holder in February issue, was unsolicited on our part, and was given on account of the novelty which you recognised in our invention, but which Mr. Walsh seems to have failed to recognise? You say in your notice of the holder "that the first illustration, Fig. 1, shows the holder itself, with the perforations through which the stalks of flowers are passed, and the tapered shank which is dropped into the vase. The second illustration shows the holder with flowers being removed from the vase for the purpose of changing the water. This can be done, as will be seen from the way in which the holder is held, without disturbing the arrangement of the flowers." Again you say, "that by reason of its form it gathers the stems towards a centre at the bottom of the tapered shank, and holds the flowers in a free and upright position, as they would be in a bouquet, but without any undue compression." Some years ago we remember having our notice drawn to a very neat little invention, connected with a hook and eye; we believe it was called the "De Long" hook and eye. If we remember rightly, the only difference in this little device from the ordinary variety of hooks and eyes was, that on the hook there was a little protuberance, which prevented it from being too readily detached from the eye, and the firm who were advertising it wisely made a great point of this, using the phrase, "See that hump." We take the liberty of changing the phrase to emphasise the advantages we claim for our "Blitz" flower holder, by respectfully saying to Mr. Walsh and all others whom it may concern, "See that shank." There is nothing on the market that we know of that can claim the advantages that you point out in connection with our holder. Let anyone test it with a few daffodils, and they will find that it can be put into practically any vase, and taken out again without disturbing the arrangement. In a word, it is the shank which we have protected, and we shall resist any infringement of this idea. We should like Mr. Walsh and others to be perfectly clear on this point.—Yours, &c.,

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B. & Co.—We have sent you the name of importers of toughened glass.

H. & Co.—At a comparatively recent date there were several important glass works at Dudley. As far as we know there is only one firm making glass there now.

R. D.—Decorating is quite a different industry from manufacturing. There are firms who supply beautifully decorated tea, breakfast, and toilet ware, who do not actually make the goods. They, however, trade as manufacturers.

C. W .S.—The number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act is published monthly in the "Labour Gazette." Only the total number from the china and earthenware trades is published. The sections of the trade in which the cases occur are not published in these monthly returns.

Ironmonger.—We do not like "overlapping" trades, but modern custom approves it. Since dealers in other trades are handling pottery and glass, there is no reason why you should not do so. You have some reason, seeing that there is not a glass and china shop anywhere near you. But why not open a separate glass and china shop yourself? It would be far better than mixing glass and pottery with your heavy goods.

CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRIES.

A [632] asks for makers of Thistle Brand of fire-bricks.

A. (614) asks for name and address of patentee or agents of machine for making window glass.

Railway Co.—We have sent you by post the name and address of the firm who purchase broken crockery and glass.

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC SOCIETY.

IN the February issue of THE POTTERY GAZETTE we gave a copious abstract of a paper on gas firing, read before the Society by Mr. Ernst Schmatolla, of Berlin, an acknowledged authority on the subject of THE GAS FIRING OF KILNS.

A meeting of the Society was held on March 14 at the Sutherland Institute, Longton, when Mr. Schmatolla opened a discussion on the paper. Mr. Solon, President of the Society, was in the chair. The paper had been printed, and each member had been supplied with a copy, so that those present were prepared to question the author of it on points that required explanation.

Mr. Schmatolla said that he was entirely at the service of the members, and he hoped they would make the best use of him whilst he was there. He would first call attention to a new drawing which he had prepared of a generating gas kiln of the Siemens type, which could be arranged in a very simple manner, to heat a muffle. He was aware that there were in the Potteries quite a number of firms who found it necessary to fire in muffles materials which must reach a very high temperature, and these kilns he was told consumed a very large quantity of coal, some days using as much as five or six tons. It was obvious that a very large quantity of the heat generated by this amount of fuel was not used in the actual heating of the materials, but, on the other hand, escaped by the chimney. It was possible, however, to combine kilns in such a way as to permit of gathering the heat in accumulating chambers, and of thus preventing this waste of energy. It was also possible by the use of such kilns, after having accumulated the heat, to reverse the direction of the flame by moving a box shown in a diagram which he produced, and by this means bringing the accumulated heat back to the combustion chamber, and utilising it over again in heating up the muffles. In this way the gas introduced from

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the one side of the kiln was burned along with hot air which had increased its temperature by its passage along the heated flues of the kiln. By the utilisation of such a kiln it would be possible to effect

A Saving of More Than 50 Per Cent.

where kilns had to be fired for any length of time. It was true of course that such muffles must be constructed of very good material, but it was quite possible to get efficient firebricks for the purpose, and the lecturer produced for inspection a firebrick which he himself had made in his own kiln of the type to which he had referred, being a shale fireclay containing 45 per cent. of alumina. This brick, he said, had been fired at a temperature of Seger Cone 30, equal to about 800 degrees, and which was about the same temperature as that employed in the Siemens steel smelting furnaces. Messrs. Pearson, of Stourbridge, he said, had built such a kiln, and were producing, by its use, a similar fireclay to the one he had described. These muffles, however, could only be adapted to the firing of such goods as required either a very high temperature, or had to be fired for a considerable period of time. For other materials which did not require to be fired to such a high temperature or did not need to be fired for so long, he thought it was better to use the waste heat from one kiln or muffle which was being fired, by conveying it to another kiln which was already filled and waiting to be fired. The lecturer was of the opinion that pottery kilns in which porcelain goods were required to be fired in saggars could be so combined that the heat escaping from one chamber could be utilised to increase the temperature of another. A drawing was produced showing an improved kiln of the Hoffman or Mendheim type. In the illustrations of the series kilns contained in the lecturer's previous paper, it was pointed out that there was a long gas channel running round the whole of the kiln, and in such a channel an amount of gas would naturally be lost. In the drawing now produced the long channel was absent, and instead, between each series of chambers, there was one short, straight channel, at each end of which there was a generator. The gas passage being short it was possible to clean it from each end, and a further improvement in this kiln was that the same channels that were used for conveying the gas and the air into the kiln could be adopted for allowing the waste gases to go up the chimney. The lecturer took some pains to explain to his audience how the waste heat could be conducted from the first to the second and subsequent chambers. The muffles, he said, were constructed by means of tubes built in the chamber, and the fire, going first through one and then the other, made it possible to obtain

An Equal Distribution of Heat.

When he previously addressed the Society on the subject he did not know that there were any English types of gas fired kilns, but he had since learned that there were more than a dozen English patterns on the market. The most important of these seemed to him to be those of Messrs. Meakin and Jackson, but in this type it was only claimed to utilise the heat actually generated by one kiln to heat the muffle, and then it was allowed to escape up the chimney. Here the inventors claimed to arrange a recuperator to bring the heat back again. The construction generally, he thought, was a good one, but it might be improved by making a further arrangement so that the heat from the fired muffle might be used to heat up another muffle. Possibly something had been done in this direction since the patent was taken out, which dated 1906, over two years ago. In concluding his introductory address, Mr. Schmatolla laid before his audience a plan of a small experimental or model plant indicating a cheap, simple, and effective way of adopting gas firing. It was not, he said, merely a theoretical provision equal to the firing of samples in a laboratory by a gas flame, but it was designed to prove on a small scale how it was possible to fire goods in a kiln in precisely the same way as it was desirable to fire them in a larger kiln on a manufactory. By this model plant he sought to teach his assistants and his firemen how to fire kilns after he constructed them and sent them out. Such an experimental plant, would, he thought, be very useful also in a school for teaching young potters the art of firing. The plan showed a series of kilns, but it would not be absolutely necessary to have so many. Three or four kilns would be sufficient in series, combined with one generator or producer, and by the use of such a kiln he contended that it would be possible to produce and fire all the materials which were issuing from the Potteries at the present time. The speaker concluded by expressing the hope that a number of questions would be asked, and he would try to make his knowledge of English sufficient to the occasion.

A Lively Discussion.

As had been anticipated, a lively discussion ensued. This was opened by Dr. Mellor, who referred to the previous papers which had been read to the society on the subject. There was one outstanding feature of them all, and that was the emphasis laid upon the necessity of having the kilns built in series. He doubted whether this would be practical in view of the way the local potteries were now situated. One must not overlook the fact that there were quite a number of small works, which could not possibly take up an additional four or five ovens, consequently to make the system suitable for the Potteries, kilns would have to be adapted in such a way as would make them workable for a small factory. The question would then naturally arise as to whether the economy which was claimed on a large scale would be apparent also when the kilns were worked more individually, running, say, a single kiln or only two kilns intermittently, heating them up and allowing them to cool down again as was necessary sometimes. Would there be any great economy in fuel in such a case, where it was impossible to conduct the waste heat from a kiln being fired to another to be fired ?

Mr. Schmatolla dealt with the questions individually. He said he was of the opinion that where a kiln had essentially to be fired separately, and absolutely could not be run in series with other kilns, it would not be worth while to fix a generator, and embark upon gas firing in that particular way. But there was a kiln which made even that possible, that being the one invented by the Englishman Siemens. This, however, would necessarily mean the special construction of a kiln of this type, as the existing kilns could not be successfully converted. There was no doubt that the best results were to be obtained where existing kilns closely situated to one another could be formed into a battery, and a generator could be fixed in the centre, so that the waste heat could be led from one to another. In such a case the economy must at once be apparent. A special chimney would be necessary, as the chimneys of the individual kilns in series could not be used. A higher chimney would have to be built capable of working the whole battery. The lecturer seemed to be rather cautious in answering the question with regard to individual kilns, stating that he would be very much more at home with, say, from 12 to 18 kilns, worked by one or two generators, in which event he would be thoroughly confident of proving an immense economy.

Mr. C. E. Ramsden, taking up the question, said that he thought those people who were striving to work gas firing successfully with single kilns were on the wrong track. He was of the opinion that Dr. Mellor's point was of extreme importance, and that the lecturer was right in being careful in expressing an opinion regarding that aspect of the question. The consideration of wear and tear was also of the highest moment. In the Meakin and Jackson type of kiln a considerable saving was claimed under this head, and he also hoped to hear from the lecturer that he had something to give them on this point.

Mr. Schmatolla replied that undoubtedly the greatest economy lay in the amount of fuel consumption. The main consideration gathered not in the quality or the price of the firebricks used in building the combustion chambers, and in the maintenance and upkeep of the kiln. If the heat generated by the burning fuel were legitimately used in firing the ware instead of, as in a good many cases, firing the chimney—(laughter)—there could be no doubt as to the result. Where there was an abundance of smoke there was plainly an absence of perfect combustion, and waste ensued. This could be prevented by proper kilns. But there was also the consideration that cheaper fuel could be used. Where coal was now being employed in direct firing, slack could be used with the gas kilns without blowing air to the reducer. This would be a marked monetary advantage. He was sure that in this Potteries district gas firing would give a very good result, and it could be first proved by the adoption of an experimental plant such as he had suggested, which would serve as an object lesson to young potters, and to students, and which would illustrate immediately the accruing advantages.

Mr. W. P. Rix asked a question relating to the leaking of gas in the flues, which he understood had been one of the principal difficulties experienced.

Mr. Schmatolla, in reply, said that this was evidently due to faulty construction. The first Hoffman Annular kiln, which was constructed by a man named Escherich, had the gas channels arranged at the top, but this was a fatal mistake, and all gas channels should be arranged in the earth, where there need be no anxiety as to the loss of gas.

At the conclusion, Mr. Leonard Grimwade moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer. Gas firing, he said, was of extreme importance to this district, not only from the standpoint of economy which might be effected, and which might prove of immense importance to the future of the industry, but also from the standpoint of the clearer atmosphere which it would be possible for them to get, and which would make the Potteries a more desirable place to reside in. Those who had to live in the Potteries would feel that to be a very important thing, and for the welfare of the district generally, and for the reputation of the place, they should, if possible, be anxious to meet the difficulty. He was sanguine enough to believe that in the near future, at any rate within a decade or two, the clouds of smoke which to-day hung over a factory would not be considered as a sign of prosperity, but on the other hand as an indication of stupidity.

The vote of thanks was agreed to with acclamation.

We are indebted to the "Staffordshire Sentinel" for the foregoing report of the discussion.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Mr. Wm. Ault, art potter, Swadlincote, near Burton-on-Trent, is the manufacturer of specialities in high-class artistic, ornamental, and useful pottery, which are now extensively known as "Ault Faïence." This is a generic rather than a specific term, and includes all those specialities in ceramics which Mr. Ault produces in such rapid succession. His London showroom at Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C., is very conveniently situated for buyers. It is on the second floor of a handsome block of buildings, and access to it is gained comfortably by a rapid electric lift, which is running all day during business hours. I met Mr. Walker, Mr. Ault's representative, at the rooms a fortnight ago, and was able to congratulate him upon the variety and the artistic character of the attractive novelties recently received from the works for the coming season. It was not necessary for me to ask Mr. Walker to show me his latest samples. They introduced themselves in very pronounced form as I looked round the room. It is some time since we noticed Ault Faience in this column, so there was much on show that I had not seen before. Ault Faience is a growth—the productions of to-day have been evolved by stages from the art wares produced at Swadlincote years ago. Each stage has been an improvement on its predecessor, and the latest examples of Ault Faience mark a more important artistic development than any I have noticed at any period since the introduction of the ware. The most marked changes are seen in the variety and beauty of the coloured effects. Some of these may almost be described as popular effects, since they have been achieved (though perhaps not always in the same way) by different potters, and have met with appreciation by buyers. Others, however, are, as far as my observation goes, distinctly original. Mr. Ault is showing several new decorative treatments, with very different characteristics, but all pleasing. It will not be possible to describe them all, but they are all worth the attention of buyers. The new "Rustic" ware consists of vases, jugs, spills, flower pots, and a number of nicely modelled quaint forms, including classical and modern artistic shapes. These have heavy conventional floral, rustic, and bust embossments in green, on a dark brown ground. The illustration Fig. 1 shows an interesting selection of this "Rustic" ware. The numbers appended to the pieces are the works numbers for the shapes. It will be seen that the contrast between the green embossments and the dark brown ground is very charming. Where pieces are handled the handles are in solid green. Another scheme has a new primrose ground—a most pleasing shade. The forms are free from embossments, the smooth primrose surface being relieved by small violets. Small vases and spills for flowers in many shapes are shown in this decoration. The graceful outlines of the pieces and the light and bright colour will appeal especially to ladies of refined tastes. The pieces are supplied with or without gilt. Light decorations are prominent among Mr. Ault's new productions. One exceedingly chaste decoration consists of small roses on white ground. This is seen to advantage on toilet ware, flower-pots, &c. The toilet set thus decorated has a low ewer and deep round basin. The "Corinth" toilet set has a tall ewer and round basin, with neat ivy decoration on cream ground. This decoration is applied to all miscellaneous domestic ware. Cheese stands and covers, triple trays, jugs, bread plates, &c., are supplied with small roses or violets on white ground, and either with or without gold. Very effective decorations are in shaded blues, plain surfaces with light and dark blues are seen in pedestals and pots, vases, flower-pots, toilet ware, &c. New models in pedestals and vases, with small neat embossments, are also treated in these light colour



FIG. 1.—RUSTIC WARE IN AULT FAÏENCE.



FIG. 2.—AULT FAÏENCE.

schemes with striking success. The illustration Fig. 2 shows a new and skilfully modelled pedestal and pot, one of several shown on these lines. The outline of this form is full of grace. There is no restraint about it, yet it is severely artistic. The embossed panel on the vase furnishes a medium for a variety of pleasing ornamentations. On the piece illustrated the painted flowers are in harmony with the delicate ground colour. The pale primrose and other light tones which Mr. Ault is now showing in such abundance are absolutely non-crazing. These hard-fired wares have the clear metallic ring when sounded. The last lines of this notice (as the postscript of a woman's letter is supposed to do) will refer to the most interesting of Mr. Ault's present display. The reference comes last, for the reason that when I took my notes of the other novelties the samples of what is named the "Antique Ware" had not arrived at the London rooms. They were, however, well worth the second visit, when I found them set out on a large stand in the centre of the room. It is not easy to describe a series of coloured effects properly classed under one heading, yet presenting different features. I wish I could have been at the works during the production of these pieces. Mr. Ault's chemists would have taken good care I did not learn their secrets, but I am sure they would have helped me to a more intelligent appeciation of the results. Some of the shaded deep crimsons approximate very closely to the reds recently produced on hard-fired porcelain. The charm of this "Antique Ware" is in the multiplicity of ground effects, each charming in itself, yet differing from the others. There is no "subject" portrayed, no pattern, no design. The potter has merely utilised the vagaries to which colours are subject under the influence of firing. Chemist potters have during the last few years devoted much attention to these vagaries, but they have not yet succeeded in definitely controlling them. The delicate pink and heliotrope effects are sweetly pretty—a sentimental woman might express an adequate appreciation of these shades—it is hardly possible for a man to do so. Judicious shadings from green to pink are very pleasing, while other combinations of brown and green are equally so. Most of the forms in "Antique Ware" are free from embossment, and thus afford full scope for colour treatments. A deep yellow is appropriate to these plain surfaces, and some new mottled effects are shown. A novel treatment makes the colour streaks, or shades, to run round the piece, instead of from the top to the foot of it. If space could be spared much more could be said about "Antique Ware" in Ault Faience.

Wedgwood & Co., Ltd., Brownhills, Tunstall, are manufacturers of "Imperial Porcelain," semi-porcelain, decorated and plain earthenware of every description. They make for the Colonial, American, and other foreign markets, and also extensively for the home trade. The company are represented in London by Mr. Francis Findlay, and their showrooms are at Buchanan-buildings, 24 and 26, Holborn, E.C. These are exceptionally fine rooms, and the company have a large assortment of samples always on show there. Mr. Findlay has had it augmented quite recently with new forms and decorations in dinner, tea, and toilet ware. A feature of these large rooms is the arrangement of square table stands covering the floor of the room. There are three rows of samples on each stand, rising pyramid wise, and presenting three rows of samples on each side. There are passages between the stands, so that visitors can see the samples at a convenient level, and if desired can handle them. Dinner, tea and breakfast ware and miscellaneous goods fill these stands, while toilet ware, flower vases, &c., are ranged on shelves round the rooms. There is a splendid display of dinner patterns; this is always a strong line with the company, but it is specially attractive at present owing to the number of new shapes and decorations introduced for the season. A very pretty decoration is produced by a mazarine border cut up into sections with roses in between the ends of the sections. One of the new dinner sets has square handles to the covered dishes. These are in keeping with the new band patterns. The same kind of ornamentation is shown in emamelled colours. The "Eaton" dinner service has a useful oval vegetable dish. It is ornamented with a gold feather on mazarine blue band, supplemented by a green feather border, in sections, divided by neat little roses. The samples include patterns consisting of gold border broken up with roses in the same way. This is an appropriate style of decoration for dinner ware. There is ample variety in these new border patterns on dinner ware. The "Pekin" decoration is a pretty pattern applied to everything en suite. It is an effective combination in enamelled colours. The company are still showing their famous "Indian Tree" decoration in quite new shapes, in both dinner and dessert ware. This was one of the earliest decorations used by the firm, as will be seen by the works' number of it, "500." They number their patterns consecutively as brought out. The age of the Indian Tree pattern, No. 500, may be gathered from the fact that the works numbers of patterns are now 8,000 and upwards. This and the old "Willow" pattern are perpetual items in the firm's productions, in spite of the demands for novelty. The "Belgrave" toilet shape is shown in several new styles of ornamentation. One very effective treatment has a green band, with flowers and best gold. The "Royal" is a new toilet shape, with Dresden spray decorations. It has a plain surface, and is shown in many neat ornamentations. Messrs. Wedgwood make special non-chippable hotel ware, with or without badges; also with mazarine bands, with crests and badges. Some good lines in flower-pots are shown; one, the "Audley," is a good model, octagon shape with concave panels and pretty coloured roses in the curved hollows. The "Audley" flower pots are made in three sizes. The samples of teaware shown me were very dainty and remarkably light. In the pretty decorations applied to them they have much the appearance of china.

Pountney & Co., Ltd., Bristol Pottery, Fishponds, Bristol, have appointed Mr. J. J. Adams, 9, Charterhouse-st., E.C., their London representative. The company's showrooms are now at that address, and Mr. Adams has their samples ready for inspection. He has received new shapes and decorations in most of the lines, so that buyers visiting the new rooms will see many novelties. In toilet ware and dinner ware the company are particularly strong. They are showing new forms and several attractive new decorations on shapes that have become popular. The new "Rose and Ribbon" decoration applied to toilet ware is bright and cheerful. It is typical of a number of designs to match the wallpaper of bedrooms. Many persons now wish their toilet ware to harmonise with the chintz and paper in their rooms, and Pountney & Co. are willing to match patterns of either submitted to them. They have every facility for doing this, as their new factory is one of the most perfectly equipped in the Kingdom. It is a happy condition that one of the oldest potting firms should be in possession of the newest pottery, and be working with the most up-to-date methods and appliances. Out of several new toilet services we illustrate two that are fairly representative of the latest treatments. The "Classic" shape justifies the name given it in its graceful outline, while the several decorations in which it is shown are in accord with the form. The "Classic" makes a good service in white and gold, and in neat ornamentation of small roses or forget-me-nots. These are nice bright-looking patterns without any approach to gaudiness. The other toilet set illustrated is the "Bad-

minton,'' an excellent shape, which is supplied in a great variety of printed and enamelled patterns. The printed patterns of the company are worth special attention, and cannot fail to interest buyers. The company make their own transfers, from their own designs, and they have the most perfect printing arrangements. The dinner services are as numerous and as pleasing as the toilet ware, and are treated with the same care in the matter of ornamentation. One of the new shapes is the ''Adams,'' with oval vegetable dishes, &c. It is ornamented in the ''Adams'' style, with neat festoons and wreaths. The pattern is in various colours—red, brown, and a charming apple-green. The company are manufacturers of all kinds of domestic and general earthenware, and are noted for their effective



POUNTNEY & CO., LIMITED, BRISTOL. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

Hewitt & Leadbeater, Willow Pottery, Longton, are manufacturers of useful and fancy sundries in white, art colours, and antique ivory. Mr. Leadbeater (formerly of the firm of Robinson & Leadbeater, Stoke) has had a long experience in the manufacture of these specialities. The firm's London agent, Mr. F. Findlay, is showing their samples at his rooms, Buchanan-buildings, 24, Holborn, E.C. The samples at present displayed include flower holders, fern pots, a large assortment of vases in numerous shapes and colours, and a special line in ecclesiastical and artistic statuary. The firm are very successful in their coloured effects in many forms. They are also happy in their ornamentations. We give an illustration of some of their treatments. The new ''Hop ware'' has hop bunches on dark green ground. This ''Hop ware'' in-



HEWITT & LEADBEATER, LONGTON. [*Photo. by the 'Pottery Gazette."*

decorations en suite. They are showing several of these and a number of fancy lines suitable for bazaars and the seaside trade. Their ''Bristol Art Ware'' is well adapted for presents, as well as for useful lines. Their ''Cock and Hen'' decoration is well known. The latest addition to this class of fancy goods is the ''Cat and Dog'' ware, from original designs by Louis Wain. We understand Mr. Louis Wain himself has expressed his approval of the fidelity with which his designs have been reproduced on pottery. The company are also manufacturers of high-class non-crazing semi-porcelain sanitary ware. In this department they are represented in London by Mr. Frank B. Thorpe.

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cludes vases (several sizes), jugs, jardinieres, &c. In the illustration the "hop bunch" is shown on dark green ground, and a very pretty effect is the result. The firm are successful manufacturers of art shapes and fancy goods on vellum ground. The three-handled vase to the right of the group belongs to this class. The "Rose" decoration on light ground is applied to innumerable art forms. Amongst the pieces illustrated are some very pretty "lily" flower-holders. These have a light lily (for holding cut flowers) on dark green stand. The firm are producing many statuettes of celebrities. There is still a demand for these, and those Mr. Findlay is showing are well modelled and artistically coloured. The "Daisy" Arms china, in great variety, is another special line of the firm. "Heraldic" ware for presentation purposes is supplied in many forms.



MR. W. H. LOCKITT, HANLEY.

Mr. William H. Lockitt has now been established at the Wellington Pottery, Hanley, for some seven years, and the growth of his business has been so rapid that he has already consolidated an extensive connection all over the world. In order to cope with an ever increasing output, he has just found it necessary to re-equip his works with modern machinery for the grinding of materials, while Wm. Boulton, Ltd., have lately installed for him an up-to-date sliphouse, laying himself out particularly to meet the requirements of the Colonial markets, while he also makes special lines in toilet ware of a composition suitable for the South American markets. At the present time he is introducing a number of new styles in toilet and dinner ware, several of which we illustrate. The "Victorian" is an effective shape, printed chiefly in flow blue and flow green, the design being early Victorian. This is a style which is being taken up by a number of potting firms just now, and it would seem as though we are in for something of a revival of Victorian tastes in these matters. The "Argyle" toilet ware has a bold shaped ewer which looks particularly smart. This shape has an oval basin, and lends itself well to the ordinary methods of decoration, as well as to shading in various art colours. The "Tudor" is another quite new production in toilet ware, and, as shown in our illustration, is decorated in a peach bloom design in two colours. The "Tudor" ware may be obtained shaded in various greens, or in any other colour customers may desire, in order to harmonise with the general scheme of rooms that may be in process of decoration. In dinner ware, the "Ionic" and "Jersey" patterns are both very neat and saleable patterns, and in teaware Mr. Lockitt is producing some exceedingly pretty designs. All the firm's productions are serviceable, and those who are looking for novelties in toilets, or for sound wares for markets abroad, will do well to communicate with Mr. Lockitt, who will be glad to send copies of his new illustrated design sheets (in colours) on application.



MR. ELIJAH COTTON, HANLEY.

Elijah Cotton is the name under which a well-known firm carry on business at the Nelson Pottery, Hanley. The site upon which the factory stands, at the junction of Nelson and Commercial-rds., Hanley, is one of the historic spots of the North Staffordshire potting industry. Ever since 1758 a factory has stood there, and though the present works are modern and up-to-date, one cannot easily enter them without one's mind travelling back to the days long past, when the art of the English potter was almost in its infancy. The name of Elijah Cotton, has been known to THE POTTERY GAZETTE readers almost, if not quite, ever since this journal was established, and our readers have been familiar now, for some time, with their advertisement, quoting our statement that C-o-t-t-o-n spells "Jugs." Messrs. Cotton lay claim to being the largest manufacturers of jugs in the world, and indeed, after passing through their warehouses, stocked with scores of thousands of those articles, few would care to dispute the claim. They manufacture for every market in the world, with the exception of the United States, and large consignments of their goods are regularly sent out to the South American Republic, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Mr. W. H. Lockitt, who manages the business, in conjunction with Mr. Edward Cotton, informed us on the occasion of a recent visit we paid to the works, that the oversea trade

of the firm has increased remarkably in recent years, in consequence of the goods made being suitable for the climate of all countries. No doubt, also, the special value which is given has something to do with the case. We are enabled, herewith, to illustrate several of Messrs. Cotton's most recent novelties. The "Gem" cheese dish is one of several entirely new shapes. It has an attractive floral litho decoration, and is shaded in various art tints. The "Chelsea," another cheese dish, has a spiral flute, and is also prettily decorated and stippled. Both of these lines have been produced to compete with the cheap foreign made articles, and the price of them will stand comparison with any imported goods. The "Togo," jug is a specimen of a number of imitation "Crown Derby" designs which the firm produce, the articles being very saleable. Messrs. Cotton make a speciality of metal covered jugs, especially in the cheaper lines, suitable for South America, and any country with a warm climate. Our next illustration, that of the "Stella" jug, represents quite a new shape. It is not an easy matter now to strike an original line in any department of potting, but this shape is an entire novelty. The "Stella" jug, as will be seen, has a good wide top, which enhances its utility while it is also ornamental. The one illustrated has a handsome purple design and the embossments are richly traced in gold. Another leading line of Messrs. Cotton's consists of toilet pails, with wicker handles. These are much more cleanly than the old metal pails, and are largely in demand for all markets, both for ordinary domestic purposes, and also for hospitals and other public institutions. Other productions of the firm which call for mention in jugs, are the "Clifton," "Shell," "Willow," and "Coronation" patterns. The last-named which bears portraits of the King and Queen, was originally produced, as its name indicates, in connection with the accession of King Edward, but it is now in bigger demand in the colonies than it even was when the Coronation took place. White jugs are manufactured by the firm in bewildering variety, while there are innumerable lines in children's mugs, with smart floral and figure lithos. The swan-shaped flower and plant holders made at this pottery are excellent productions, and may be obtained in several different sizes. Messrs. Cotton have just issued new litho sheets, which admirably illustrate their principal new patterns and designs.

S. Hancock & Sons, earthenware manufacturers, Gordon Works, Wolfe-street, Stoke-on-Trent, have removed their London showrooms from Charterhouse-st. to 5, Buchanan-buildings, Holborn, E.C. The new premises are lofty, light, and well fitted. Buchanan-buildings have become a popular home for the London showrooms of pottery manufacturers. S. Hancock & Sons' rooms are on the first floor, and there is a safe and comfortable lift for those who do not wish to walk up to that floor even. There is an entrance to Buchanan-buildings from Fetter-lane, which brings the showrooms there into close quarters with Bartlett's-buildings, Thavies-inn, St. Andrew-st., Charterhouse-st. and Hatton-garden. Holborn-circus, round which these places cluster, is what an American would call the "hub" of the pottery trade in London, so that S. Hancock & Sons' showrooms are conveniently situated for buyers. The firm have appointed Mr. A. E. Hancock their London representative, and that gentleman is now showing a full line of samples of the firm's manufactures, which include a number of novelties for the coming season. The principal productions are dinner ware, vitreous hotel ware, toilet ware, art trinket sets, vases, and fancy goods. In all these lines shapes and ornamentations are as pleasing as they are varied. The firm celebrated their jubilee last year. The art of the potter can only be mastered by the actual manufacture of pottery. With their fifty years' experience, therefore, they may be trusted to supply good pottery tastefully decorated.

Mr. Ernest Syer, 45, Hatton-garden, London, E.C., is an importer of good and medium-class Continental glassware. Mr. Syer is an up-to-date man, who has had a wide experience in the glass trade both in this and other countries. A special line of his at the present time is in table-glass ware in heavily cut brilliant Swedish crystal. He keeps loose stock of this in London, or he can supply it in original cases. Mr. Syer thoroughly understands this class of trade, and dealers will be safe in accepting his advice as to lines that are good value. Mr. Syer took part in the discussion in our columns on the suggestion to change the trade showdays. He is a strong advocate for making Wednesday and Thursday the trade "show-days" for London. When he found that the suggestion to change the day was not receiving any considerable support he proceeded to make the change, so far as his particular business was concerned. But seeing that Tuesdays and Fridays are retained by so many he could not ignore them altogether, so he has announced to his customers that he attends his rooms on Tuesday mornings for those who have to come to other showrooms on that day, and he attends on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon for those who tell him they can best come up on their early-closing day. Mr. Syer suggests to those who take holiday or rest on their early-closing day that perhaps they will call on the other one afternoon they do not themselves close if Tuesday morning is not suitable for them. Mr. Syer is a wholesale importer of glass and china, and is agent for medium grades of English china and earthenware.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. POINTING.

ON Saturday, March 14, at the Middleport Pottery, Burslem, Mr. James Pointing was presented by Messrs. Burgess & Leigh with a handsome silver rose-bowl, suitably inscribed, on the occasion of his leaving the service of the firm. The presentation was made in the presence of the heads of departments and members of the firm by Mr. Edmund Leigh, who expressed the regret with which his partner and himself accepted the necessity which terminated Mr. Pointing's connection with them. He had been in their service for a period of 11 years, and it was in no formal manner, said Mr. Leigh, that his partner and himself wished to pay tribute to the ability and devotion with which Mr. Pointing had discharged his duties, duties which had become increasingly onerous and responsible year by year. They hoped the change would have at least one result, namely, that his health, which had been unsatisfactory for some time, would be completely established.

Mr. J. Williamson, on behalf of the office staff, and the managers of the various departments then presented Mr. Pointing with a pair of pretty silver flower-holders, and expressed regret that his pleasant association with his colleagues was about to be terminated. He re-echoed the remarks made by Mr. Leigh in wishing Mr. Pointing a speedy return to complete health, and trusted that he and his good wife might be spared for many years of happiness and prosperity.

Trade Marks in Japan.—Negotiations are in progress between Great Britain and Japan with regard to the use by Japanese firms of British trade marks, concerning which complaints have been made by British traders in the Far East. There is reason to believe that an agreement will shortly be concluded for the protection of British trade marks in the Far East.

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SOME GLASS AND CHINA SHOPS IN THE MIDLANDS.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

"THE Midlands" is rather a vague definition for my present short tour, but it is the most convenient one. I made a short visit to only five towns, but they are in three counties. As they are all Midland counties, I am correct in saying I visited a few glass and china shops in the "Midlands." It may seem almost superfluous to say much about the locality in which a shop is situated, when talking about the shop itself, its proprietor, and its business. It is, however, quite necessary to do so, in order to understand the class and extent of trade that is done there. To-day, more than at any previous date, locality has very much to do with trade possibilities, and it is likely to be a still more important factor in retail business in the near future. Half a century ago, a moderately sized town, fifty miles from London, was an important distributing centre itself, and as far as pottery and glass, at any rate, were concerned, the retail dealers there obtained their supplies from the manufactories, and the public for miles round went to them for their requirements. Dealers had to compete with their fellow traders in their own town, and as far as outlying districts were concerned, they had to compete for part of the trade there with dealers from the nearest town of similar importance to their own. But the conditions of retail trade have altogether changed since then. The towns included in my present tour were Banbury, Leamington, Warwick, Coventry, and Nuneaton. Fifty years ago, four of these were distributing centres, sufficiently removed from other centres to have only each its own local competition to contend with. I have no doubt the worthy shopkeepers of that date complained about competition, all the same; but it was as nothing compared with the competition retail dealers in all industries have to contend with to-day. Facilities for travelling and for the carriage of small parcels have caused the change. It is not altogether that the residents there are able to come up to London so frequently, so quickly, and so cheaply. They can also get even more conveniently to Birmingham, and I am told that ladies, with the quick travelling available, do much of their shopping away, instead of in their own town. The only way to meet this is for dealers to make the personal acquaintance of their customers as far as they can, to ascertain their particular likings and dislikes, and to make every effort to supply just what they want. The tradesman even in a town like Leamington, with its 27,000 inhabitants, has an opportunity of securing the confidence, which soon grows into the respect, of his customers, which the dealer in London or Birmingham cannot have.

BANBURY.

I was surprised to find that so much business in our goods was done in Banbury, when I remembered that it has only 13,000 inhabitants. It is an interesting old town, about 71 miles from London by road, though the railway distance is about 86 miles. It is a market town, a municipal borough, and a Parliamentary division. It is served by several railways, and by the Oxford and Birmingham Canal. It is a well-built town and there are several breweries, but little manufacturing is carried on there. It produces agricultural implements, machinery, cabinet goods, linen garments, cloth, horse girths and—cakes. It was formerly famous for its cheese, but it has given its name to a savoury cake which has made the town popular all over the Kingdom. Its ancient cross, which is commemorated in the well-known nursery rhyme about "a black lady on a white horse," was destroyed long since. But the present Banbury Cross is a handsome structure, built in 1859, in commemoration of the marriage of the Princess Royal and Prince Frederick William of Prussia, father of the present German Emperor. Owing to the limitation of its manufacturing industries, Banbury has not increased in population like many other towns. Thirty years ago its inhabitants numbered 11,726, while at the last census they numbered 12,967. The retail tradesmen of the town are principally dependent on the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, who send agricultural produce to its market.

Mr. JOSEPH NATHAN, 9 and 10, Market-place, has the best and largest stock of pottery and glass in Banbury. I say "pottery" and glass instead of "china" and glass, because, while Mr. Nathan stocks an excellent assortment of china, which is nicely displayed in his shop, he also shows a large assortment of heavier pottery—brownware goods whose size would appal the genteel china dealer of the city. The Market-place, in which the shop is situated, is a large open space, and Mr. Nathan is, therefore, not restricted in his outside show as he would be under other circumstances.

Mr. Joseph Nathan has succeeded his father, Mr. Mark Nathan, in the management of the business. He calls his shop "Nathan's Stores," and seems justified in doing so. You cannot get grocery or drapery there, but the stock is very varied, and includes general furnishing, ironmongery, brushes, brooms, mats, trunks, and cutlery. But Mr. Nathan has a large and well-stocked glass and china shop all the same, and I was attracted to it by seeing, from a distance, his fine window display of pottery. Inside the shop there are samples of the latest (and some of the best) shapes and patterns in dinner, tea, breakfast, and toilet ware, and of the usual stock patterns of goods in everyday demand. There are stock rooms immediately over the shop and large warehouses adjoining, while heavy goods are stored at a wharf. Mr. Nathan seems to be continuing the best traditions of the business. He studies the interests of his customers. All goods are marked in plain figures, and prices are reasonable, while he solicits a class of trade refused by some dealers. He announces that he will undertake matchings and repairs. I notice that Mr. Nathan "specialises" with an attractive line in his window. This is varied from time to time. He was showing what he described as his "New Ivy Dinner Set," in pretty shades of green and brown, with low prices marked for sets of twenty-six and fifty-six pieces. It is good business to get the residents and market visitors into the habit of looking in your window to see what is fresh. This is of more importance in places like Banbury, where window displays are few, than in busier towns, though even there it is advantageous.

Mr. E. FLEMING, 4, Market-place, has a compact shop well stocked with glass and pottery of all useful kinds. He caters for a good medium-class trade, but stocks also the cheaper grades. He shows a varied selection of tea sets, dinner sets, and toilet sets, and the usual white and gold, fluted and banded stock patterns. Like other retail dealers in Banbury, he does not rely upon the residents for his trade. His principal business is with the residents of the outlying districts who come into the town to do their shopping. He does a fairly good family trade, but the market furnishes him with the majority of his customers. The number of carriers' carts coming to Banbury regularly from scores of places up to eighteen and twenty miles distant shows how useful a centre it is. To look at Banbury on a quiet day, a stranger would wonder how the tradesmen made a living. But they do. Rural residents do not want pottery and glass regularly every week as they do groceries and provisions, but they do need them, and they either come or send by the carrier for them to Banbury.

Mr. E. G. BLOOMFIELD, 52, High-st., has a good shop in a

leading thoroughfare. This was formerly Mr. Carter's shop, and claims to be the oldest glass and china warehouse in the town. It is well placed for business, as nearly all visitors must of necessity pass the door. The stock is nicely varied to suit all tastes, and includes all grades, but mostly those of medium quality. A leading feature is made of goods suitable for presents, and the collection is a good one. Mr. Bloomfield shows a large number of souvenirs in Goss china with the Borough Arms on them in colours. He is the sole agent for Goss Heraldic Ware for the district.

Chapman Brothers, High-st. and Broad-st., are general house furnishers. The bulk of their stock consists of furniture, carpets, curtains, &c., but they have a large stock of pottery and glass. They pay more attention to articles for household use—such as dinner, tea, and breakfast sets, toilet services, &c., with such glass as is used in households. Their business is furnishing houses throughout, and when they supply a family with their first outfit in domestic requisites, the probability is the customers will come again when they want things renewing. Chapman Brothers have good premises, but, of course, theirs is not a glass and china shop. There are many quaint buildings in Banbury, and one of the most interesting is the Red Lion Hotel, with its old courtyard, the entrance to which is flanked by pillars in the style of the fifteenth century, and they in turn by bow-windows. The red lion over the gateway reminded me of the lion which many years ago surmounted Northumberland House, Charing Cross. It is a very interesting old hostelry, with modern comforts and conveniences. I was pleased to hear that the proprietor encourages Banbury traders to the best of his ability. The quaint old-time buildings make Banbury very interesting to the visitor, and it will be a misfortune when they are modernised.

LEAMINGTON.

Leamington is one of the fashionable inland watering places. Though its rise to popularity was very rapid, it has not increased in size within the last twenty years so much as many other health resorts have done. Baths in connection with its saline springs were only first erected in 1786, though the curative properties of the waters had been noted since 1586. In 1811 its population was only 543. In 70 years it increased to 26,074, but since 1881 there was only an addition of 810 at the time of the last census, when the total was 26,888. The rapid increase in population up to the year 1881 was due to several causes. The saline springs were perhaps the first attraction, but the beautiful and finely sheltered situation, its aristocratic neighbourhood, and the fine hunting country by which it is surrounded all contributed to the growth of the town. The railway communication is excellent, and there are many places of historical and sentimental interest in the near neighbourhood. Nearly all the property is freehold, an important inducement to people of means, desirous of living in their own houses, to make it a place of permanent residence. Large houses, standing in their own grounds, surround the town, and this, no doubt, is the reason the population has not increased so rapidly in recent years. A knowledge of these facts helps us to understand the nature of the retail trade done in the town. Leamington has about it all the appearance of a "well-to-do" place. The private houses are handsome, the streets are mostly wide and well kept, and the shops are attractive. The arrangement of the streets shows it to be a modern town. The principal thoroughfares, in the centre of the town—Binswood-avenue, Beauchamp-avenue, South-parade, Warwick-st., and Regent-st.—are crossed at right angles by many other wide and important business streets. The finest thoroughfare is the Parade, which is in form a graceful curve up slightly rising ground. There are many interesting features about Leamington, but the one of most interest to me during my short visit was the shopping quarter. Many of the retail shops have been rebuilt within the last few years, and there are some handsome structures among them. There are several well-appointed shops in our trades, but, so far as I saw, they do not add much to the structural adornment of the town.

Mr. Edwin H. Hunt, No. 9, The Parade, has a high-class shop, well situated for a trade in best goods. He has a handsome front with lofty windows, and he makes an attractive display with best and medium class goods. Situate at the quiet end of the Parade, away from the busy centre, his shop has an attractive, yet sedate appearance, in harmony with the locality. It was a surprise to see the unusual length of the shop, stretching far away back to the street in the rear. The front section of it, devoted to a nice assortment of high class goods, is the shop proper, and is of good width. But looking down the long line of shelves on each side makes the premises look narrower than they really are. I imagine business of a cheaper character is done from the entrance at the rear, but of this I am not sure. I had a short interview with Mr. Hunt in the front section of his premises. The business was established by his father, upwards of forty years ago, and in that time a good and steady family connection has been formed. The bulk of this trade, as is usual everywhere, is a booking trade. Most of Mr. Hunt's customers have quarterly accounts. If these accounts were always paid quarterly the retail dealer would have no reason to complain. But even allowing for a certain proportion of deferred payments, the system of booking (especially where there are several adult members of the family) has its advantages. One of these is, that it prevents the customer shopping elsewhere. If a customer paid cash at every transaction, he would be more liable to make occasional purchases elsewhere. Mr. Hunt's stock of goods in the shop was very well arranged, and special lines were shown in the dainty way women like.

Mr. W. D. Woods, 43, The Parade, has a very lofty shop in a good position. Mr. Woods has a shop at Malvern, where he makes his head-quarters. He visits the Leamington shop periodically, but he was not there at the time of my visit. The display of glass, china, and art pottery was an excellent one. The trade catered for is evidently the better and medium class. Anyone in the trade would see at a glance that a judicious selection had been made in ordering the stock. Mr. Woods, of course, buys for both his shops, and as he stocks the most saleable and up-to-date goods, he can safely leave the selling of them to his capable assistants. Customers are fond of speaking of the advantage of buying at the Stores in the large variety offered them. A lady is far more likely to be pleased with a purchase made from a smaller but well-selected assortment of shapes and patterns than from one decided upon after a rather laborious inspection of a heterogeneous collection whose chief feature is its size. The stock shown is full of variety, and is large enough for any but the unreasonably fastidious.

Mr. W. H. Robinson, 48, Regent-st., has a capital shop of the better class. There is an attractive double front, and the window display is a good one. I saw Mr. Robinson hard at work in the early part of the day. He is evidently a good business man who thoroughly understands his trade. This is accounted for by the fact that he has been in it all his business life. The business was commenced by his mother nearly a quarter of a century ago. There is an air of refinement about the place that will, I am sure, commend itself to lady customers. Medium and lower priced goods are kept, but the cheaper goods are not in evidence so prominently as better qualities. They can be had if wanted, but the stock on show is quite in

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harmony with highly respectable Leamington. A large proportion of Mr. Robinson's trade is with regular customers—a family trade that has grown with the business. There is plenty to attract casual customers, and many articles suitable for souvenirs are shown for the benefit of visitors. In useful domestic lines there is a large variety, but when I remarked on this Mr. Robinson said it was not always large enough. Customers, he says, now want to see so much, and do not hesitate to say "they can have such a greater variety to choose from" elsewhere. It seems that the railway company issue tickets at cheap fares to Birmingham (only about twenty miles distant), thus inducing residents and visitors to go there to make purchases. It is the same all over the Kingdom; tradesmen in towns within about twenty-five miles of such important centres as Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, &c., all complain that it is becoming the custom to shop in large towns. The best way to counteract this is for the retail glass and china dealer in the smaller towns to encourage the personal element in shopping. In these towns there is opportunity for the dealer to become personally acquainted with the residents in his neighbourhood, and, by painstaking attention and courtesy, to secure their respect and confidence. When he has once done this, he is sure of their orders. Make your customers understand that you deal fairly with them and study their interests, and they will not leave you.

Burgis & Colbourne, Ltd., Bedford Stores, Leamington Spa, describe themselves as "general providers," and the description is a correct one, for there are few things required in or about a house that they do not keep. They have premises 80–86, The Parade, 29–35, Bedford-st., in Lansdown-st., Warwick-st., and elsewhere. They have a very well stocked glass and china shop, distinct from their other departments. Their goods are displayed very attractively, and the shop altogether presents some good features that are not easily described. It was the generally attractive arrangement of the goods that interested me. If I could have obtained a photograph of it as I wished, a view of the shop would have accompanied this notice. In addition to the usual business of a pottery and glass shop, this branch of the company's business is no doubt fed from the other branches. That is to say, persons who go to the company for their furniture are sure to be solicited for orders for china and glass. The china shop is well situated for business, and at the time of my visit, one afternoon, the attendants were kept fairly busy.

Mr. G. A. Quail, glass and china dealer, 105, Warwick-st., has a desirable position at the corner of Oxford-st. This I found a very interesting business. The shop has a frontage to two streets, and the contents of the windows appeal to passers in the street. I saw the premises first from the opposite side of the street, and was attracted to them by the words "Art Pottery" in large ornamental letters at the top of the building. I found the windows dressed principally with samples of useful domestic pottery and glass and some art pieces. On entering, I asked, as usual, for Mr. Quail—as I had seen his name on the fascia over the window. I was told he was "over at the other shop." I said, "Has he two shops, then?" and was told he had another one, but not a glass and china shop. As it was that shop I wished to see I produced my card, and was introduced to Mrs. Quail, who said she managed that business herself. A very few minutes' conversation with her convinced me she was quite capable of doing it. How she came to do so I will explain later on, but she said that she opened the shop rather more than ten years ago. It was an empty shop, and she had not been in the business before. She wanted a retail business, and, with the assistance of someone who did understand the trade she commenced as a china and glass dealer there, and had managed it ever since. I complimented her upon the stock and upon the arrangement of it. She displays an up-to-date selection of toilet, dinner, dessert, tea, and breakfast ware, in which all grades are represented except the low-priced. I found she stocks cheap lines (as every dealer of to-day must do), but she does not show them. I cannot speak as to shops in other trades, but the glass and china shops I visited certainly maintain the standard of respectability Leamington appears to live up to. Probably there are shops that I did not see, but all that I did visit cater for the better class of trade. Mrs. Quail has a good show of art ware and fancy goods, and both in these lines and in useful wares she has been well advised in her selection of manufacturers. Warwick-st. is a fine street and a busy one still, but I understand that since the opening of the Parade it has not maintained the position it had as a shopping thoroughfare. I expressed a wish to see Mr. Quail, and I was directed to his other shop a little higher up on the other side of the street. I found the name "Quail, Antique Dealer," over the door, and some old Staffordshire pottery and a variety of curios in the windows revealed the nature of the business. I told Mr. Quail I had called at the china shop, not knowing that he had any other business. Telling him I had heard that the other shop had only been open a little more than ten years, I said I assumed that "he had a much longer experience as a dealer in antiques." Then he told me the history of both businesses, which I must compress into a few sentences. He had been for forty years in a retail grocery business and had retired. He soon found that after his long and busy career a life of inactivity did not suit either Mrs. Quail or himself. He had always been a collector of old china and curios, and had also done a little in selling it. As it was an interesting hobby with him, he decided to make it a business, and he says he has been successful at it. Now he handles every class of antique goods—furniture, china, pottery, armoury, books, engravings, plate, &c. Mr. Quail gave me a useful insight into the manufacture abroad of modern imitation of old Staffordshire and other old pottery, but it would not be in order to pursue that subject here. It was when, after a short retirement, he decided to commence as an antique dealer that Mrs. Quail also decided to engage in business of some kind, and chose the china and glass. I have often said that our trades are specially suited for management by a good business woman. Some of the most attractive and best-managed glass and china shops I have seen in the provinces are controlled by ladies. I found pottery and glass handled by drapers and ironmongers in Leamington, as in other towns, though perhaps not to the same extent. But I saw there yet another competitor to the much-harassed china dealer. In "The Parade"—the best shopping street in the town—there is a hairdresser's shop, one window of which is filled with white china!

Tiles for Russian Housetops.—The District Council of Tiraspol is doing its best to get the peasants to roof their houses with tiles by reducing insurance premiums, making loans, &c. Some peasants are producing the Marseilles type of tile at 30 r. to 35 r. (60s. to 70s.) per 1,000, whilst the cost of the Marseilles tile is 58 r. to 60 r. (116s. to 120s.) per 1,000. In the German colony quite a large factory has been installed for the production of these tiles, which are fetching 48 r. to 50 r. (96s. to 100s.) per 1,000. The local clay is quite as good as Marseilles clay for the purpose. Unfortunately, means are wanting to put the manufacture in a really extended basis, and for want of proper moulding machinery the peasants' products lack quality. There i 50 per cent. of waste, says the "Viestnik Putei Soobschteheniya." Meantime, the demand exceeds the supply.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Mr. Houghton, china and glass dealer, has acquired premises at 458, High-rd., Chiswick, W.

Cheesman & Co., china and glass merchants, have opened premises at 173, High-rd., Tottenham, N.

Mr. W. Jarrett, china and glass dealer, has relinquished the business at 257, High-rd., Chiswick, W.

Mr. Humber, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 114, High-rd., Tottenham, N.

Mr. J. Johnson, china and glass dealer, &c., has acquired the business at 168, Green-st., Forest-gate, E.

Lade & Co., West India merchants, have removed to Falcon-chambers, Castle-st., Falcon-sq,, E.C.

Simmonds Bros., china and glass dealers, &c., have opened premises at 559, High-rd., Chiswick, W.

Mr. Ernest Ing, china and glass dealer, &c., has opened premises at 105, Mitcham-lane, Streatham, S.W.

Mr. E. Thomas, glass merchant, has removed from 27, Hackney-rd., N.E., to 20, in the same thoroughfare.

Jas. Best & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent, have been appointed as representatives of the Cheshire White Lead Co., Ltd., in the Pottery District.

Wm. Owen, Ltd., have opened a new china and glass department at their extensive premises, 12-22, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, W.

Mr. F. Hensher, china and glass dealer, 7, Harford-st., Mile End-rd., E., has opened additional premises at 4, Pitfield-st., Hoxton, N.

Evans & Co., china and glass dealers, &c., are about to re-open the premises, 515, High-rd., Leytonstone, E., where a fire recently took place.

Mr. William Liverton, china and glass merchant, has sold his business at Barnstaple and purchased that of Bobby & Co., Ltd., Margate.

Mr. H. Abrahams, china and glass dealer, 281, Whitechapel-rd , E., will shortly open additional premises at 291, in the same thoroughfare.

A. M. Copland (The Stroud Green China and Glass Stores), has removed from 157, Stroud Green-rd., Finsbury Park, N., to 159, in the same thoroughfare.

Mr. C. A. Shorthouse, warehouseman, stock buyer, and manufacturers' agent, has opened a large wholesale warehouse and showrooms at Westgate-st., Cardiff.

Mr. M. Bolsom, wholesale and export earthenware, china, and glass dealer, late of 302, City-rd., E.C., has taken larger premises at 19, Wentworth-st., Aldgate, E.

Page, Calman & Co., glass merchants, &c., during the rebuilding of their premises, 159-161, Commercial-rd., E., have taken premises at 177-181, in the same thoroughfare.

Mr. Ernest Schmatolla, of Berlin, consulting engineer and specialist in gas fire kilns and ovens, has opened a London office at Southampton House, 317, High Holborn, W.C.

Mr. P. M. Beck, china, glass, and earthenware merchant, having disposed of the lease, announces his intention of shortly vacating the premises, 126-7, High-st., Shoreditch, E.

John Warnick & Sons, glass bottle merchants and importers, have removed from 41 and 55A, Salisbury-st., to larger and more convenient premises at 98A and 100, Soho-st., Liverpool.

Mr. H. Heppenstall, 513, Church-st., and Clough-st., Rotherham, glass, china, tiles, and earthenware merchant, is opening another shop in the New Imperial Buildings, Rotherham.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—No china, glass, and earthenware dealer was gazetted as bankrupt in England or Wales during February, 1908. During February of last year only one was gazetted.

John Edwards, Hart & Co., shipping and commission agents, formerly of 1, Seaton-buildings, 17, Water-st., Liverpool, have removed to larger offices in the same suite of buildings. Their address now is 16, Brunswick-st., Liverpool.

British Clay Exports during February last included 3,592 tons of fire-clay, valued at £3,374 and 41,332 tons of other kinds, valued at £45,573. The total export of unmanufactured clay in February, 1907, amounted to 50,987 tons, valued at £54,618.

Diamond Pottery Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £3,500 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with J. Boulton and S. Hawthorn, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of earthenware, porcelain, china, and other articles made from marl, clay, or earth, &c.

Hollinshead & Walker, Ltd.—Registered capital, £12,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire business carried on at Liverpool as Hollinshead & Walker, and to carry on business of manufacturers of and dealers in glass, china &c. Registered office, 16 and 17, Cleveland-sq., Liverpool.

The Blyth Porcelain Co., Ltd., Longton, are represented in London by Mr. W. A. Cosford, and not by Mr. C. J. Pratt, as stated in our last issue. Mr. Pratt represents the company in the Eastern and South-eastern counties and part of the Midlands. The show-rooms in Gamage-buildings serve both agencies, hence the mistake.

The Nature and Structure of Porcelains.—This will be the subject of the Cantor Lectures to be delivered by Mr. William Burton, F.C.S., before the Royal Society of Arts at the lecture hall in John-st., Adelphi, London, W.C. The lectures will be delivered on successive Monday evenings, May 4, 11, and 18, at eight o'clock.

The Devonshire Potting Trade.—Our local correspondent writes :—Most of the small art potteries in South Devon continue busy, and work at the clay pits remains good, but trade at the large sanitary pipe and brick works is very bad indeed. Numerous "hands" have been discharged, and the works placed on short time.

China Millers, Ltd.—Registered capital, £10,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business known as Beech's Mills, off Sutherland-rd., Longton, and to carry on the business of potters' millers and merchants, manufacturers and decorators of china, earthenware, and other pottery, &c. The subscribers are : H. J. Colclough, H. Davies, R. Hawley, J. W. Beswick, G. E. Barlow, A. B. Jones, and W. Hudson.

The Glass-Sellers' Company.—This city company gave a banquet at De Keyser's Hotel, London, on March 19. Mr. Ernest E. Wild, the Master, presided, and among the principal guests were the Lord Mayor, the chairman of the London County Council (Mr. R. A. Robinson), the Sheriffs, the Hon. W. R. W. Peel (the leader of the Municipal Reform Party on the London County Council), and Sir Edwin Cornwall, L.C.C., M.P.

Priest, Marians, & Co., Ltd.—The directors' report for the year ended Dec. 31 states that the trading profit, after paying wages, general trading expenses, and providing for discounts, bad and doubtful debts, &c., amounts to £12,867, and after making various reserves, providing for directors' fees, depreciation of plant, premises, &c., and adding the undivided profit brought forward from 1906, the balance left for disposal is £12,173.

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Crockery Contract Open.—Tenders are invited for supplying crockery to the district asylum at Retreat, near Cupar, Fife, for period from April 15, 1908, to April 14, 1909. Particulars of the kinds and quantities required may be learned from the House Steward at the Asylum, and forms of tender will be supplied on application to Mr. Osborne, clerk to the District Board of Lunacy, Cupar Fife, with whom tenders must be lodged, accompanied by cautionary obligations for performance, by April 7, at noon.

New Trade Marks.—The only trade mark connected with the pottery and glass trades which was advertised for registration during March is the one shown in the illustration. The particulars are :—No. 299,103. Tiles of Earthenware. Class 16. T. A. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Furlong-lane, Burslem.——John Tams & Son, Stafford-st., Longton, have applied for registration of a design representing three birds in various positions and a wheatsheaf bound with hops. The mark is applied to their new pattern "Harvest" for Government-stamped vessels for public-house use.



The China Clay Trade in Mid-Cornwall at present is reported to be in a very dejected state, attributable to some extent to the American financial panic which dislocated trade there. As a consequence the mill-owners have been left with large stocks on their hands. The slackness in the trade usually takes place, as far as the American market is concerned, in the late spring and early summer. In the summer the mill-owners' supply of water decreases, and the demands are not so great. A very large quantity of clay for pottery purposes goes to Staffordshire, and, unfortunately, owing to the state of trade in the potteries, the demand is small. It is expected that America will soon resume its importation of china clay.

Potters and Lead Poisoning.—In the House of Commons on March 24, Mr. Alden asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he was aware that during the months of January and February of this year there were 17 cases of lead poisoning in the china and earthenware industry, as against 10 for the same two months of 1907; that 7 out of the 10 persons affected by lead-poisoning during the month of February this year were females; whether he could inform the House as to the number of china and earthenware factories represented in these cases; and how many of these cases had resulted in death. Mr. Gladstone, in reply, said: The figures quoted by my honourable friend are correct. The 17 cases occurred in 14 factories, and one of them was fatal. I am appointing a committee to make a further inquiry with regard to lead poisoning in this industry.

Revision of the Special Rules.—In the House of Commons on March 10 Mr. John Ward asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he was contemplating the appointment of a Departmental Committee to consider the revision of the special rules for the manufacture of earthenware and china, as a consequence of the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906; and whether, having regard to the technical nature of some of the processes, he would appoint a representative of the workers and a representative of the manufacturers upon such committee. Mr. Gladstone's reply was in these terms :—Yes, sir. I propose to appoint such a Committee. It is required on other grounds besides the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and its scope will be somewhat wider than the mere revision of rules. I propose to include in the Committee representatives of the workers and of the manufacturers.

Bottle-making in Scotland.—About a year ago indignant protests were being made by Scottish glass-blowers against the unfair competition of Continental firms, and it was then stated that many shiploads of bottles—the surplus stocks of foreign glass manufacturers—were being "dumped" at Granton and other ports in Scotland at severely "cutting" prices, not so much, perhaps, with the object of crushing the bottle-making industry of this country as in order to dispose of goods for which there was no ready home market. This grievance has now been practically removed, for while the bottle import has not decreased, the prices of the foreign article are no longer quoted below the rates ruling here. This is perhaps to be accounted for by improved trade abroad.—Messrs. Moncrieff's branch glass works in Perth are now in full operation, and are employing a large number of hands in the making of bottles and other glass ware. It is understood that Messrs. Moncrieff have made arrangements for the importation from Norway of several families of skilled glass workers.

International Commercial Travellers' League.—A meeting was held at the Cannon-st. Hotel, London, on March 21, to promote the establishment of an International Commercial Travellers' League. Mr. Lloyd-George presided, and was supported by many influential business men, representatives of embassies, colonial officers and consultates and delegates from several commercial travellers' associations in other countries. The President of the Board of Trade paid a high compliment to commercial travellers, and said that in spite of restrictions imposed by man, trade must always remain international. He wished the Union good speed, and said it would confer benefits at once on trade and on its members, and would be a missionary of peace amongst the nations. The following resolution, supported by Mr. Llewellyn Smith, permanent secretary of the Board of Trade, was carried unanimously; "That this meeting cordially approves of the proposal to establish an International League of Commercial Travellers' Associations, and expresses its opinion that such a league would tend to promote international commerce and the peace of nations."

Lead Poisoning.—The monthly memorandum of the Board of Trade states that the total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act in February was 50, and there was 1 death. In addition to these there were 15 cases of lead poisoning and 4 deaths reported during February among house painters and plumbers. During the two months ending Feb. 29 the total number of cases of lead poisoning reported under the Act was 95 (including 3 deaths) as compared with 66 reported cases and 5 deaths in the first two months of last year. In addition there were 32 cases of lead poisoning and 7 deaths among house painters and plumbers in the first two months of this year as against 28 reported cases and 5 deaths in the same two months of last year. In the china and earthenware trades there were 10 reported cases and 1 death in the month of February this year, as compared with four cases and 3 deaths in the same period last year. In the first two months this year there were 17 reported cases and 2 deaths in the pottery trade, compared with 10 cases reported and 4 deaths in the same two months in 1907.

Compulsory Character Notes.—A Bill making it compulsory upon employers to supply a reference note to a person leaving their employment and desiring one has been introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Richard Bell (Derby). The Bill holds that "every employer shall give to every person leaving his employment, by dismissal or otherwise, upon application made by such person, a certificate or character note in writing as to his or her general conduct and competence whilst in his employment, and shall give to the applicant a exact copy of any testimonial or character note relating to the applicant, which he may send to any other employer. For a breach of

this regulation, or for wilful and malicious false statements upon the part of the employer respecting the character or competence of the applicant, the measure proposes a penalty, on summary conviction, of not exceeding £25. The members supporting the Bill are Messrs. T. F. Richards (W. Wolverhampton), J. A. Seddon (Newton, Lancashire), C. Fenwick (Wansbeck, Northumberland), W. Hudson (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Enoch Edwards (Hanley), H. H. Raphael (South Derbyshire), and G. J. Wardle (Stockport).

Metropolitan Trade Fires.—According to the annual report of the Chief Officer of the London Fire Brigade, issued on March 7, seventeen fires occurred during 1907 on the premises of those engaged in the glass, pottery, and allied trades. There were six outbreaks in the shops of china, glass, and earthenware dealers, the causes ascribed being: light thrown down, four; light thrown from street, one; unknown, one. One fire, due to a light being thrown down, broke out at the workshop of a glass beveller, and this proved to be a serious affair. Four fires occurred at glass-making establishments, the causes being: candle, one; light thrown down, one; light thrown from street, one; unknown, one; and seven at painters', glaziers', and plumbers' works. These latter were due to: escape of gas, one; gas stove, one; hot ashes, one; light thrown down, two; spark from forge, two. Three fires were dealt with at pottery establishments; the cause of one is given as arson, of another overheat of boiler, and of a third the cause is unknown. The total number of fires in London during 1907 was 3,320, and of these 975 occurred in private houses. Amongst trades, licensed houses and hotels head the list with 84 fires, then come cabinet-makers 47, tailors 42, confectioners 42, drapers 38, refreshment houses 37, fried fish shops 35, and boot and shoe stores 31.

Recent Company Liens Registered.—W. H. Rhodes, Ltd., china dealers, Burslem.—£2,500 6 per cent. "A" and £4,000 6 per cent. "B" debentures charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled and unpaid capital, have been registered. ——Thomas Webb & Corbett, Ltd, glass workers, Stourbridge.—The re-issue of £1,000 6 per cent. debentures charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, has been registered.——British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Longton. —£3,000 6 per cent. debentures, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, has been registered.——Norwich Glass Co., Ltd.—Issue of £330 5 per cent. debentures, part of series created Jan. 29, 1908, to secure £500, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital (if any). No previous issue of same series. —— R. J. Parvin, Ltd. (glass merchants, Kilburn).—£3,000 5 per cent. debentures charged on the company's undertaking and property present and future, including uncalled capital, have been registered. —— Robinson & Leadbeater, Ltd. (porcelain manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent): The issue of £7,300 5 per cent. debentures, part of series to secure £7,500, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled and unpaid capital, has been recorded.

Kelly's Directories, Ltd., 182–3–4, High Holborn, W.C., have just issued the 1908 edition of their "Directory of the Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers of the World." This book brings together, in one volume, the names of the manufacturers, merchants, exporters, &c., of the United Kingdom, trading with the colonies and abroad, and also those of the more important foreign merchants (whether exporters to or importers from the United Kingdom), and, further, those of the manufacturers of the principal goods imported into the United Kingdom. The directory is divided into two divisions—(1) Colonial and Foreign, (2) Home. The Colonial and Foreign division embraces the British Colonies and possessions throughout the world, and the various foreign countries and their colonies to which British manufactures are exported. They are arranged under the following heads:—Indian and Colonial Possessions, Canada, Europe (Continental), the United States of America, America (Central and South), Asia, Africa. With each country is to be found a concise statistical account of its financial position, its ports and principal towns, with a short topographical account of each, together with classified lists of the consuls, bankers, merchants, commission merchants, brokers and shipping agents, and buyers of British goods, or manufacturers of goods exported. The Home division, which forms the second division of the work, contains the names and addresses of merchants and of actual manufacturers in the United Kingdom, classified in trades, and with as clear description as possible of the specialities of each manufacturer. Alphabetical and classified lists of the merchants and shippers exporting British goods are also given, showing the class of goods shipped and the markets to which they are forwarded.

Marking British Glass Bottles.—On March 18, the President of the Board of Trade received at the House of Commons deputations of workmen interested in the manufacture of glass bottles and in the manufacture of pressed and moulded glass. They urged that a mark of origin should be put upon such goods in order to differentiate them from the cheaper and inferior productions of foreign rivals who sent their glass ware to this country, whence it was often re-exported to British colonies and there obtained the benefit of the Colonial preference. Mr. Lloyd George said he doubted very much whether a thirsty man would refuse to drink his beer because it was served to him from a foreign bottle or in a foreign glass. Moreover, as any mark of origin would, doubtless, have to be at the bottom of the glass, it would not be seen until the man had already imbibed his beer, or until he was perhaps in a less favourable condition to discriminate. The question of marking goods was not quite so simple and easy as might at first sight appear. Many people had thought that to label an article as "made in Germany," or the like, would at once condemn it. But what was the real result? It was simply to advertise the source of foreign manufactures. This showed how dangerous it generally was to interfere with trade by Act of Parliament. Nothing would please him better than to see all their furnaces going and their men finding ample employment, but he was not yet quite sure that that would be the effect of what was recommended. They could not compel customers to buy only articles manufactured in this country, and their recommendations, if adopted, would have to be applied to many other articles as well as glass ware. This country lived in a glass house in this respect, and must take care not to put itself into a position whereby that glass house might be more or less smashed by an indiscretion. He promised to consider their views as part of a general case. He was not sure that patriotism counted for much in the choice, for instance, of a glass in which a customer imbibed his beer. But in cases of undoubted fraud, as where glasses were brought from abroad and re-exported, say, to Canada, as English, in order to get the benefit of the Colonial preference, he should do his best to help them to stop that sort of thing if they gave him evidence of its existence. It was part of the duty of the Board of Trade to see, so far as it could, that British commerce was legitimately protected from dishonesty, and the machinery of the Board of Trade was available with a view to checking palpable deception in such matters.

Richardson Hall, Wordsley.—The formal handing over he munificent gift by Mr. W. H. Richardson of a public

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hall at Wordsley to trustees on behalf of the parish took place on Saturday. March 7. All the trustees were present —viz., Major Joseph H. Smith, J.P., Mr. W. H. Stuart, J.P., Mr. H. S. Pitt, J.P., Mr. O. Gibbons, C.C., Mr. B. F. Mason, Mr. W. H. A. Richardson, and Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Richardson, as well as the solicitor, Mr. G. F. James. After the completion of the trust deed, Major Smith heartily thanked the donor on behalf of the inhabitants generally for the splendid gift of the hall, in memory of his sister, the late Miss Martha Haden Richardson, and said he thought the idea of handing over the yearly profits arising from the letting of the same to the Art and Technical School, to form the "William Haden Richardson Scholarship," was a very wise and philanthropic provision, and one that, wisely used, would very materially benefit the present and future generations. Mr. W. H. Stuart spoke of the generous benefactions of Mr. Richardson in this and other directions. Mr. Owen Gibbons thanked the donor for the gift, and for his long continued practical help to the Art and Technical School, and promised that a scheme of scholarships should be drawn out to be submitted for approval. Mr. Mason said he was proud to be associated in the founding and carrying out of that scheme for the betterment of the district in the building up of the Technical Institute. It was impossible to foresee in the beginning of any forward movement such as that, to what extent it might develop in after years, but the establishment of a scheme on proper lines must tend to the betterment and uplifting of the neighbourhood. Mr. W. H. Richardson, in reply, said he was very pleased to be able to hand over the building absolutely to the trustees, and trusted that now it was well fitted, warmed, and lighted it would be used in many ways, without any restriction of creed or party, for the general good, and that in the general comfort of the hall, and in the value of the scholarships, many would benefit both now and in generations to come. He had been delighted to be able to go over the Technical Institute recently, and to find there one section, of boys, being trained at the bench in skill of hand and eye, and another section, of girls, in the useful art of cookery. By such training the boys and girls would be better fitted to fill useful spheres in later years. He had also inspected the other working-rooms of the institute, and was very pleased to know that they had such a complete and useful institution in their midst. He thanked Mr. Smith and the other trustees for their kind remarks.

Tenders Accepted.—Brentford Board of Guardians has accepted the tender of Finney & Co., Hammersmith, at £151 3s. 8d., for the half-yearly supply of earthenware. There were six tenders, ranging from that accepted to £213 5s. 6d.—Bermondsey Borough Council has received the following tenders for the annual supply of bottles of the Public Health Department :—Estimated quantity required : 6 gross green ovals, 5 oz., (1) Adcock, Easton & Co. 9s., (2) Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. 8s., (3) E. Youldon, Ltd., 8s. 3d. (accepted), (4) W. Smith 8s. ; 6 gross green ovals, 8 oz., (1) 9s. 6d., (2) 11s., (3) 8s. 3d. (accepted), (4) 8s. 6d. ; 1 gross white flint Mexican flats, 3 oz., (1) 9s. 8d., (2) 8s., (3) 7s. 6d. (accepted), (4) 8s. ; 1 gross, globe stoppered cannon essence, 2 oz., (1) £1 11s. 3d., (2) £1 1s., (3) £1 4s. (accepted), (4) £1 7s. ; 5 gross dark blue fluted poisons (lettered "Poison"), 20 oz., (1) £1 3s. 6d., (2) £1 3s., (3) £1 3s. (accepted), (4) £1 2s. 6d. ; 3 gross white flint screw pots (tall) with tinned steel caps and indiarubber wads, 1 oz., (1) 16s. 10d., (2) 17s., (3) 16s. 6d. (accepted) ; 6 gross white flint screw pots (squat) with plain tin caps, 3 oz., (1) 14s. 5d., (2) 9s. 6d., (3) 9s. (accepted) ; 3 gross white flint screw pots (squat) with plain tin caps, 6 oz., (1) £1 1s. 8d., (2) 19s., (3) 13s. 3d. (accepted). The French Flint Glass Bottle Co., Ltd., quoted for bottles not of the description specified.—Kensington Guardians have received the following tenders for the annual supply of earthenware, china, and glass :—W. Huntsman (accepted), £129 5s. ; Atkinson & Co., Ltd., £152 7s. 2¼d. ; J. Shingler, £155 12s. 10d. ; A. E. Shepherd, £156 12s. 9d. ; J. Green & Nephew, £172 1s. 8d. ; Army & Navy Co-operative Society, Ltd., £270 19s. 4d.—Islington Board of Guardians has accepted the tenders of W. Huntsman and Besurch & Co. for the supply of earthenware.—Lewisham Guardians has accepted the following tenders :—W. Huntsman, earthenware, &c. ; Middleton Bros., glass, &c.—Ealing Board of Guardians has accepted the tender of Finney & Co., Hammersmith, at £151 3s. 8d., for the supply of earthenware, glass, &c.—The tender of Mr. W. Huntsman for the supply of glass and earthenware has been accepted by the Croydon Board of Guardians.—Mr. W. Huntsman's tender (£239) for the supply of earthenware for twelve months has been accepted by the Greenwich Guardians.——The Managers of the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum have accepted the tender (£267 15s. 9d.) of Mr. W. T. Legg, 129-31, East India Dock-rd., Poplar, E., for the supply of earthenware.——The Mile End Guardians have accepted the tender (£69 14s.) of Mr. D. Shepherd, 259, Whitechapel-rd., E., for the supply of earthenware.——The Hammersmith Borough Council have accepted the tender (£20 17s.) of H. G. Mayer & Co., Aldersgate-st., E.C., for the supply of arc lamp globes and lamp shades.——The Chertsey (Surrey) Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. W. Huntsman, Upper-st., Islington, N., for the supply of earthenware.

STENCILLED ORNAMENTS FOR POTTERY.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

MANY years ago the writer was shown some results obtained by the use of stencils. The application was on woodwork. A severe semi-Japanese ornament was applied by means of a stain to some wooden panelling. So neat and clean was the result obtained that a master painter who inspected it a few days afterwards, asked if the ornament was inlaid. Now, although no one looks for inlaid work in vases, jars or bowls—it is too expensive—still, it is possible to produce very effective decorative results by the judicious use of stencils. On the Continent this use has been carried to a high degree of success. Wares bearing four and five colours, all neatly keyed together, are not uncommon.

Some years ago a plate part of a dinner service was shown, so well and carefully done that it proved a puzzle to the unwary. The absence of the dots or lines of the engraver showed at once it was no transfer from a copper plate, whilst its strength, evenness and firmness effectually proved it was not the work of a lithographic transfer maker. It was a very nice dinner plate in two shades of green in diapers. It was asserted to be produced much cheaper than printing, and it was certainly quite as effective, and much more original looking. Not one in fifty would have guessed how it was done.

Another development of the same firm was the decoration of ewer and basins for cheap toilet sets. Everywhere the peasant and farm labourer like strong and brilliant colour ; the faint and delicate style of colouring so much approved across the Atlantic has no charms for Jacques Bonhomme, Deutsche Michel, or English Hodge. It must be strong and brilliant, and this result the stencil can give cheaper and more effectively than any other mechanical means ; and, since the use of the spraying machine, it has been possible to bring out results that previously were unobtainable except at too high a cost.

Like all other mechanical means of decoration, the stencil, to be of value, must be used in the production of

large quantities of ware, and is best fitted for simple forms. In Eastern Europe there are some firms which bring out quite a series of mugs, plates, ink sets of a form specially designed, and toilet sets. The glaze is of a brilliant golden tint, the ornament, silhouettes in black, with touches of other colours. Farmyard incidents are not uncommon, and one very favourite silhouette shows chanticleer crowing vigorously. Another method much practised is the application of some simple running ornament around, say, a mug or bowl. Here the stencil covers the ornament, and the colour forms the background, displaying the ornament, say, an ivy leaf, in the colour of the ware. This is, of course, the exact reverse of the ordinary stencil. The actual manner is decidedly ingenious.

In the vast majority of instances the design is cut out of some thin material, sufficiently firm to bear handling, and flexible enough to admit of application to gentle and regular curves. Ornament of a delicate and intricate character is not much desired, as the "ties" become too frequent and destroy the force and strength of line of the ornament. This can be obviated by a second stencil in which the "ties" are made the stencil, and the original stencil is just sufficiently indicated to enable the workman to "key" the work properly. In the class of decoration to which reference was previously made, the stencil, if it can be so called, is of the form it is desired to produce on the ware. The object, let us say an ivy leaf, may be cut out in thick tinfoil, laid upon the biscuit ware, and colour "blown" around it. The result would be a white ivy leaf on, we will suppose, a dark green background. As described, the method would be altogether impracticable as a commercial method, but human ingenuity has devised means of meeting the various difficulties, and one of the most successful is as follows :—

The ornament (let us again suppose it to be a wreath of ivy leaves) is to be applied to the outside of a number of bowls all of the same size. Extremely thin sheet brass or copper is taken, the design cut out sufficient to encompass one third of the bowl. The design is gently bent to the curve of the bowl, but to hold this against the ware whilst the "sprayer" does its work is a puzzle that has troubled more than one manufacturer. The simplest method is as follows :—The design having been prepared as stated, a stout strip of metal, bent to the same curve as the ornament, and having a wooden or other handle in the centre, is prepared ; then three or four spiral springs of fine steel wire, each a couple of inches long, are soldered to the stencil and to the frame. The worker has only to take hold of the handle with his left hand and apply the stencil to the ware ; the gentlest pressure will hold it down, whilst with his right hand the spray-producing instrument is manipulated.

The author watched a number of girls, a little while ago, decorate with remarkable rapidity mugs for bazaars and market stalls, and by their dexterous use of the stencil and the sprayer were able to produce astonishing softness and delicacy of outline ; all the more so, when the seeming rudeness and simplicity of the means were considered.

It is somewhat surprising that the use of the stencil has not been introduced in the decoration of wall tiles. It is true that some years ago a few tiles were made in this manner, yet there is a field here for really beautiful effects that cannot be obtained in any other manner. If any tile manufacturer wishes to make an experiment, let him cut out some simple pattern, apply it to a biscuit tile, and blow sufficient coloured glaze to give the tile a good "glazing." When the pattern shows, then remove the stencil and blow over the whole tile some of the complementary coloured glaze—both glazes should be transparent. The result will be a pattern in transparent colour, and the effect, if the colours are well chosen, is charming. It is a somewhat expensive method, but a market may be found in supplying the few who desire choice wares, and are willing to pay a slightly enhanced price. Space forbids further extension of this theme, but enough has been said to show that in this old and somewhat despised method there are possibilities of profitable employment.

POTTERY MANUFACTURE IN THE TRANSVAAL.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

In the course of a sitting of the Customs and Industries Commission held at Johannesburg on Feb. 5, evidence was given by Mr. Harold Emery, late of Hanley, on behalf of the Consolidated Rand Brick Pottery and Lime Co., Ltd., manufacturers of sewerage and drain pipes and all connections, fire bricks, crucibles and muffles for assaying, bricks of all kinds, blue hydraulic, and lime. A new factory is nearing completion, which will supply high grades of pottery products, such as white glazed goods, lavatory basins, &c., tiles of every description, and crockery and earthenware of all descriptions. The witnesses considered that new industries had enormous possibilities. The only imported products required are plaster-of-Paris, soda, and felspar, all of which will no doubt in a short time be produced in this country, but the proportion of imported products would not at the most exceed ½ per cent. The industry employs at present 35 whites and 200 natives. They considered that the Customs Union Convention had been helpful, and advocate a continuance of this policy. The preferential railway rates have been beneficial to a certain extent, but they suggest a cheap export rate similar to that given to grain, coal, and lead ore, which would enable this industry to compete with imported goods in the coastal towns. Preferential railway rates should certainly be given, especially on raw materials obtained in the Colony, and on all goods manufactured from same. The railway carriage on local manufactured products, they considered, should not be higher than on unmanufactured products. They did not consider that any means of protection other than prefcrential railway rates would answer. The deposit of clay at the factory was equal to any in England, but about half the materials necessary for pottery, such as kaolin, quartz, &c., had to be brought from other places in the colony. Several specimens of earthenware and glazed tiles made entirely of Transvaal material were exhibited. Mr. Emery, continuing his evidence, said that a duty of 15 per cent. was sufficient, but as a fact protection was not necessary. The pottery industry would give employment to a number of young people, who could be taught the gentler arts of pottery. There was no need to indenture apprentices for long periods, as was the case in England. Replying to Mr. Wolmarans, witness stated that he hoped to have the factory opened for commercial purposes in April. It was quite possible that the fine pottery industry might develop into an export trade to Australia and to India. Replying to the chairman, the witness said he considered that jam pots and pickle jars could be made here in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of the country. He thought that the Government should give preference to local factories when ordering goods for prisons and for Government offices.

Hollow Glassware, naturally coloured, to the weight of 97,814,200 kilos, and valued at £782,500, was exported from the German empire last year.

Belgian Glassware Exports during 1907 were as follows : —Coarse, 31,695,100 kilos, £661,400 ; fine, 501,500 kilos £63,200. All these figures show an increase except the quantity of fine ware exported, which has declined, though the value has increased.

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Reviews.

The Arts and Crafts of Older Spain. By LEONARD WILLIAMS, Author of "The Land of the Dons," and Corresponding Member of various Spanish Academies. London and Edinburgh: T. N. Foulis. 15s. net.

FIRST NOTICE.

THIS is one of "The World of Art Series" of publications, and is a useful addition to a private library. "The Arts and Crafts of Older Spain" are full of interest, but they are not nearly so well known in this country as they should be. The author has aimed at giving "a complete account" of these arts, and if he has not exactly achieved



FIG. 1.—VESSELS OF SPANISH GLASS.

the object aimed at, he has gone a long way towards it. The arts and crafts of Old Spain are both numerous and interesting. The author was more likely to come to grief by reason of the abundance of materials at his disposal, than by paucity of them. The wonder is that a work on these lines has not been attempted before. Why do so many people pass through Spain without taking greater interest in a country with such a romantic mediæval history and with so many natural advantages? More than twice the size of Great Britain, Spain has within its borders examples of every kind of climate to be found in the northern hemisphere, except that of the torrid zone. The greater part of its provinces, however, have a climate as equable as that of the West of England.

The work is issued in three volumes, but as they together form a concise summary of the arts and industries of Older Spain, they are only issued together at the published price for the three, and are not sold separately. The first volume treats of gold, silver, and jewel work, ironwork, bronzes, and arms. The second one deals with furniture, ivories, pottery, and glass; while the third volume is devoted to Spanish silks, cloths, and novelties, embroidery, tapestry, and lace.

Each subject is dealt with in a way calculated to inform the general reader, as well as to interest the connoisseur and the student. To readers interested in the whole subject, rather than in any one section of it, the last volume, devoted exclusively to textile fabrics, will doubtless prove the most attractive. Early silks, tapestries, and laces are fascinating subjects (especially to those who happen to possess genuine specimens of them), and the author has no doubt acted judiciously in devoting greater space to them. We regret, however, that we must limit ourselves to but brief comments upon the last chapters of the second volume—those dealing with pottery and glass. There are two reasons for this: in the first place we cannot spare space to review the entire work in detail; in the second place (honestly speaking, we perhaps ought to give this as the primary reason), we are not competent to speak critically about gold and silver, furniture and ivories, tapestries and lace. We are on more familiar ground when dealing with pottery and glass—so we will remain on it. We propose to deal with the section on "Glass" in this issue, leaving that on "Pottery" for a second notice.

Glass is always interesting as one of the oldest and most general of manufactures. It is not the sort of thing which different men would readily invent. While we smile at Pliny's little anecdote, we think it most probable that the manufacture of glass had a common origin, and it may well have been something in the nature of that described by the famous Roman writer. Mr. Leonard Williams tells us in his book that "small vessels of uncoloured glass belonging to the Celtic period have been discovered in Galicia, so that the origin of this industry in Spain is possibly pre-Roman," and he quotes Pliny's statement that "after the Conquest, glass was made here by the Romans who built their ovens with a celebrated potter's earth, extracted from the neighbourhood of Valencia or Tartosa." The Roman glass was, doubtless, imitated by the native Spaniards. Pliny speaks with admiration of coloured glass-work imitating precious stones. The author concludes that coloured glass in imitation of genuine precious stones was freely manufactured by the Visigoths, and adds that such imitations may still be seen upon crowns and other ornaments (whose discovery he speaks of in the first volume), as well as upon triptyches and weapons. A taste for imitation jewels forms an interesting trait of Spanish character, and has done so from the earliest period of the national history. "It is chiefly in the form of imitation gems that specimens of the earliest Spanish glass have been preserved to our time, although the characteristic of old Roman glass, which is known as "milk white' ornaments, in the form of a thread or line carried all over the surface of a vessel, remains until this day a common feature of the glass of Spain, besides being found in Spanish-Moorish glass-work."

The author refers to early glass-making in various centres, and says that not only was coloured glass made, but that the art of carving and graving intaglios was practised by the Spaniards from an early period of their history. He speaks of a treatise "entitled 'El Lapidario,' originally written in Hebrew (perhaps in the fourth or fifth century), brought into Spain some hundreds of years later, and subsequently translated in 1248 by command of Alphonso the Learned, into the Castilian language." This treatise contains some curious notices of the composition and colouring of old glass—including that of

Spain :—" Of the eleventh degree of the sign of Segittarius is the glass stone, containing a substance which is a body in itself (sand) and another which is added to it (salt), and when they clean these substances and draw them from the fire, they make between the two a single body. The stone thus made (glass) has many colours. Sometimes it is white (and this is nobler and better than the others), or sometimes it is green, or red, or purple. It is a stone which readily melteth in the fire, but which, when drawn therefrom, turneth again to its former substance; and if it be drawn from the flame unseasonably, and without cooling it little by little, it snappeth asunder. If an animal be hurt therewith, it openeth as keen a wound as though it were of iron." It thus appears that the knowledge that glass that is not properly annealed is liable to break, and that broken pieces of glass are liable to cut flesh, is of very ancient date. The author tells us that from an early period the Spaniards were familiar with the use of emery powder, of talc for covering windows, and of rock crystals. He describes glass made at various centres, and speaks in high terms of the famous factory of a village in Toledo province, called Cadalso. " Glass was produced in several towns of Castile, the most important being that of Cadalso, which supplied the whole kingdom." Ewers and bottles of Cadalso glass are mentioned in the Alberquerque inventory, and it is said the coloured glass was equal to Venetian. This was towards the middle of the seventeenth century. The illustration, Fig. 1, shows a group of vessels of Spanish glass of this period, now in the South Kensington Museum. The author's account of early glass making in Spain, of the products, and of the Royal edicts controlling and sometimes restraining it, are intensely interesting. His account of a factory established in 1720, at Nuevo Baztan, also in the province of Toledo, and under crown protection, is an object lesson in glass manufacture with which we in England are familiar. " The factory continued working for some years, and turned out excellent glass for exportation to America and other parts; but it was killed by the rising price of fuel, and above all by competition from abroad." When this celebrated factory closed, one of the experts who had been employed there, opened another glass works at La Granja, the Royal summer residence of San Ildefonso, and he secured the patronage of Philip V. and his consort Isabel. He made principally mirrors for the monarch. Beginning with small sizes, he gradually increased the dimensions, until in 1734 he produced some 145 inches long and 85 inches broad. These mirrors were the largest produced anywhere at that time, and they continued to be made until nearly the end of the century." " The largest mirrors are made in a brass frame, 162 inches long, 93 inches wide and 6 inches deep, weighing near nine tons. These are designed wholly for the royal palaces and for presents from the king." His description of the factory at San Ildefonso is full, and, of course (to our ideas) quaint. " There is also a glass-house in which bottles are wrote of a superior quality, and white glasses which are carved with much ingenuity." Our illustration, Fig. 2, shows specimens of beautifully ornamented drinking glasses from this factory. The author quotes Townsend (who wrote in 1786) as saying: " The glass manufacture here is carried to a degree of perfection unknown in England." The pieces we illustrate, however, were probably made long before that date. We are indebted to the publisher, Mr. Foulis, for the blocks used in our illustrations.



FIG. 2.—GLASS MADE IN SAN ILDEFONSO.

Glass Manufacture. By WALTER ROSENHAIN, B.A., B.C.E. London: Archibald Constable & Co., Ltd. 6s. net.

IT has frequently been said in the pages of THE POTTERY GAZETTE that it is a great advantage to both wholesale and retail dealers in pottery and glass to have some knowledge of the materials and methods employed in producing the goods they handle, and to be able to explain to their customers the characteristics of the different qualities. The most successful distributors in our trades are those who have had some experience at the works. There are, however, necessarily many dealers (and many more young men who are in training to become dealers on their own account in time) who have not the opportunity to obtain a practical knowledge at a manufactory. Happily there are facilities of acquiring much useful theoretical knowledge that will be of immense service to those who wish to make themselves intelligently proficient in their trade. Many works have been published dealing with the manufacture and ornamentation of pottery, and they cannot fail to be useful to distributors who will take the trouble to study them. There has not, however, been so much published about glass on the same lines. For this reason we were pleased when we received the work now under review.

The author, Mr. Rosenhain, is superintendent of the department of Metallurgy and Metallurgical Chemistry, at the National Physical Laboratory, so that his qualifications as an instructor cannot be questioned. But though a scientist himself, he has dealt with his subject in a clear and intelligible manner. Glass manufacturers will find in it much to interest, and probably something to instruct,

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them, but the work has not been written for them. "The present volume on glass manufacture has been written chiefly for the benefit of those who are users of glass, and therefore makes no claim to be an adequate guide or help to those engaged in glass manufacture itself. For this reason the account of manufacturing processes has been kept as non-technical as possible." The book has avowedly been written "chiefly for the benefit of those who are users of glass." Dealers come in contact with "users" every day. They are thus in a better position than an author or than a manufacturer even, to give the public useful information about the really beautiful art of glass manufacture. It is very desirable that dealers should qualify themselves to do this. The tradesman who can talk intelligently about the manufacture of the glass in every day use, and can explain the difference in quality—and consequent difference in price—is more likely to command the respect, and the trade, of his customers, than the merely mechanical salesman who knows little more about the glass he sells than the price of it.

As we have always felt strongly on this point, we confess to some disappointment when we turned over the pages of this book, and found that it did not deal with domestic glass as fully as we expected it would. Perhaps that was our fault in expecting so much, but as we are more intimately associated with domestic glass ware—useful and ornamental—and as this is not an unimportant national industry—it was perhaps natural on our part to look for some reference to it in a work on "Glass Manufacture," written by a departmental superintendent of a Government-supported laboratory.

The physical and chemical properties of glass, the raw materials used in its manufacture, and the processes used in the working of glass are explained. There is a chapter on bottle glass, and then a chapter of 13 pages is devoted to blown and pressed glass—rolled or plate glass, sheet and crown glass, coloured glasses and optical glass are dealt with in an able manner—all the more interesting to the general reader because the use of technicalities is limited. These subjects are skilfully handled, but they do not so directly concern those "users of glass" in whom we are interested, as we expected the book would. Leaving our own excusable partiality out of the question, we submit that in a work entitled "Glass Manufacture," and consisting of 264 pages "written chiefly for the benefit of those who are users of glass" (as the preface tells us), it is disproportionate to limit the references to "Blown and Pressed Glass" to 13 pages. But this is not all. In our opinion these are the most unsatisfactory pages in the whole book. The author is an English Government official, and he is writing about one of the most beautiful industries in the world—an industry in which England has excelled for upwards of a century—and yet he makes but one reference, and that a disparaging one, to English flint glass. We will give that reference in full. He has been describing the materials used in the production of the best qualities of glass, and he says (p. 109): "In these high-class products two very distinct kinds of glass are met with. One class, of which the Bohemian 'crystal' is the highest example, is chemically of the nature of an alkali—lime silicate, the alkali in the case of the Bohemian glass being potash; the other variety of glass contains no lime, its place being taken by lead, typical of this class being English flint glass." With the exception of these three words there is nothing in the book to indicate that flint glass is made in England. Admitting that in a work on "glass manufacture" generally, it was not absolutely necessary that English glass should be extolled, we should have thought that an English Government expert would not have missed the opportunity of mentioning "Stourbridge hand-made glass." The methods of manufacturing optical glass, rolled plate, sheet and crown glass are clearly described. Miscellaneous products are grouped in the concluding chapters. There is a useful index and a bibliography. It is quite true, as the author says, that the existing history of glass manufacture is very limited. He says: "In the English language, in particular, there are exceedingly few books and papers on the subject." He gives a list of them. We may, however, remind our readers that within the past twenty years many very useful articles on glass manufacture have appeared in our pages. We would remind them—and perhaps Mr. Rosenhain may be interested in knowing—that an instructive specially contributed article on English hand-made glass appeared in THE POTTERY GAZETTE for April, 1904. There were thirteen illustrations of the different processes.

The book is one of the popular "Westminster" series, and is produced in the excellent style of all Messrs. Constable's standard works. It is well printed on good paper and neatly bound in green cloth and gilt.

REMARKABLE SALES OF OLD CHINA

TWO of the most important sales of rare old porcelain which have been held for a number of years took place last month—the Dickins' collection sold at Christies', London, and the Skidmore collection sold by Hepper & Sons Leeds. The famous collection of old Dresden and Sèvres porcelain gathered together by the late Mr. C. J. Dickins, of Dickins & Jones, attracted buyers from Berlin, Frankfort, Munich, Hamburg, and other places. On the first day the sale lasted but two and a half hours, yet £19,839 15s. was realised. A Dresden soup tureen was sold for £231, a vase and pair of beakers for £110 5s., and a set of these vases for £399. Then a succession of high prices followed for crinoline figures, groups of lovers and dainty decorative pieces in the famous Dresden style. A lady and her pet dogs, with exquisite Watteau scenes painted on the stand, was sold to a German gentleman for £787 10s. Two Chinese boys, 8 ins., £262 10s. A group of lovers, 7 ins., £241 10s., and a greyhound, 6 ins..£105. The quarter of the globe, 11 ins.,, £630. The maximum price of £3,202 10s, was paid for a superb gros bleu and marbled gold jardiniére, 8½ ins. high, painted with a quay scene by Morin and flowers by Sioux, which is en suite to a pair in the Wallace collection at Hertford House. Amongst other notable prices obtained were £1,575 for two Louis Quinze vases, 7½ ins. high, and £1,050 for a pair of jardinières.

There was a large gathering of dealers and connoisseurs when Hepper & Sons offered the first portion of the Skidmore collection for sale at their rooms in East-parade, Leeds, on March 4. At the commencement the auctioneer explained that though they had been requested to include other goods in that sale, every lot he would offer had been the absolute property of Mr. Charles Skidmore. Included in the articles sold were small old English figures, vases, cups and saucers, &c. Some fine specimens of Crown Derby, pale blue ground and painted groups of flowers, "Spode" ware, Rockingham and Worcester, were all in demand and good prices were realised. The second portion of this sale, containing the more important lots, was announced for March 31 and to-day, April 1. There is a large collection of rare Staffordshire figures for sale and a quantity of miscellaneous china and pottery. There is also a collection of authoritative books on Ceramic art.

Rutile in Queensland.—An important find of rutile is reported from the Etheridge district, about four miles south of White Springs. Six loads were obtained and specimens sent to various assayers. This mineral is used in painting on porcelain and in the preparation of chemical compounds.

Empire Notes.

Empty Bottles are dutiable at 30 per cent. ad val. under the Newfoundland tariff, according to a recent decision.

Earthenware and china to the value of £338,482 were imported into the Australian Commonwealth during 1907. The value of the import in 1906 was £244,662.

Earthenware and glassware are dutiable at 3 per cent. on importation at Zeyla, and at 7 per cent. on importation at any other port in the Somaliland Protectorate.

Earthenware, China and Graniteware to the following values were imported into Canada during the eight months ending November, 1907 :—Great Britain, $909,089 ; United States, $167,122 ; Germany, $232,583 ; other countries, $252,110 ; total, $1,560,904. The import from the U.S.A. has fallen off. The other figures have all increased.

Indian Imports of earthenware and porcelain (excluding piping) during the last fiscal year amounted in value to the following totals. The figures for the previous year are given in brackets for comparison :—United Kingdom (£125.516), £134,368 ; Austria-Hungary (£16,806), £18,341 ; Belgium (£35,378), £35,127 ; Germany (£24,023), £44,214 ; China, Hong-Kong (£5,468), £5,058 ; China Treaty ports ; (£1,422) ,£3,280 ; Japan (£8,554), £8,768 ; Straits Settlements (£4,105), £5,101 ; other countries (£2,780), £5,137 total (£224,052), £259,988.

Encouraging a Canadian Pottery.—A fire recently destroyed the premises of the Standard Drain Pipe Co., Ltd., St. John's, Quebec, but this calamity is not to be allowed to drive the company away. The Town Council has granted a further exemption from taxation for ten years ; and, furthermore, as it is practically impossible to reach the premises of the company with a fire engine or the large fire-fighting apparatus, the town pledges itself, if the proprietor of the waterworks lay a 6 in. pipe to the entrance of the pottery, to continue this pipe for 1,050 ft., so as to be ready for any emergency in case of fire.

A Canadian Pottery Store.—We have much pleasure in reproducing on this page a photograph of the interior of the china and glass store of Mr. W. J. Simpson, 262, Portage-avenue, Winnipeg. The interior of the store is 23 ft. by 90 ft., and the firm occupy the basement, ground floor and first floor. The wall cases on one side are provided with sliding glass doors and glass shelves, and furnished with electric lights, which are placed on the inside of the case at the top. On the opposite side of the store, the wall cases are open, with projections at intervals of 10 ft. forming a series of alcoves. This plan admirably serves the purpose of allowing easy classification of the goods, and also has a tendency to confine the customers' attention to the particular goods they are interested in. The centre tables are 2 ft. by 5 ft. 6 in., and are fitted with drawers. The tops of the tables are covered with maroon felt. The woodwork of the store is weathered oak, dark green



A Canadian Pottery Store.

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finish. The walls are covered with maroon burlap, and the background of the cases is maroon felt. The shelves are part wood and part glass, arranged on adjustable brackets. Part of the shelving is furnished with plate glass mirror back for the display of cut glass, English rock crystal, tumblers and wines, vases, &c. The cashier's office, the proprietor's office, and the packing and receiving rooms are located in the rear of the store. The basement is devoted entirely to stock bins, and the upper floor is arranged for hotel and restaurant supplies, bar glassware, white china for decorating, American glass, common English earthenware lines, and kitchen utensils. The proprietor is giving special attention to high grade English china and finds a ready response from the people in Western Canada. He uses as a trade-mark a representation of the Canadian bison. Canadian silver plate, Sheffield cutlery, English electroplate, French bronzes, Continental metal wares, Limoges, German and Austrian china, American cut glass, Italian marble, and English earthenware and china, comprise the various stocks.

Commercial Travellers at the Antipodes.—We have received an interesting letter from Mr. Thomas W. Heath, 51, Palings-buildings, Sydney, New South Wales. Mr. Heath will be remembered by many of our readers as a representative of Burgess & Leigh, of Burslem, on the South of England ground. Mr. Heath is now a manufacturers' representative at Sydney, N.S.W., and we wish him success. We are always pleased to hear from members of our trades who settle abroad, and particularly when they can send us any news of the pottery and glass trades, or traders. Mr. Heath encloses an illustration and a newspaper description of a large and handsome building now being erected for the Commercial Travellers' Association of New South Wales. Of course this association takes in all industries, and has no special connection with the pottery and glass trades. Mr. Heath says commercial travellers in Britain will be surprised to hear that there is such a progressive body of travellers in Australia, and that there is such vitality and unity among them that they are able to invest £52,000 in a club for the members of their association. They have given £22,000 for the site at the corner of Moore and Castlereagh-streets—the best position in Sydney,—and they are now spending £30,000 on a handsome nine story building. The associations in the different states are united, and a member of any of the clubs in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Hobart and Launceston has the entrée of all the others. The first four, with the new Sydney buildings, are residential clubs.

THE L.C.C. GLASSWARE CONTRACTS.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

ON March 18, the London County Council considered, towards the end of an eleven hours' sitting, the recommendation of the Stores Committee that British tenders for glass ware be accepted in preference to foreign tenders, which were slightly lower. The matter has been before the Council since the early part of November last year. When tenders were first invited, there were two sets of samples, one of British, and one of foreign make, but as these were not identical, the prices quoted were not properly comparable. In these circumstances alternative tenders were invited for goods of British and foreign make repectively, and in one case of six out of 13 items no prices were quoted for goods of foreign manufacture. In all but two items the British prices were lower than, or equal to the foreign prices, and the extra cost of selecting the British firms would be £4 11s. 6d., or a little over 5 per cent. on the total value of the contract, £83. In regard to horticultural, window, and plate glass, only six per cent. of the goods tendered for were of foreign origin, and to give British firms preference would involve an extra expenditure of £38 4s. 8d., or 4 per cent. on the value of the contracts. In view of the small percentage of additional cost, the committee recommended the acceptance of the British tenders.

Lord Elcho moved the reference back of the recommendation. He urged that in dealing with contracts and tenders, members should forget whether they were Progressives, Tariff Reformers, or Free Traders, and remember that they were the trustees of the ratepayers, and as such should purchase as economically and efficiently as possible. They ought not to allow their political views to prejudice the interests of the ratepayers, or their own personal interest to influence their votes on the council. He would remind members that they had to administer laws—not to make them—and, even if they wanted the fiscal system changed, they ought not to try and bring it in by side issues. Because he considered these recommendations traversed the priniciple to which he had alluded, and sought to introduce fiscal reform in a crude and unscientific manner, he moved the reference back. Could any business be carried on successfully by adopting the policy of accepting high tenders and refusing low ones? How was this dole to a particular firm of English glass makers justified? There was no pretence that this recommendation would give permanent employment to a single English workman. The only justification given was the time-honoured excuse, "It is only a little one." If they began to differentiate between work for foreigners and work for Englishmen, they would next be asked to make a distinction between work for Londoners and work for country people. Every member would soon begin to clamour for protection for the workmen of his own constituency, and the only members who would be able to give an honest vote would be the Aldermen. The council should maintain the principle which had actuated it so far and accept the lowest tender made upon proper conditions by a responsible firm.

Mr. A. F. Buxton, late chairman of the Finance Committee, seconded the motion.

Mr. Shirley Benn opposed, on the ground that the Council ought to see that money provided by English ratepayers was spent in England. He congratulated the Stores Committee on their report.

The Council decided to accept the tenders of the British firms (Burtles, Tate & Co., Manchester, Clayton, Mayers & Co., J. Defries & Sons, Ltd., and the Hotel and Restaurant Supply Co.) for the supply of table glass ware, the difference in price, as compared with foreign tenders, being only £4 11s. 6d. The tenders for horticultural, window, and plate glass were referred back to the Committee, the disparity in price being greater, viz., £38 4s. 8d.

The Pottery Imports of Switzerland during 1906 amounted in value to £311,000, a decrease of £6,000 on the imports of 1905. The United Kingdom supplied goods, mostly sanitary fittings, to the value of £19,500. The following were the principal articles imported:—Porcelain and china, from all countries, £81,800; from United Kingdom, £320. Common and superior pottery, from all countries, £108,000; from United Kingdom, £2,700. Lavatory fittings of porcelain, from all countries, £24,600; from United Kingdom, £12,300. The imports from the United Kingdom of superior porcelain and china goods are quite out of proportion to the demand for these articles. German china was imported to the value of £53,500, or 65 per cent. of the total imports. The United Kingdom supplied exactly 50 per cent. of the Swiss imports of lavatory fittings, the remainder being imported principally from Germany.

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR FEBRUARY, 1908.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	Month ended February.		Two Months ended February.		Month ended February.		Two Months ended February.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany .....cwts.	6,285	3,845	10,361	9,184	£5,600	£5,529	£11,584	£10,349
,, France ..... ,,	7,063	4,404	10,907	7,239	4,698	7,602	11,768	13,834
,, United States of America ..... ,,	42,595	37,528	77,941	71,265	48,263	50,380	91,462	95,945
,, Brazil ..... ,,	15,919	21,918	27,800	39,158	10,248	10,935	21,233	23,124
,, Argentine Republic ..... ,,	25,172	27,715	60,470	57,317	13,542	18,143	32,543	35,914
,, British South Africa ..... ,,	10,595	12,490	24,597	19,302	7,400	7,104	15,872	12,865
,, British East Indies..... ,,	30,696	38,513	62,774	74,020	13,859	17,171	28,955	35,465
,, Australia ..... ,,	11,816	17,928	34,104	36,704	14,996	20,838	36,932	44,368
,, New Zealand ..... ,,	8,216	7,031	15,260	15,839	10,455	9,976	20,292	19,845
,, Canada ..... ,,	15,970	18,210	35,289	40,648	17,001	19,440	36,769	42,141
,, Other Countries ..... ,,	54,583	56,556	134,802	120,985	37,157	43,892	87,918	91,238
Made up as follows:								
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian..... ,,	1,410	1,695	3,655	3,341	11,800	11,821	28,595	25,757
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,	109,882	6,799	234,881	13,701	137,533	6,398	291,641	12,081
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... ,,		8,454		17,448		5,997		12,926
Sanitary Ware ..... ,,		14,600		27,179		22,248		39,434
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... ,,		107,259		217,069		135,798		274,701
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta ,,	31	1,921	55	2,886	39	2,093	119	3,379
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware ,,	106,467	99,686	233,160	195,540	20,856	18,029	47,182	36,803
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) ,,	11,180	5,724	22,554	14,497	12,991	8,626	27,791	20,007
Glass.								
To British South Africa.....value £	—	—	—	—	4,138	4,595	11,345	9,436
,, Other Countries .. .. ,,	—	—	—	—	95,867	94,077	199,456	198,756
Made up as follows:								
Plate Glass .....cwts.	10,184	10,045	25,230	23,736	15,497	15,640	37,967	37,123
Flint Glass ..... ,,	5,600	4,195	11,516	9,192	15,691	12,799	32,689	28,653
Glass Bottles .....gross	70,140	65,808	137,491	134,824	45,123	44,521	87,106	91,125
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	30,069	28,470	65,632	60,487	23,694	25,712	53,039	51,291

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE AND GLASS FOR FEBRUARY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian..cwts.	3,450	4,200	7,882	8,703	17,664	17,056	39,149	37,743
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,	19,816	1	44,123	46	41,653	3	82,170	95
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... ,,		5,027		8,340		2,261		3,925
Sanitary Ware .... ,,		—		10		—		28
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica).. ..... ,,		25,125		39,889		52,288		82,932
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta ,,	17	6	17	20	16	21	16	104
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware ,,	6,221	7,434	7,428	11,093	1,103	3,382	1,659	6,117
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware) ,,	2,305	2,486	4,299	4,960	2,933	3,523	5,687	6,860
Window and German Sheet Glass ,,	103,305	124,033	233,221	220,694	56,362	64,248	129,958	120,207
Plate Glass ..... ,,	32,063	35,275	72,454	58,792	41,626	42,948	90,639	72,320
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass ,,	57,177	57,370	126,058	114,157	81,510	83,513	184,912	168,105
Glass Bottles.....gross	100,496	131,748	216,244	251,028	38,938	53,444	85,223	102,039
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	642	873	1,844	1,690	963	1,257	2,282	2,304

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR FEBRUARY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ...cwts.	1,796	1,160	3,927	2,730	£8,132	£5,467	£17,859	£13,166
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement ,,	693	6	2,253	9	1,458	19	3,559	31
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)..... ,,		—		—		—		—
Sanitary Ware..... ,,		5		5		4		4
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)..... ..... ,,		682		1,566		2,118		3,812
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta ,,	8	—	8	—	25	—	25	—
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware ,,	—	1,182	—	1,182	—	728	—	728
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) ,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Window and German Sheet Glass ,,	546	713	714	1,029	324	315	412	502
Plate Glass ..... ,,	314	215	975	515	350	179	803	544
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass ,,	624	434	1,274	969	1,190	1,503	2,700	2,885
Glass Bottles .....gross	3,813	5,301	7,205	9,179	1,590	2,963	3,255	5,146
Glass Manufactures of other sorts ..cwts.	610	427	1,858	788	1,213	1,133	3,346	2,342

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EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, January 30 to February 26, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to February 26, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	488	622	909	1,116
,, New York	558	631	1,223	1,070
,, Baltimore	2,019	1,590	3,511	3,023
,, Philadelphia	326	233	512	431
,, New Orleans	556	525	1,088	1,193
,, Newport News	59	62	100	235
,, San Francisco	8	—	20	85
,, Portland, Me.	720	920	1,587	1,352
,, Galveston	69	66	270	160
,, Portland, Or.	—	—	—	20
,, Inland Points	—	21	36	105
Total	4,803	4,670	9,256	8,790

SCIENCE IN MANUFACTURE.

PRIZES were distributed to the successful students of the Stoke Science, Art, and Technical School, by the Mayoress at the Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, on Feb. 28. The Mayor presided, and Mr. J. H. Reynolds, director of secondary education for Manchester, attended to deliver an address.

Mr. F. R. Wooldridge, head master of the Science, Art, and Technical School, Stoke, presented his annual report. The list of awards indicated satisfactory progress on the part of the students. In thanking the art directors of different factories for their support in the work of the school, the head master called attention to that portion of the report, in which he says: "The importance of the school to the local industry, and the direct bearing which the study of drawing, painting, modelling, and design has upon the various branches of pottery decoration, make it very desirable that the co-operation of employers should be enlisted in order that every opportunity may be afforded the school to fulfil its primary purpose of ministering to the industrial requirements of the town." Mr. Wooldridge expressed his thanks to several manufacturers for their kindness in firing ware and otherwise assisting the students to carry out their work in the actual materials.

Mr. J. H. Reynolds, in the course of an instructive address, reviewed the good work done by evening schools, but said much more remained to be done. One seventh of our population were between the ages of 13 and 21 years, and there were thus about four and a half millions who ought to be in evening schools; yet, as a matter of fact, there were possibly less than a million in those schools. Personally, he was not in favour of compulsory education in evening schools. What they ought to do was to provide efficient means of evening education for those who were willing to be taught, and there was a large number of this class who might be reached if their efforts were put out in the right direction.

After comparing our position as a manufacturing nation with that of other nations, Mr. Reynolds pointed out the important part played by

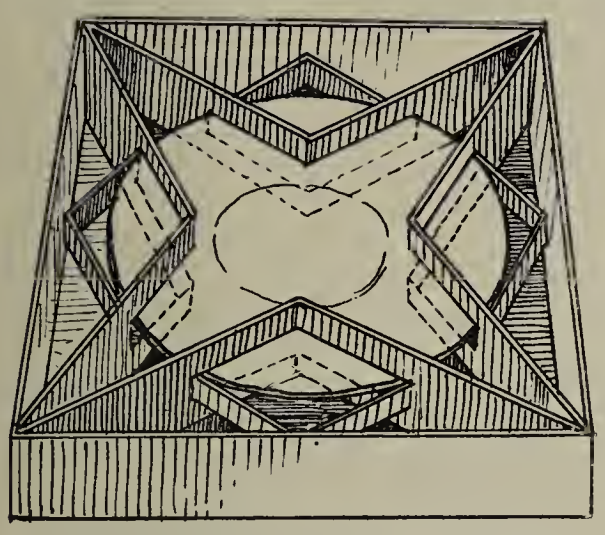
SCIENCE IN MANUFACTURE,

and emphasised the necessity for the higher education of our youth. Our duty was to see that every child was properly educated. We were not in the forefront in this matter. The Swiss seemed to have entered upon a new industry—the manufacture and export of educated men. The educated Swiss was found everywhere, because the Swiss people were willing, out of their poverty, to give opportunities to their sons and daughters that we, out of our wealth, were not inclined to give. Germany's once agricultural population had become largely a manufacturing population, and the Germans were determined to come to the front. He did not think the Germans had the initiative or the energy the English people had, but they had more system, more method, and were more devoted to education. What the Germans could do we ought to do if we only believed in education. Our children left school too early, and sacrificed the future for the present in a most lamentable way. Mr. Reynolds referred to the ascendency of the Scotch as proof of the value of education, and to the success of the Germans in manufactures involving chemical knowledge as proof of the importance of technical education. In the Potteries, and in England generally, the great need was for co-operation between the manufacturer and the man of science, whose business it was to investigate the secrets of nature and to apply them to the service of man. The pre-eminence of the German glass industry was entirely due to such co-operation, and many a problem in British industry might be solved by the researches of scientific men. In the neighbourhood of Manchester a large pottery, which had a great reputation, was managed by a man who was at one time an elementary schoolboy. He was able, by means of scholarships to continue scientific researches; for a time he was employed in the Potteries; and now he held perhaps the highest place as an authority on pottery in Europe and had established a great and successful industry in which there was a union of science and art. That example was well worth following. With the enormous advantages in the energy and initiative of our people he did not despair in the least, but he did think that unless we did realise the value of education—unless our young men and women could be persuaded that when they left the day school their education had only just begun—there was very little hope that the manufacturing supremacy of this country would be maintained, very little hope for that progress in civilisation which we ought to make, and little hope that the serious social problems that confronted us would be adequately tackled.

In supporting a vote of thanks to Mr. Reynolds, the Rev. H. V. Stuart, the rector, said he was sure that the future of our local trade depended on that co-operation between scientific knowledge and manufacturing power of which Mr. Reynolds had spoken. If only we could have in the district a large number of men such as Mr. Burton—to whom. he thought, Mr. Reynolds alluded—to direct the scientific side of the potting trade, the future would be brighter. He wished all the operatives could be permeated with the idea that if the trade were to be maintained and supported it must be by energy and thorough understanding of the needs and requirements of the trade itself.

POTTERS' ACCESSORIES.

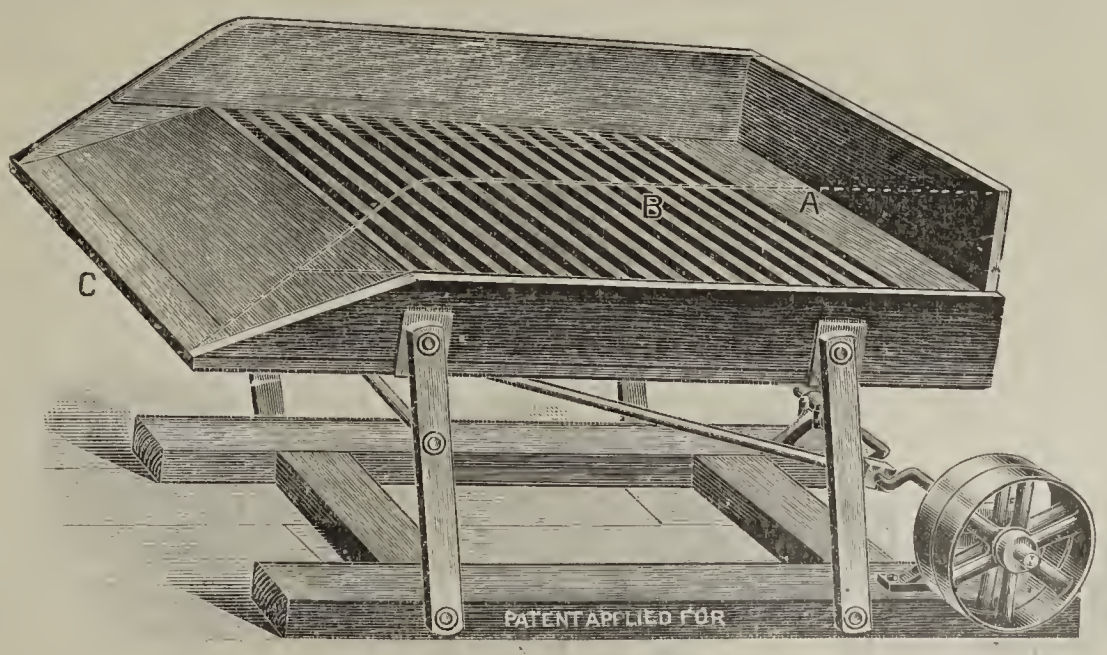
The Star Plate Packer. (Provisionally protected.)—A new method of packing sample plates and all kinds of flat ware in cardboard boxes has been invented by Mr. H. Burgess of Longton. The box is provided with a loose star-shaped fitting of cardboard having slots, into which the plate or plates are easily inserted. The cardboard then being placed in the box, the plates are firmly held in position and are protected on all sides without wood wool or any other packing material. The star-shaped form gives the fitting such resiliency that any shock is absorbed before reaching the ware; this, together with the increased strength it imparts to the box, makes breakage of the contents next to impossible. The advantages claimed for this invention are: to the sender, less cost; to the receiver, absence of litter, and to both security from breakage. The boxes are made by the Winkhill Mill Company, Church-st., Longton, and are being extensively used by the leading firms in the Potteries.



THE "STAR" PLATE PACKER.

The Airostyle Syndicate, Ltd., of Ayshford-st., Longton, are makers of an improved air-brush for decorating pottery ware of all kinds. This brush, the "Airostyle," which projects colour on to the object to be decorated in the form of a fine spray, is useful for many other decorative purposes, such as the ornamentation of rubber, celluloid, wood and metallic goods, and straw hats, but it is especially adapted for decorating pottery. The effects produced by the aid of this handy instrument are as varied as they are beautiful. It is claimed that it has a great advantage in the use of colour, inasmuch as the colour receptacle, being perfectly smooth and plain inside, a thorough cleaning can be effected with very little trouble and in the shortest space of time. The "Airostyle" is so constructed that any section of it can be taken to pieces in a moment and the various parts replaced by an inexperienced person without any difficulty.
The most important feature claimed for this machine is the position of the needle, which admits of its instant removal, so that the operator can wipe the needle whenever the colour in the receptacle is being changed. When delicate colours are being used, it is of importance that the needle should be perfectly clean whenever a fresh colour is employed. Another recommendation is that the use of the "Airostyle" can be acquired with very little practice, and in a very short time, while fine effects may be produced by persons with comparatively little experience. The machines are made in several sizes, and are adapted for every purpose where colour has to be applied. —The company have introduced some most successful designs for litho work, and have a large and varied stock of lithographs for the coming season. These are carefully designed, and it is claimed they will present all the beauties of high-class work. Particular attention is paid to depth of colour. The Syndicate have depôts at 35, St. Bride-st., London, E.C., and also at Glasgow and Manchester.

The Rapid Magnetting Machine Co., Ltd., of 18, The Crescent, Birmingham, are just introducing two new types of electro-magnetic separators, for use in the pottery trades. This firm's separators until now have been confined chiefly to the metal trades for removing iron from metal turnings, &c. They have also supplied machines for separating iron from bones, cotton seed, wood refuse, &c., the separators for the pottery trades being a new departure. Type "B," is designed for treating ground flint, potter's clay dust, calcined bones, &c. The two former materials, containing only a very small percentage of fine iron, have hitherto been most difficult to treat, and indeed it is an open question, whether it has been possible to treat it successfully, up to the present time. The machine now introduced is a new departure, in that it has no revolving drum. For certain purposes the disadvantage of the revolving drum is, that unless the iron is seized immediately it falls on to the drum, it is almost certain to ride over with the non-magnetic material, and fall among same without separation. It is claimed that with the machine now under notice, this risk is practically non-existent. The material is fed on to the inclined shoot at point "A." By means of the reciprocating motion, it is carried over each of the electro-magnets "B" until it is delivered off the shoot at "C." Meantime, the iron must be retained by one or other of the magnets—if it misses the first or the second one or other of the remainder must catch it. To remove the iron it is only necessary to occasionally stop the reciprocating motion, switch off the current, and clear the tray. The makers draw special attention to the fact that the material does not pass between magnets, but over them, and therefore the iron would have to jump a series of magnetic hurdles, figuratively speaking, before it can pass off the shoot along with the separated material. The reciprocating motion causes any iron lying on the top of the material to find its way on to the electro-magnets before leaving the shoot. The makers inform us that after seeing the iron recovered from about one hundredweight of ground flint, a manufacturer expressed his extreme astonishment at the percentage separated; hitherto he had no idea that such a percentage could be present. This is easily understood, if an ordinary permanent magnet is used for the test, as it will be difficult to trace iron by such means. Type "C" machine, for treating liquids, such as potter's slip, is an adaptation of similar principle as type



THE "RAPID" ELECTRO-MAGNETIC SEPARATOR (TYPE B, NO. 5) WITH RECIPROCATING MOTION.

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"B" and consists of a watertight electro-magnetic trough, similar to type "B2"—over which the liquid flows. The iron particles, so inimical to the production of unblemished china, are retained in a similar manner, and provision made for their removal, there being three proposals all directed to this question, which, when dealing with liquid, is of great importance. Again, the feature of the liquid having to pass over the series of electro-magnets, instead of between, becomes of great importance. These machines can be made to practically any dimensions.

POTTERY AND GLASS IN SPAIN.

NEW Spanish duties on porcelain and earthenware are quoted as follows in a recent British Consular report, the old tariff being given in brackets for comparison:— Chimneys, water-closet pedestals, filters, baths, tubes and other similar objects of fine clay, earthenware or porcelain—porcelain, (52 50 pes. c.), of stoneware and fine clay, (37 50* pes. c.), 24 pesetas (gold) per 100 kilos. Table services, toilet services, and similar objects of the above materials, glazed or not, coloured or not—printed in one colour: earthenware (37 50* pes. c.), porcelain (52 50* pes. c), 30 pesetas (gold) per 100 kilos.; with printing of more than one colour, painted, or with gold border or other ornamentation—earthenware, (37 50* pes. c), porcelain (52 50* pes. c), 50 pesetas (gold) per 100 kilos.* Fine clay, earthenware or porcelain, in figures, flowers, pots, reliefs, flower pots or similar ornaments (2 00 pes. c.), 2 pesetas (gold) per kilo. Those items marked with an asterisk, in cases or barrels 30 per cent. tare; in baskets (canastos) 16 per cent. tare. The rest per 100 kilos. net. In the first instance, earthenware of one colour with reliefs was to pay 50 pesetas, but was subsequently included in the second class, paying 30 pesetas—an important modification for British makers, who make a speciality of white earthenware with relief. There are five potteries of importance in Spain, at Seville, Gijon and Oviedo respectively, and small ones at Segovia and Val de Morillo. The most important of all is at Seville, and imitations of British white earthenware table services are made there. The glaze in the Spanish makes is said to crack quickly. The china clay and ball for the Seville potteries is brought from the West of England—from the same source as that used by the Staffordshire potteries—in small vessels, which, after discharging at Seville, pick up cargoes of salt at Cadiz for Newfoundland. The flint used is from Dieppe. Coarse French porcelain from Limoges is very generally used in Spain, and this competition, combined with that between the home producers themselves, has led to low prices and over-production. In 1905 the Spanish manufacturers at Seville came to an agreement for regulating prices. The agreement was quickly broken, and has long since ceased to be operative.

The following statement of charges on a consignment of earthenware imported by a Bilbao house in September, 1906, may be of interest as showing the degree of protection afforded to Spanish manufacturers:—

	Amount. £ s. d.
Invoice—	
White semi-porcelain	22 16 3
3 crates, 1 at 13s. 6d., 2 at 12s. 6d.	1 18 6
Total	24 14 9

Net Weight. c. q. lbs.	Gross Weight. c. q. lbs.	Measurement.
3 0 3	4 2 0	54 × 36 × 36
7 1 13	8 2 7	50 × 36 × 36
7 1 13	8 2 6	50 × 36 × 36

Charges—		£ s. d.
Bills of lading		0 2 6
Carriage		0 16 2
Cartage and Porterage		0 4 6
Freight, 114 ft. 6 in. at 10s. per 40 ft. ..		1 8 8
Primage, 10 per cent.		0 2 11
Consular certificate of origin		0 5 6
Commission, agency, &c.		0 2 6
	Pes. c.	
Stamps for certificate	2 80	
Pass, declaration and agency..	2 50	
Customs duty on 886 kilos., at 30 pesetas gold to the kilo., equals 265 pesetas 80 c., which, at the rate of exchange of 111 pesetas 50 c. per cent. equals	296 37	
Commission on payment of duty and receipt	5 00	
Fees for handling in customs ..	4 35	
	311 2	
Equivalent in sterling at exchange of 111 pesetas 50 c. per cent.		11 3 6
Total charges		£14 6 3

The protection thus afforded to Spanish producers is considerable, and at present British wares are only available to the richer classes. It appears that the charges of British houses for crates—and this applies throughout—are higher than those of other countries, and constitute a tax on importers which, if not important, is disliked. Many new hotels are being built, and existing ones are being improved, and Spaniards are awakening to the fact that a valuable business from tourists is being lost through the absence of comfortable accommodation. There are also remarkably comfortable clubs in all Spanish towns of any importance. In such directions there should be a good opening for British chinaware, if the matter were carefully studied. As regards sanitary appliances British houses have a high reputation, but their business is being attacked by Spanish and other makers. Water-closet pedestal pans of the cheapest kind are made in Spain by Seville firm, and at Gijon. There are also two factories at Madrid. German and French makers are also coming into this trade. Lavatories are bought by some houses apart from the iron fittings, which are cast here to save the expense of duties and carriage. French houses seem to be the chief competitors. Enamelled baths of cast-iron formerly came from the United Kingdom, but French enamel is considered whiter and better; and Germany is now coming in at lower prices. Glazed pipes for drainage are being made near Bilbao.

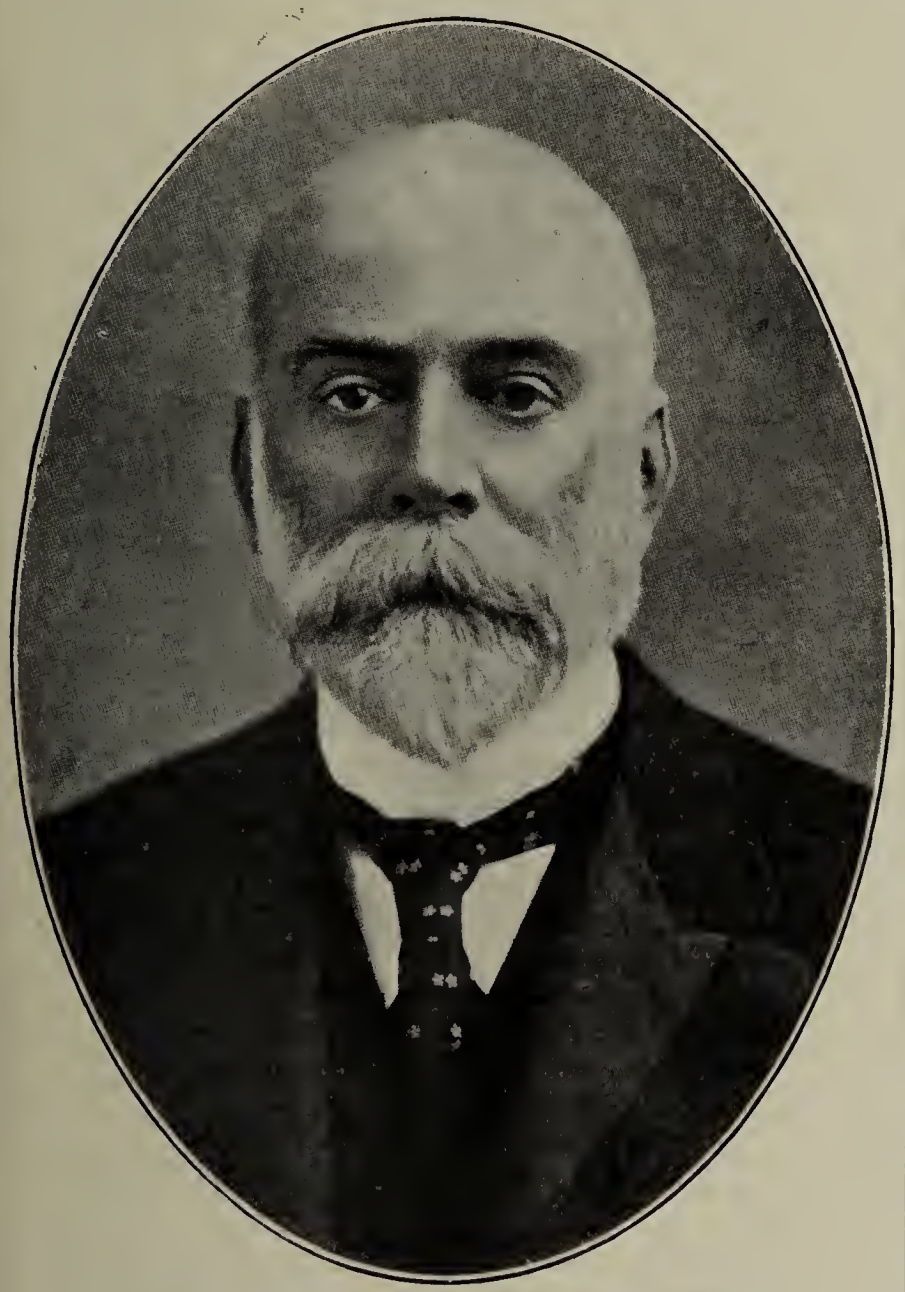
GLASS.—In the course of 1906 a trust was formed of the manufacturers of sheet glass in Spain. It is composed of nine companies, as follows:—Two in Bilbao, of which one will be closed; two in Gijon, of which one will be closed; one in San Sebastian; two in Reinosa, of which one will be closed; one in Mataporquera, which will be closed; one in Seville, which ceases manufacturing sheet glass, and devotes itself to the manufacture of waved (ndulado) glass, for roofing, and stamped (timbrado) glass. The total production is divided amongst those factories which remain open as follows:—Compagnie Générale de Verreries Espagnoles, 548,334 square metres; Socd. Gijon Industrial, 530,000 square metres; Antonio Orobio y Cia, 290,000; Sociedad Vidricra Reinosana, 251,666; total, 1,620,000 square metres.



Obituary.

COLONEL R. PILKINGTON, C.B.
Aged 67.

WITH deep regret we record the death of Colonel Richard Pilkington, C.B., which took place at his residence, Rainford Hall, St. Helens, on the morning of March 12. While at business on Feb. 11 Colonel Pilkington had a slight attack of apoplexy, and was at once conveyed to his home, where he remained under the constant care of his medical advisers. It was hoped that a prolonged rest with careful nursing and medical treatment would



COL. RICHARD PILKINGTON, C.B., V.D., J.P.

secure his recovery, but on March 7 he had a relapse, and his condition gradually became more serious, until the 12th, when he died. We understand the actual cause of death was cerebral meningitis. The Colonel was a member of a family whose name is known all over the world as glass manufacturers, and is rapidly becoming as widely known in connection with the production of artistic and useful pottery.

The deceased was the second son of Mr. Richard Pilkington, and was born at Windle Hall, St. Helens, in 1841. It is interesting to note that the deceased gentleman was born in the year in which his father commenced the manufacture of German sheet glass at St. Helens, and thereby founded the famous firm of Pilkington Brothers, now the largest plate and sheet glass manufacturers in the world. The age of the deceased, therefore, synchronised with that of the age of the firm. We know of nothing more romantic in the history of trade than the marvellous expansion of this wonderful business. The deceased had no small share in the developments of recent years, as he had the control of the distribution of the products of the factories. Mr. Richard Pilkington, father of the deceased, was not originally in the glass trade. He was a member of the firm of Pilkington & Son, who had been established in St. Helens for some years in another industry. Something like a sensation was caused when they erected a "cone" for the manufacture of crown glass—the first blown sheet glass works in the United Kingdom. Four years after, the duty on glass was abolished (1845). The manner in which the firm's business increased, and their works extended, reads more like romance than industrial history. The late Colonel Pilkington travelled extensively in the interests of the firm abroad, and there is no doubt that his personal energy contributed largely to the extension of their business. This business practically provides employment for the majority of the population, and has contributed very materially to the prosperity of the town and neighbourhood. In addition to giving work to thousands of the residents in St. Helens, the firm have works in France, and warehouses and branches in London, Canada, South America, and other parts of the world.

In addition to the busy life entailed upon the late Colonel by his responsible duties in connection with his own firm, he was managing director of Richard Evans & Co., Ltd., Haydock; chairman of the St. Helens Colliery Co., and head of a company recently formed to develop a large coal field at Sutton Manor. The deceased has for many years been one of the most active and influential public men in the district. He was for thirty-six years a member of the town council, and was mayor four times. For twenty years he was chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Corporation, and for six years was chairman of the Technical Committee. In 1897 he was publicly presented with the freedom of the borough. He was member of Parliament for the Newton Division from 1899 until the last General Election. He was a member of the local volunteer force for forty-six years, rising from a private to the colonelcy of his regiment. We have not space to mention the tokens of appreciation bestowed on him during his long career of usefulness. He had been a county magistrate for more than thirty years, and in a touching reference from the Bench to his death, the Mayor said, "The town will mourn as one man that it had lost one of its best men and a sincere friend of all." He leaves a widow, six sons, and two daughters.

RICHARD BOURNE GUEST. Aged 72.

WE announce with regret the death of Mr. Richard Bourne Guest, which took place at his residence in Brierley Hill on Feb. 27. Mr. Guest was one of the familiar figures in the glass trade of Stourbridge in the past generation. The number of them has been reduced within the past ten years, and few are now left who were contemporary with Mr. Guest in the earlier years of his career. He has all his life been connected with the glass trade; indeed the name of Guest was one of the best known in the industry thirty years ago, several distinct families bearing that name being actively engaged in it. The deceased was a native of Brettell-lane, and, as was customary then, he was apprenticed to the trade and remained in it all his life. About 1866 he went to Glasgow, and was engaged at the City Glass Works as manager for seven or eight years. He then returned to his native county and commenced the connection with the firm of Guest Brothers at Brettell-lane, which was maintained

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to the end of his business career. The firm were well known as flint glass globe manufacturers, but they patented the new process of decorating china and earthenware which was very favourably received, and was brought out under the name of "Nocturne Ware." Mr. Guest was principally engaged in travelling for the firm, and was very popular amongst dealers. He took an active interest in local public affairs and was a member of the Local Government Board, and then with its successor, the Urban District Council. He retired in 1904, after twenty-eight years of public work, in the course of which he assisted in the introduction of many important public improvements. Both Mr. Guest and his wife were popular members of the Stourbridge Board of Guardians. He was fond of sacred music, and composed one or two pieces, which were much liked by local choirs. He also favoured the now rather neglected practice of campanology. He was a member of the local volunteer force, and received the long service medal. In addition to his interest and activity in local affairs, he was greatly interested in national politics. His health had been failing for some time, and a paralytic seizure about a month before was followed by a second one on Feb. 27, which resulted in his death the same evening. Mrs. Guest died about nine years ago, but two sons survive him. The funeral took place at St. Michael's Church, Brierley Hill, on March 2, and was of a very public character, hundreds of all classes attending to mark their respect and appreciation for one who had done so much for the town and neighbourhood.

A POTTERIES MUSEUM.

A CONVERSAZIONE was held at the Hanley Museum on March 12, for the express purpose of bringing to the notice of the public the educational use of such an institution in fostering and improving the principal local industry. A large number of visitors attended on the invitation of the Mayor, who received his guests in person. The principal feature of the otherwise informal ceremony was that Mr. William Burton, F.C.S., of Manchester, had been invited to deliver an address. After the company had inspected the pottery and other exhibits in the Museum, they assembled in the reading room. In the course of the preliminary proceedings the Mayor paid a high compliment to Mr. Jahn, the curator, for his care in bringing the museum up to its present position—a position of which the authorities of Hanley were proud. He then introduced Mr. Burton to give his address on "The Benefits and Purposes of Museums." Mr. Burton sketched the history of the Hanley Museum, and referred to the part Mr. John Ridgway and Mr. M. Solon (who were both present) had taken in its promotion. He spoke of the great change that had taken place in the museum and of those who had brought it about. He then asked what should be the scope and purpose of an industrial, or an industrial-artistic museum in a centre like that? He looked upon a museum himself as one of the "advanced schools of learning." Everybody was convinced nowadays that they must have a school for elementary education. They must teach reading, writing, the three R's generally, and a smattering of the simpler sciences to every child. Now, just as he looked upon the elementary school, the secondary school, and the technical school as necessary steps in elementary education, he looked upon the Free Library and Museum as absolutely necessary steps in that education which was to help a man to become a superior workman. In a district like this the potter's craft must be looked at from very many points of view. Pottery was no new thing in Staffordshire he was glad to say; they had in this district already quite a long and fine history. They would leave out of sight for the moment the people who preceded them, and he said their first duty, the first thing at which they should aim in the ideal museum which they were trying to establish here, would be to have in it, arranged perfectly scientifically and orderly, an exhibition of all the fine things done in this district. Let that be their own local thing—a thing which had made Staffordshire what it was. As far as he knew, they had here the nucleus of an exceedingly fine collection of their local productions. He would encourage them to develop that first and foremost. Then, while he was on this question, might he say that in their great and esteemed reverence for what belonged to the seventeenth, eighteenth, or early nineteenth century, let them not forget that among them now there were men of their own day, who were doing absolutely fine things. He thought that every museum in the Potteries certainly ought to have saved up enough money to possess a fine piece of the work of Mr. Solon. He was sorry to find that except for certain very fine tiles, that he believed Mr. Solon presented to their museum, there was nothing of Mr. Solon's in their collection. He was glad to find they had had the courage to buy some of the fine productions of his friend, Mr. Bernard Moore. They were both friends of his whom he esteemed very highly, because there could be no dispute about the quality of their work.. They were so much higher than the rest of the men connected with potting at the present day, that no one could say their work was not fit to be purchased by every museum. He did say, however, that if modern work as a rule was to be purchased at all, then it must be purchased with the greatest discretion and the greatest discrimination. It needed, he would say, a small committee of experts, artistically and technically to decide on the whole whether modern works should be purchased or not. He had dealt with the old work of this district, the work of men like Wedgwood, Turner, Warburton, and Neale, and their great predecessors like Whieldon, and they would go back and say the Elers if they liked, and Dr. Thomas Wedgwood, of Burslem. He was glad to find they had representative pieces of the work of all these great men, and he trusted they would extend their boundaries by getting more of these pieces, provided they were typical and good.

Speaking for himself, as a student and a manufacturer, he had no use for museums that were merely to attract the general, the dilettante public. It was all very well to go to a museum to see interesting things, but the museum was not primarily designed for that purpose. He did most earnestly ask them to realise that a museum was not necessarily a place for popular amusement. It was a place for careful and scientific instruction, and the better a museum could be arranged in that way the better it would be for everybody concerned. Now, having said something of the general value of a local museum, might he also point out that he thought this district, every manufacturer in it, and every superior workman in it, perhaps hardly paid enough attention to the extraordinary wealth of the country's national collections in London. They were perfectly right, perfectly justified, and highly to be commended in extending their local museum, but they should remember that in the British Museum, in the South Kensington Museum, and in the Wallace collection they had gathered together by the whole nation and for the use of the nation some of the finest collections of industrial art that the world had ever seen. He would strongly urge all those manufacturers, designers, and superior workmen, in whose hands the future quality of the industry of this great district lay, to make the fullest possible acquaintance with what could only be shown in the central Museum in London, and could never be lent about on loan.

Mr. Burton congratulated the citizens of Hanley on the possession of this museum, and urged them most strongly to make more and more use of it. While he congratulated the authorities of Hanley for their public spirit in taking an interest in this museum, and developing it as they had done, he still more congratulated the town of Hanley in having Mr. Jahn as curator to arrange the various collections.

Foreign Notes.

German Exports of porcelain tableware amounted last year to 33,506,900 kilos., valued at £2,264,300.

Invaluable !—A San Francisco subscriber wrote us, when sending his renewal subscription last month, saying, "I find your publication "—POTTERY GAZETTE—" invaluable."

Contract for Porcelain Insulators.—Tenders are invited by the "Dirección general de Correos y Telégrafos" for the supply of 100,000 porcelain insulators. Tenders will be opened in the office of the Chief of the Sección de Telégrafos, sito Carretas, 10, Madrid, on April 11, thirty days after the date of publication in the "Gaceta." A deposit equal to 5 per cent. of the total amount of the offer will be required to qualify any tender.

U.S. Pottery and Glass Works Auctions.—The property of the Bell Pottery Co., of Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A., which includes the Findlay plant as well as the big pottery at Rarig, a suburb of Columbus, was recently offered for sale by the receivers, but there were no bidders.—The plant of the Mansfield Glass Co , of Lockport, N. Y., was sold at auction a few days ago, the price being $6,400. Mr. E. Jackson, a travelling salesman of Lockport, was the purchaser. It is not known just what use Mr. Jackson will put the plant to, which at one time employed several hundred men. The company has been in bankruptcy several years.

Japanese Brickworks for Manchuria.—In view of the extensive construction of railways in Manchuria, the Japanese contemplate forming a company with a capital of £100,000 for the production of bricks, as well as six smaller companies. The works, says the "Kharbin Viestnik," will be in Quantung, and will be installed with the best "Hoffmann" machines of the latest type. In Manchuria there are many brick kilns belonging to the Chinese, but their production is very limited, so that large orders are difficult to fulfil and the quality of the bricks is bad. It is anticipated, therefore, that the proposed Japanese enterprise will be generally welcomed.

An American Pottery Trade Paper.—A petition in bankruptcy has been filed against the Potters' Publishing Co., publishers of the "American Pottery Gazette," by these creditors: Gustav H. Frommann, $397; Alliance Press Co., $31, and Luther B. Dowas Photo Spectrum Engraving Co., $28. It was alleged that the company is insolvent and made preferential payment of £25 to the Tension Envelope Co. In November last, says the "Crockery and Glass Journal," application was made to the Supreme Court for the voluntary dissolution of the corporation, at which time the liabilities were $4,671 and assets $3,691. It was then stated that the action was due merely to a difference of opinion among the directors, and that the paper would continue to be issued regularly. The struggle was evidently too much.

Russian Glass, &c., Companies.—The A. K. Borovieff Co. has been formed to continue and develop the Alexandroff Glass Factory's business in Sudogod in the Government of Vladimir. The principal products of the factory are bottles, &c.——The N. Weissman & Sons' house has been formed at Kischeneff to deal in porcelain goods. Capital, £4,238.——The Ritting Glass Manufacturing Co. made a profit of £13,855 in its tenth (1906-7) working year, and will pay a dividend of 8 per cent.——The A. R. Lickfield Glass Manufacturing Co. made a profit of £3,601 in its ninth (1906-7) working year.——The Kovalevsky Fire Clay Co. made a profit of £1,753 in its eleventh (1906) working year.——The Kieff (Scholtze & Co.) Chemical and Glassworks Co. made a profit of £251 in its ninth (1906) working year.

Discovery of Kaolin in Texas.—H.M. Consul at Galveston reports that an extensive deposit of kaolin, covering several hundred acres, has recently been discovered near Leakey, in South-Western Texas, about 75 miles due east of San Antonio. Exhaustive experiments are said to have shown it to be of the best quality, and of a kind greatly prized by manufacturers of fine white china. A company has been formed for working the beds, and is stated to have recently contracted for a supply of kaolin to the amount of $7,000,000 (about £1,400,000), to be shipped as soon as possible. A line connecting the fields with San Antonio will, it is said, be constructed, and the kaolin will be taken by rail from that town to Galveston, and thence either to New York or abroad by water. Extensive grinding machinery has been already installed, and it is further proposed to establish a pottery factory at San Antonio in the near future.

International Postage.—In a circular just issued the Postmaster-General says he has reason to believe that many of the public are imperfectly acquainted with some of the advantages open to them through the operation of the important changes in international postal arrangements which came into force in October last. From these changes the sender of a letter from this country to a foreign country derives a double benefit. The weight which can be sent for a single rate of 2½d. has been raised from half an ounce to one ounce, and the same increase in weight is allowed in the succeeding steps of the scale. At the same time, the additional postage payable on each successive ounce after the first has been reduced from 2½d. to 1½d. In other words, a letter may now be sent to a foreign country for a postage of 2½d. up to a weight of one ounce instead of only half an ounce, while 4d. prepays 2 oz., 5½d. 3 oz., with an additional 1½d. for each further ounce.

The Kaiser as Potter.—The Paris "Figaro" recently published a descriptive article concerning the German Emperor's private pottery at Cadinen, which employs some 2,000 hands. According to our contemporary, the Kaiser is the soul of the undertaking. Though ready to receive advice on technical points, he keeps every detail of the work under his personal supervision. He engages the staff, cashier, clerks, foremen and all; the most insignificant workman cannot be put on or discharged without his consent. The writer goes on to praise the care of this model employer for his workpeople. There are pensions for the aged, the widows, the orphans, none are forgotten. In the summer outdoor sports are encouraged, in bad weather indoor recreations are enjoyed in specially erected rooms—lecture hall, library, books, papers and reviews. The royal master attends to every want. In all Germany there is no master who is so popular among his workpeople. When residing at Cadinen he visits the works at six o'clock every morning, saying in a loud voice as he enters, "Good morning, workers." And they reply, all together, "Good morning, your Royal Highness." Then the Kaiser generally lets one of the cleverest craftsmen instruct him in the minute details of porcelain production, and very likely invites one of the managers to dinner.

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Legal.

The Shape of Measuring Glasses.—An exceptional case was disposed of in the City of London Court, on Feb. 27, before Judge Rentoul, K.C. The plaintiffs, R. Johnstone & Co., manufacturers, 92, Fore-st., E.C., sought to recover the sum of £3 6s., for glass bottles made for the defendant, Mr. J. J. Hicks, china and glass dealer, 8, Hatton-garden. It seemed that on Nov. 14, 1905, plaintiffs received from the defendant an order to make two kinds of measuring glasses, one an 8-inch glass and the other a 5-inch glass. A sample was supplied and the defendant said that the glass was to have a conical bottom, with measures marked upon them all the way up. Now the defendant said that the glasses supplied would not hold as much as the sample after allowing for the difference in the conical bottom. An 8-inch glass was a measure of capacity and not of height. Plaintiffs, on the other hand, said an 8-inch glass referred to the height and not the capacity. They had been for 40 years in the trade. Their glasses were 8 inches in height. Judge Rentoul found for the defendant with costs.

Compensation for Lead Poisoning.—On March 3, at the Longton County Court, before Judge Ruegg, K.C., with Professor J. D. Mann, of Manchester University, as medical assessor, Emma Crutchley, of Foley-st., Fenton, asked for an award under the Workmen's Compensation Act, against H. Aynsley & Co., earthenware manufacturers, Longton, in respect of the death of her husband, Albert Crutchley, glost placer, which was stated to have been due to lead poisoning. The claim, which was for £280 16s., was for compensation for death from lead poisoning, since injurious processes were included in the Workmen's Compensation Act. The main question to be decided was whether the disease from which Crutchley died was due to the nature of his employment, the respondents contending that it was not, and, further, that the deceased did not suffer from plumbism. At the time of his death Crutchley was head glost placer in the employ of the respondents, and had been in their employ for thirty-six years. When the case was called on Mr. Brough explained that a settlement had been arrived at that morning. The respondents had met the applicant very fairly, and had agreed to pay £200 into Court with costs. There was only one dependent in the case so no complication would arise as to the payment, out of Court. His Honour made an order for the payment to the applicant of £20 to meet certain expenses, and 12s. weekly, subject to a further application in two years.

Returning the Wrong Bottles.—At Blackpool on March 10, George Timothy Howell and his son, Fred Howell, who carried on business as "Howell & Son," ale and beer bottlers, Blackpool, appeared to answer six charges of stealing bottles belonging to different tradesmen in the town and district. The defendants pleaded not guilty to one charge taken. Mr. Tobin, K.C. (prosecuting for the Crown), explained that there was in Blackpool a mineral Water Manufacturers and Bottlers' Trade Protection Association, the objects of which were to protect the bottles of members whose names were embossed on the bottles from being dealt with improperly by persons who had no authority to deal with them. One object of the Association was to organise a system of collection and restoration to members of empty bottles by means of a bottle exchange or clearing-house. The senior defendant had been a member of the Association since 1906, but instead of returning other persons' bottles which came to him through his carters or in other ways to the exchange, for which he would have received 4½d. per dozen, he sold and sent them to the Showell's Brewery Co., Langley, near Birmingham. In February last 1,690 bottles were despatched to Showell's, but the packages were intercepted and brought back to the Blackpool Police Station, where it was found that not one of the bottles belonged either to the defendants or to Showell; 240 of them belonged to the Tadcaster Brewery Co., while others belonged to different firms, which caused the other five charges to be made. Mr. Lindon Riley, who defended, said that no criminal wrong had been intended. Howell senior had worked for Showell's for 20 years, but two and a half years ago came to Blackpool on account of his health and took an outdoor licence business from Showell's. When he bought the business he took over 9,202 dozen of bottles, of which 2,524 dozens were of no use to him. These he sold to Messrs. Showell, and later when he got possession of some 140 dozen bottles, known as "foreigners," he dealt with them in the same way as he had done before. He recognised, however, that he should have sent them to the bottle exchange, and would in future send thither all bottles not his own that came into his possession. He would indemnify the prosecutors for all expenses. The Bench consented to allow the charges to be withdrawn.

Paying Wages in Public-Houses.—At Bricrley-hill Police Court, on March 9, W. Hand, High-st., Wollaston, was summoned for unlawfully paying certain wages to certain workmen in a public-house, contrary to the provisions of the "Paying of Wages in Public-Houses Prohibition Act, 1883." Mr. Arthur Ward explained that under section 3 of the Act no wages shall be paid to any workman in a public-house, beerhouse, &c., and there were at least three different persons who might be guilty, of an offence under the Act; first, the man who paid the wages; secondly, the employer who permitted him to pay wages; and, thirdly, the landlord of the house. On Feb. 22 the defendant was in the bar of the Rose and Crown Inn, Audnam, and P.C.'s Elkes and Watton, who were in plain clothes, went in and sat near the defendant at a table on which there was seven sovereigns and about four half-sovereigns, and also a sheet of paper, on which were printed words "Audnam Glassworks." Inside the house were about 15 men, and about 4 under the age of 20. The men went up one at a time, and were asked in general terms how much was due to them, and were paid, a tick being placed on the side of the paper as each one was paid. The men, after receiving their wages, went to the bar and spent a lot of money in beer and bread and cheese. Defendant owned that he paid his men in the Rose and Crown, and that he did not know that he was doing any wrong, as it was the custom of the district. Mr. Waldron, for the defence, said there was a certain class of factories in that district where the custom was to pay certain men who formed a gang, or what was known in the trade as "chairs." A "chair" could consist of three or four or more workmen—servitors, foot-makers, and takers-in. Although a "chair" consisted of three or four men, each and all of them were separate, and contracted with the employer. One workman could not say to another, "I employ you or can dismiss you." For their convenience the men's money was paid in a lump sum to someone at the works, and the money was taken to the inn to get change, and it was there divided between them. Defendant went into the witness-box, and said he was appointed by Mr. H. Boulton, as well as the other men, and he had no power to engage or discharge the men. The money was brought away from Boulton's works, and was taken to the Rose and Crown for division. On the day in question £8 10s. 5d. was brought from the works by one of the takers-in. Witness had to go somewhere to get change. Other evidence having been given, the Chairman said the magistrates had decided to convict.

It would be as well for employers if they would take all reasonable means in their power to enforce the provisions of the Act. The practice had been going on for years for the men to receive their wages in a public-house, and he thought it would be as well to pay each individual person, or see the amount divided, in a legal place. Thomas Hand, who was summoned for a similar offence, and Enoch Perry, father of the licensee of the inn, summoned for permitting the wages to be paid in the house, pleaded guilty. The Bench inflicted a fine of £2 2s. in each case, including costs, a distress, or one month.

PIECE-WORK AND DAY WAGES FOR POTTERS.

(BY A POTTERIES CORRESPONDENT.)

AT the time of writing it seems certain that the threatened strike of potters has been averted, or at least postponed. The constitution of a Conciliation Board is practically agreed upon, and as any such Board could not be expected to come to any immediate decision on the serious points at issue, a postponement of notices, or a temporary arrangement, seems inevitable. Meanwhile some employees have settled with their employers, some have never given notice at all, and some are still holding to their notices—which is rather a ridiculous state of affairs. Still, the circumstances may not be unsuitable for a short review of the whole subject of potters' wages and conditions.

Of course all the difficulties, or nearly all, arise from the fact that potters are paid piece-work. If one were to suggest off-hand that a solution of the difficulty was to be found in the establishment of a day wage system, one would be ruled out of court immediately. Yet the writer finds that few manufacturers, or workmen either, are sufficiently alive to the evils inherent in a piece-work system. Let us glance at a few.

Here are two hollow-ware pressers working side by side. One is making a "going" shape in, say, covered dishes; which means that he is working at that one shape, week in week out, until his moulds are worn out. The other chops and changes about from one shape to another, according as the orders come. These shapes are all priced to the maker acording to their intrinsic difficulty, which implies that the shape of which the second man makes twenty dozen is, perhaps, precisely the same price as the one of which the other man makes a thousand dozen. Now, it stands to reason that the second man is much better paid than the first, although he is probably the less skilful workman, the better one being naturally selected for the more varied work.

That is how the piece-work system works in one factory. But when you have a price fixed for a given article—say an 8-inch plate, or a ewer—for all makers, consider what different conditions the operatives work under, and how this nominal equality is really an inequality. It allows no difference for qualities of clay, for convenience of working, for distance from clay or oven, and there is consequently no inducement for the manufacturer to study all these, and many other important points. He may build new works, may study the convenience of his workers in every way, but if the Trades Union has its way he will get not the slightest advantage therefrom; it will go into the pockets of the fortunate workmen.

In thrown and turned ware the piece-work system as now worked is absolutely absurd. A jug holding half a pint must be paid for—throwing, turning, and handling—just the same as though it held a quart, though the work is not much more than half. This does not matter, of course, when equal quantities of every size are made, but what is the result when small or large sizes only are wanted? The selling prices, based on such anomalies, cannot possibly be fair to both manufacturer and buyer.

These examples show clearly that, under the piece-work system, justice—that is the due apportionment of reward to exertion, or to result—cannot be attained, whereas under an ideal day wage system they would be. I am quite aware that the sudden change from piece-work to day wages would no more be an ideal system than it is with bricklayers, plumbers, or fitters, and the purpose of these remarks is not to urge it as an immediate practical policy. What is intended is to urge recognition of the fact that piece-work necessarily involves inequality of pay, and does injustice generally to the most skilful workmen. Now the recognition of this fact by members of Conciliation Boards, by employers, and by Trades Union leaders, will modify the present tendency to establish hard and fast rules with regard to prices.

I have often wondered why operatives seem so loth to tackle the subject of sizes. If the 8-inch plate has become in reality a 10-inch, if a 6's ewer and basin have become a 4's, if a 24's teapot, which used to hold a quart, now approaches half a gallon, can the operatives blame any one but themselves? It cannot be really to the advantage of manufacturers to be constantly creeping upwards in sizes, but they are impelled by the force of competition, from which the operatives are free. Is there any advantage to anybody in calling a plate which measures $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches an 8-inch plate? The only way anyone can get any advantage is by making his 8-inch plate measure 10 inches. The wonderful system of counts and sizes which dominates the potting industry is a growth and development from earlier days. But in the earlier days these counts and sizes had meaning. A 24's article was one of which 24 went on a 6 ft. board; a 30's, one of which the board would carry 30; and men were paid by the "board," which later became the potter's "dozen." The 6 ft. board is still used, but the sizes of wares have now no reference to its capacity, and common sense would therefore suggest an abandonment of these now meaningless sizes, and the substitution of real inch measurement, and actual capacity.

Another grievance which is bound up with the piece-work system is "good-from-oven." Under a day-wage system there could be no good-from-oven, but under piece-work it appears to me that good-from-oven is entirely just and necessary. Of course, by good-from-oven I mean here the system as practised by conscientious employers. No one could reasonably desire to refuse payment to a man for his work when it had been spoiled by causes beyond his control. But it cannot be denied by the operatives that much of the bad or imperfect ware which comes out of the biscuit oven is caused by bad workmanship, or is the consequence of the workman's neglect, and that it could not have been detected before firing. Those who have much to do with thrown and turned work know how much greater is the loss in this—in which the rule of good-from-hand prevails, than in those branches in which the workers are paid good-from-oven. To say that it is double would be to understate the case. The danger of injustice is here the same, but reversed. In good-from-oven there are often some cases where a reasonable doubt may exist in the mind of the maker as to the cause of defects in the fired ware, for which he is held responsible. He may honestly believe that they are not caused by his fault or defect, while the employer or his agent naturally incline to the opinion which saves the employers money. If the workman is right, here is a definite injustice done to him. But the good-from-hand man is all right, even when, as often happens, the case is quite clear against him. There is no talk of "justice" and

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"right" then; he has been paid for his work, and though he knew it would come out bad when fired, a demand for compensation would simply be laughed at.

These objections are inherent in a piece-work system. Were the workmen paid by the day, he could have no interest in doing work which was sure to be worthless when fired, just as there would be no feeling of injustice caused by the non-payment of men for wages justly earned.

Of course, the objections to day-wage work are obvious, but it is questionable whether they are not over-rated. Mention such a system to a manufacturer, and he instantly instances bricklayers, joiners, plumbers, fitters, &c., and if the analogy is granted, it is surely a sufficient objection. But upon examination it will be found that the cases are not analogous. The classes of workmen mentioned are entirely unaffected by foreign competition; potters are not. If bricklayers were all Trades Unionists, and decided to demand a pound a day, and to lay no more than five hundred bricks per diem, there could be no appeal from that; unless it were possible to have a house built in Germany or Austria and brought to England. But the potter is in no such position. The user of pottery, even in England, is not obliged to use English ware; he has the whole world to choose from. Unless, therefore, operative potters and their unions were absolutely unintelligent they would not insist on a wage or upon conditions which would destroy their own trade, by making it so expensive that it could not compete successfully against German, French, or Austrian ware. Trades Unionism is now more than ever before a great fact to be reckoned with in industrial affairs, and if in some directions it works against the interest of employers, it is widely recognised that it forms a great safeguard against rash or ill-considered action by the operatives. Trades Union leaders are usually conscientious, well informed men, who may be relied on to discharge any unpractical demands by the rank and file. All the more reason, therefore, is there to put potters' prices on a basis whence alterations can easily be made according to circumstances. And this is all but impossible under the existing haphazard system. It would not be difficult to find manufactories at the present time where there is a difference of 25 per cent. in the price paid for the same article, and the advantage will be in favour of the men working under the best conditions. A percentage general rise in such a case would act entirely in favour of the manufacturer who, by employing inferior men—men reduced to the extremity of accepting work at any price—and against the employer of sober, self-respecting workmen; since every rise of selling price forces a certain number of buyers of best goods into the ranks below.

For these reasons, and others which may be considered hereafter, it would seem that there is good cause for a review of our wages system generally in the potting industry, by employers and workmen. I suppose that in this country, as in the world generally, the workers paid by the piece are comparatively few in comparison to those paid by the day, so that there is justification for a serious inquiry into the supposed virtues of our system, and a possibility that it may be found to have outlived its usefulness, and to be wrong in principle and unsatisfactory in practice.

Roumanian Alkali Importation.—H.M. Consul at Bucharest reports the grant of privileges under the Industrial Law to the Societate Româna de Sticlarie (Glassworks) at Azuga, for the duty-free importation of 25 trucks of soda, 8 trucks of potash, 60 trucks of white quartz sand and 4 trucks of fireclay.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN FEBRUARY.

The Pottery Trades.—Employment in the pottery trades was moderate, and showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Employment was fair in Devonshire; in Staffordshire and Scotland it was moderate, and worse than a month ago; at Bristol it declined and short time was worked. With earthenware makers in South Yorkshire and the River Aire district it was fair; in the Potteries it was bad, and worse than a month ago. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment continued bad. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester and Gateshead; dull at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades continued fairly good on the whole, and showed little change as compared with a month ago and with a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,271 workpeople in the week ended Feb. 22, and paying £10,145 in wages, showed, as compared with the previous month, very little change in the numbers employed, but an increase of 2.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. As compared with February, 1907, the numbers employed increased by 0.4 per cent., and the wages paid by 4.5 per cent. The increase in the wages paid as compared with both periods was confined to the glass bottle department in Yorkshire, in which there was an advance in wages during the month, all other branches showing a decrease. With glass bottle makers employment was good at Leeds and at Bristol, and in Scotland; fair at Dublin, moderate in the North of England, and at Castleford. In Lancashire it was worse than a month ago. With medical glass bottle makers employment continued good at Rotherham, and moderate at Leeds. With flint glass makers it was moderate on the whole in England and good in Scotland. With cutters it was good at Wordsley, and moderate at Birmingham. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad; with flatteners at St. Helens it was slack. London glass blowers reported employment as fairly good and better than a month ago. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear it continued bad, at Glasgow it was dull. With decorative glass workers at Manchester it was also dull.

The following shows the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid to them in the week ending Feb. 22, 1908:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,738	£7,420
Plate Glass	750	836
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,365	1,424
Other Branches	418	465
Total	8,271	£10,145

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid to them on pay day in the week ending Feb. 22, 1908:—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	923	£908
Yorkshire	4,637	6,087
Lancashire	740	767
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,095	1,271
Scotland	876	1,112
Total	8,271	£10,145

The "Beautiful Diary."—A letter received last month from a Liverpool subscriber to THE POTTERY GAZETTE concludes: "Thanking you for your beautiful Diary."

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE temporary fillip given to the trade last month by buyers who made purchases ahead of immediate requirements, in anticipation of a general strike in the potting industry, has subsided, and from all sides complaints of dull business are heard. The fact that the strike has been averted is about the only cause for gratification that can just now be found, for, apart from this, the general trade outlook has grown worse instead of better. It is scarcely too much to say that there is not a single market in the world of importance to the manufacturers of this district, where the financial aspect is not more or less unsatisfactory, and where our trade has not suffered in consequence. Tho United States, Canada, and South America are instances which occur readily to the mind. Several of our Continental neighbours have also felt the effect of the financial crisis, and one hears now of trouble developing in France and Japan. Some manufacturers report a slackening in our not inconsiderable trade with the West Indies, and the South African market, which seemed to be livening up last month, has now relapsed again. The development of Egypt, under Lord Cromer's régime, has resulted in a growing trade connection between that country and North Staffordshire, but there has been a marked diminution in the number of orders coming to hand from the market lately. The home market, also, has not improved since I last wrote. "People seem afraid to buy," was the expression used to me by the head of one large firm, and many other manufacturers, who have made elaborate preparations to secure trade with choice assortments of new goods, freely express disappointment at their reception. Still it must be remembered that when an artificial briskness springs up, such as was created last month by the expectation of a prolonged struggle between capital and labour in this district, a set-back is bound to follow, and the slack time we are now experiencing was, in the opinion of many, inevitable. That it may soon come to an end, and be followed by a spell of good trade, will be the general hope.

If one were to judge by the Board of Trade returns alone, it would appear that trade is much better than is actually the case. The exports keep up well so far, but, of course, they largely represent orders which were received two or three months ago, and, in some instances, much longer back even than that. The exports of ware for February totalled £211,010, as against £183,219 in 1907, and £164,522 in 1906. The United States contributed to this increase of £28,000 by roughly speaking, £2,000; France by £3,000; the Argentine by £4,500; the East Indies by £3,300; Australia by £6,000; Canada by £2,400, and other countries by nearly £7,000. During the two months ended February, the exports of British ware amounted, in value, to £425,088, the figures for 1907 and 1906, respectively, being £395,328 and £351,476. The foreign ware placed upon the markets of the United Kingdom during the same period, (after deducting re-exports) amounts to £120,063.

It is quite possible that in the very near future, manufacturers will again be compelled to consider very seriously the question of further increasing the prices of both china and earthenware. It is perhaps a little early, yet, to speak of this, but it is as well that the retailer should know what he is to expect. Whether the arrangements which have now been made to refer the demand of the operatives for increased wages to a Conciliation Board result in any advance being given or otherwise, need not at the present moment be considered, though, ultimately, what is done will exercise a considerable effect on the course of prices. But tho simple fact that manufacturers and operatives are now pledged to make a serious effort to adjust "counts" and "sizes," and to establish a uniform basis for these things throughout the trade, must inevitably result in a great levelling up of making and selling prices. Few would venture to dispute that, in many factories, counts and sizes have been extended much beyond reasonable limits, and that thereby tho undercutting evil has been accentuated while the operatives have also suffered. It is to the interest of every good employer, and of every good and self respecting operative, that these things should be put right. The Conciliation Board will have a big task before it, but hopes are entertained that it will succeed, and in that case, ware will cost more to produce at many places. Other points will also need consideration before long. The Miners' Eight Hours Bill brings with it the prospect of large increases in the "little bills" which manufacturers have to pay for fuel. In this district already, two of the leading local collieries, in tendering for contracts, have inserted a provision to the effect that the price they quote for coal under existing conditions will be increased by 1s. 6d. per ton in the event of any legislative restriction being placed on the hours of underground labour in mines, such as is contemplated by the Government Bill. This is not idle speculation, it is actual fact, and on Monday, March 23, the Guardians of the Parish of Newcastle-under-Lyme—only two miles distant from Stoke and Hanley—accepted tenders for coal subject to this provision. Two days later (Wednesday, March 25) the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce (most of the members of which are pottery manufacturers) showed their appreciation of the seriousness of the position by holding an important meeting at Stoke, when a resolution protesting against the measure now before Parliament was passed. Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P., the President of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, was present at the meeting, and delivered a telling address, in the course of which he argued that the cost of producing coal would not be increased, under the Bill, by more than 2d. or 4d. per ton, and he declared that if he thought it would lead to an increase of 1s. 6d. per ton, he would withdraw his support to the measure. This, of course, is all very well, but the central fact remains that 1s. 6d. per ton extra has already been demanded, and agreed to be paid, if the Bill becomes law. Moreover, Mr. Edwards' warning that if the Bill did not become law, there were still "other means" left by which the miners could attain their object, is significant. A union as powerful as that of the miners is probably strong enough to fix, and to carry into effect, its own programme of working hours, without recourse to Parliamentary assistance at all, and it is evident that the miners intend to make a bold stand for an eight hour day, whether the Bill passes through Parliament or not. So that here, again, manufacturers are threatened with a heavy increase of working expenses. Last, and not least, we now know definitely that there is to be another Home Office inquiry respecting lead poisoning, and what that means manufacturers know only too well from past experience. For some little time past there have been rumours in the district that such an inquiry was contemplated. Mr. Gladstone's statement in the House of Commons, on Feb. 10, that he proposed to appoint a "Departmental Committee of Inquiry," which would deal with the use of lead in the potting trade, as well as in various other industries, left manufacturers in some doubt as to the nature of the inquiry, but the statement of the Home Secretary in the House on March 24 makes it clear that an investigation of a far-reaching character is to take place. Admittedly there has been an unpleasant frequency of late in the number of reported cases of plumbism, though whether this is "in spite of" the medical examination of lead workers, or "because" of it, is open to argument. Some people regard the medical examination now made, as being of too perfunctory a character to be of much real service, and perhaps there is something in that. There cannot be any doubt that important developments of the lead question are pending, and any fresh restriction which may be placed upon the trade as a result cannot do otherwise than tend towards increased wages. That is why I say to retailers that they must not be surprised if, before many more months are past, they receive intelligence of a further advance in selling prices.

The next "note" must be one of the heartiest congratulation to all concerned upon the settlement which has been achieved in the potting trade dispute. Never in the history of the trade, probably, has a more serious crisis arisen than that which existed at the end of last month; the men had demanded an advance of wages, the masters had refused altogether to consider it, and things were at a deadlock at the end of last month. Then a sudden change took place. The Rector of Stoke (all honour to him) intervened, and Mr. W. A. Appleton, of Nottingham, the able and earnest secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions, came down to second his efforts, which he did right well. But for the help which these two gentlemen gave at the most critical juncture, but for the wisdom they were able to exercise, we should already have been in the throes of a great struggle, the end of which none could foresee, but which must have spread misery and privation through this vast industrial district. It is a matter for profound thankfulness that such a contingency has not arisen. To-day there is in the Potteries "peace with honour," honour to the masters, because, in their position of strength, they acted generously towards tho operatives, and honour to the workpeople, because of their good temper and restraint. In tho settlement which has been arranged we must not forget to acknowledge the strenuous work which has been done by Mr. J. C. Bailey, the chairman of the Masters' Federation, and by Mr. A. P. Llewellyn, the tried and trusty secretary, nor that accomplished by gentlemen like Mr. John Ridgway, Mr. Edmund Leigh, and Mr. Cecil Wedgwood, whose influence with their fellow-manufacturers contributed largely to induce them to consent to refer to conciliation a matter which most of the employers were utterly opposed to considering at all. Some of the men's representatives, too, have strengthened their reputation as leaders, and we hope the good feeling which has been engendered between them and the masters, in the course of the many conferences which have taken place, may long continue.

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The origin of the dispute was gone into so fully in the last issue of this GAZETTE, that it is unnecessary to refer to it again at much length. The thread of the story may really be taken up from March 4, on which day a conference of masters and men was held at Stoke, when the masters agreed to discuss (1) the apprenticeship system in the potting trade, (2) the "good from hand" system, (3) the revision of "counts" and "sizes" of ware, (4) general inequalities on either side and greater uniformity of prices, (5) the formation and rules of a Board of Conciliation, (6) the establishment of a provisional Conciliatory Committee, and the extension of the notices given on both sides for four weeks from March 25. They declined, however to discuss any advance in wages, declaring that this was out of the question at the present time. Following this, a great mass meeting of operative potters was held at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, at which it was decided to persist with the demand for the consideration of wages, and sectional meetings were afterwards held in the various towns, when resolutions were passed to this effect: "That a general advance in wages is necessary to meet the increased cost of living, and that as the employers themselves control the means of obtaining such an advance by increasing the selling prices, they should include the claims and needs of the men, when increasing such prices." For some time after this, little was done. The wages question was all that stood in the way of a solution of the dispute, but the barrier seemed to be insurmountable. The masters maintained that they were making such tremendous concessions in other directions that they could go no further. On March 14, a very concise statement of the employers' case was issued by Mr. Llewellyn. In this it was pointed out that the proposal for the re-establishment of the Conciliation Board originally came from the masters, that the Ovenmen's Union, in January, refused to consider this suggestion unless an advance of 10 per cent. were first granted to its members, and that the situation was complicated soon afterwards by the handing in of many notices, by the men, in a haphazard sort of way. At some factories, no notices had been given at all; at others only one branch of the workpeople were concerned, and, while many manufacturers, paying a high rate of wages, had received notice of advances, others paying lower wages had received no notices at all. The important character of the concessions offered by the masters was accentuated by Mr. Llewellyn, who pointed out that they meant: A full inquiry *at once* with regard to the apprentice question, which it is hoped would enable any abuses to be remedied, and the engagement and number of apprentices to be put on a basis fair alike to employers and operatives. The consideration *at once* of the question how far it is possible and on what conditions to pay good from hand in cases where manufacturers now pay good from oven. The equalisation *at once* of sizes and counts. By this means it would no doubt be found possible to agree, for instance, upon a maximum size for most of the regular selling articles. The consideration *at once* of the inequalities which are said to exist between the prices paid on various works, and which would undoubtedly result in the establishment of more uniform wages and conditions on a fair and equitable basis. The re-formation as early as possible of the Board of Conciliation. "This last question," Mr. Llewellyn added, "is perhaps the most important of all. It would give the operatives a permanent tribunal, before which they could in future, claim, as of right, to bring forward any grievances in regard to wages or conditions of labour. If this Board were once firmly established, the operatives could demand that it should take into consideration the question of the possibility, or otherwise, of an advance in wages at the end of any trade year, and if the inequalities now said to exist were removed, as the manufacturers suggest, the issue to be placed before the Board, and possibly an independent Chairman, would be of a much simpler character. On the other hand, if an arbitration were to take place now, before the removal of such inequalities, the independent Chairman would have to consider the advisability, or otherwise, of giving one uniform advance on articles such as ewers, for which in some cases 3s. and in others 1s. 9d. is paid for the same identical shape. The small increase (if any) which they might possibly get now, as a result of arbitration on the question of a general advance of wages, would not be equal to the other advantages which are offered to them by their employers without any risk to their situations, and without any loss of wages pending the settlement of the matter.

The publication of this statement exercised a material effect upon the situation, and smoothed the path for the Rector of Stoke, for when, two days later, the masters and men met in conference under his chairmanship, each side was fully acquainted with the other's point of view. The conference proceedings were conducted in a very friendly fashion, and, after a protracted sitting, an adjournment was taken until Friday, March 20, when there was a momentous meeting. This was attended by representatives of both the men's unions, and also by Mr. Appleton and by Ald. Allan Gee (Vice-Chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions). The sitting lasted for five hours, and in the end, after a powerful speech had been made by Mr. Gee, the masters generously consented to allow the question of wages to go, along with the other matters, to the Conciliation Board, any award made to take effect as from July 30 next. This offer was conditional upon the workpeople being agreeable, on their part, to allow all outstanding questions in the jet and rockingham, sanitary and tile trades, to also be referred to the Board of Conciliation. In addition to this the rules for the government of the Conciliation Board were practically agreed to, and, when the meeting dissolved, the position which had been so gloomy up till then, had entirely cleared. Of course the operatives agreed to the conditions imposed by the masters—they could not conscientiously have done otherwise—and, though some of them tried to stipulate that any award made should be dated back to March 25, they did not press the point when it was urged that the masters, in all fairness, must first of all be allowed to ascertain how the other alterations contemplated may affect the cost of production. To conclude this history of the negotiations, it should be added that the executive of the Potters' Union met the next day and formally agreed to the masters' suggestions, the Ovenmen's Union fell into line—why cannot these two organisations be united?—and, at a mass meeting of the whole trade held on Tuesday, March 24, at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, the action of the executive was cordially confirmed by a gathering which was remarkable for its good sense and business-like character.

The sanitary trade, as explained last month, had a dispute of its own, the masters having given notices of reductions on certain articles, while the men asked that a price should be fixed for "casting," the process which, to some extent, is now replacing pressing. The casting question was the most serious one, and the masters made what most people regard as very sensible and reasonable offers with the object of arriving at a settlement. It was suggested that a number of men, after having received a month's education in casting, during which time they were to be well paid, should enter upon a test against some selected workmen, so as to see what really could be earned, the ultimate price to be paid to be settled on the completion of the test either by agreement or in such other manner as might be arranged. The operatives raised some rather trivial objections on minor points, such as how many hours a day the men should work while the test was in progress. The masters also offered to refer the points at issue and their own notices for a reduction, to a Board of Conciliation, consisting of six manufacturers and six operatives, presided over by the County Court Judge of the District, but even with this suggestion the men did not close, though afterwards, from remarks made in the speeches at the mass meeting of operatives at Victoria Hall, on March 24, it appears that they were sorry they had not seized the opportunity of settling straight away. So the negotiations dragged on, until in the end the masters made it a condition of their agreement to allow the question of wages in the general trade to go to the Conciliation Board, that the men should similarly agree to the sanitary dispute also going to the Board. Thus the sanitary dispute, together with the other sectional disputes, will thus come into the general settlement. It now remains to get the Conciliation Board to work as speedily as possible and clear all these questions off the slate.

Good news was received in the Potteries on Monday, March 23, when the draft orders of the Local Government Board for the Federation of the Potteries towns into one county borough was received. At the same time there have so far been no open manifestations of rejoicing, because, as yet, a feeling of the greatest uncertainty prevails as to what may happen. The Order is addressed to the authorities concerned, viz., the Corporations and Justices of Hanley, Burslem, Stoke, and Longton, to the District Councils of Tunstall and Fenton, the Quarter Sessions of Hanley, and to the County Council, and it is requested that any comments on the draft order should be sent to the Local Government Board within a fortnight. Already there are rumours that the comments to be made upon the Order by certainly two, and probably three, of the towns will express dissatisfaction, and one of the boroughs is credited with the intention of taking up an attitude of strong opposition to the proposals of Mr. Burns. The draft order provides that the name of the new county borough shall be Stoke-on-Trent. The Hanley Quarter Sessions, magistrates and clerkships, police and coronership will extend to the whole of the new borough. The financial scheme contained in the Order is also practically that submitted by Hanley at the Local Government Board inquiry, three months or so ago. The basis of the financial arrangements is a valuation of assets and liabilities. Any town not having a proportion of assets equal to its rateable value will have to pay extra (if the Order is confirmed), and any town with assets more than proportionate to its rateable value will receive something by way of compensation, the differences being paid, or received, in 20 annual instalments. With these exceptions, there will apparently be a flat rate—a circumstance which may well somewhat disturb manufacturers, and other large ratepayers, in the lower rated towns such as Fenton. The Order is to come into effect on

Nov. 9 next, on which date 26 aldermen are to be elected, 78 councillors having been previously elected on Nov. 2. The Council of the new borough will thus consist, in all, of 104 members. The Council is to adopt an united scheme for education, and the existing electric light and gas orders will be amalgamated to ensure proper control. After the amendments proposed by the existing local councils have been considered, the Local Government Board will make the official Order, which will then have to pass Parliament. It will then be laid on the table of the House of Commons, and, if not objected to within 40 days, will become law. When this has been accomplished, as everyone who has the true interests of the district and of the potting trade at heart, will hope that it may be, we shall have memorable rejoicings in the Potteries, for the general reception accorded the Order has been cordial in the extreme.

On March 23 an inquest was held at Burslem as to the death of John George Oakes, a potter's dipper, who died on March 19, as was supposed from lead poisoning. Mr. F. W. Hodgkinson, of the firm of Ford & Sons, Newcastle-st., said the deceased was employed by the firm for 12 or 14 years, as a glost placer, and occasionally as a dipper. He produced the medical registers dating from 1903 to 1907, and right up till May, 1907, when he was stopped by the factory surgeon, the deceased was marked "very fair." He was comparatively a sober man and was moderately clean in his work. He never made any complaint to witness of feeling unwell. Henry James Watts, physician and surgeon, who had attended the deceased for ten months, said that the symptoms were consistent with lead poisoning. Dr. King Alcock, the factories' certifying surgeon for the Burslem district, said that in May last year, when the deceased left work, he examined him and found he was suffering from tremors, while there was a certain amount of weakening of the wrists. He had a thin blue line on the gums and witness diagnosed that he was suffering from lead poisoning. Witness made a post-mortem examination, and what he found was consistent with the diagnosis he had previously made. The cause of death was cerebral hemorrhage, set up by chronic kidney disease, which was brought about by the deceased working in lead. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. Cecil Wedgwood (president) in the chair. The Railway Rates Committee reported that, in reply to the Chamber's request for a revision of rates for pottery, a joint reply had been received from the railway companies stating the matter had had the fullest consideration of the companies concerned, but they were not prepared to admit that further modifications in the rates were called for; and, in view of the increased and increasing cost of working, they regretted they could not at the present time accede to the wishes of the Chamber for any reductions beyond those which had been already given. After full discussion the committee had decided to leave the matter in the hands of Messrs. Wheatley and A. Sherwin, authorising them to take the best course they might consider advisable to bring the matter before the President of the Board of Trade with a view to inducing him to bring in a bill for providing a better, cheaper, and more expeditious tribunal for redressing the grievances of traders against railway companies. The report was adopted. The Chamber also decided to petition Parliament against the Miners' Eight Hours Bill, on account of the increased cost of coal for manufacturing purposes that would result. The Home Secretary, on Thursday, received a deputation of representatives of all the leading industries who submitted a protest against the Bill, but Mr. Gladstone disputed the assertion that the effect of the Bill would be to raise the price of coal. Mr. T. C. Moore reported that, on behalf of the Chamber, he had had an interview with the Board of Trade for the purpose of discussing the tariff treatment of earthenware and sanitary ware imported into Russia. He pointed out the extreme gravity of the question to this district, and that the Russian methods of distinguishing between china and earthenware (by chipping the article) and of testing (by drawing ink lines along the chipped surface) were very crude, and extremely likely to result in injury to the articles chipped. He also pointed out this test was not at all an effective mode of determining whether an article was china or earthenware. When asked if he could give some method of determining the matter, he replied he could not specify any method which would be of use to a person inexperienced in the trade. He, however, stated that in no single instance was sanitary ware made of a porcelain body. That seemed to fix the question. The Board of Trade, he supposed, were sending a despatch to the Ambassador in St. Petersburg to say that in no case was British earthenware ever made of a china body, and by that means they might hope the test would be discontinued.—The Chairman said the issue was very satisfactory, and showed the advantage of manufacturers and traders having a Chamber of Commerce to back them up in any dealings they might have with the Government.—Mr. Moore was thanked for his services in the matter.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, March 16.

MARCH 4, the annual "settling day" in Canada, has been looked forward to with considerable apprehension this year, owing to the financial stringency of the preceding few months, but the expected failures to meet obligations were not realised. The wholesale houses report that the requests for an extension of time were not more numerous than in other years, and the banks are inclined to be unusually optimistic as to the outlook. This hopeful state of affairs, at the close of the extremely severe winter, will serve to keep the wheels of trade moving freely until the warm spring sun has cleared the highways of their almost impassable drifts of snow, and opened them to permit the farmers to carry to market produce which would otherwise have been turned into cash two or three months ago. Then business will revive with a bound. Only once before in thirty years has the snowfall been as great in Canada as during the winter now coming to a close, and in parts of Eastern Canada the roads are still piled 6 to 8 feet deep with "the beautiful snow."

In my last letter I alluded to contemplated changes in the firm of Myott, Son & Co., Toronto. Mr. Ashley Myott, of Cobridge, Staffordshire, president of the company, has been here for the past week effecting some changes and establishing a new order of things, the full nature of which he is unwilling to divulge at present; but Mr. H. C. Bedlington has withdrawn from the company, and his office of managing director has not yet been filled. Mr. Bedlington's plans for the future are not yet certain, but it is highly probable that he will establish another import agency and continue to represent some of the manufacturers whose goods have been leading features of the house of Myott, Son & Co. The Crystal Glass Co., Ltd., of New Westminster B.C., is preparing to instal another melting furnace. This company, which was organised on Aug. 12, 1906, has a thoroughly modern plant. So far, it has confined its operations to the manufacture of bottles for the brewing, liquor and drug trades, fruit jars, lantern globes and pressed ware, for all of which they report ready sales in British Columbia and along the coast, and extending into the North-West Provinces. The factory is situated ideally on the banks of the Fraser River, where the company has a wharf 250 feet long and a depth of 26 feet of water at low water mark, and permitting ocean vessels to tie up safely. The site of the factory is eight acres in area, and manufacturing is carried on in two corrugated iron buildings, each 200 by 90 feet in dimensions, equipped with gas-fired melting tanks with necessary annealing lehrs, also gas-fired, and the latest types of machines for the production of the classes of ware described. The climate of that part of British Columbia is claimed to be ideal for manufacturing glass, on account of the equable temperature, which makes it possible to produce an exceptionally uniform output. I give these particulars to impress upon the many thousand readers of THE POTTERY GAZETTE throughout the Empire, the up-to-date character of Canadian industrial development.

Mr. Frederick Buscombe, the "crockery" king of British Columbia, passed through Toronto recently on his way to New York and Great Britain on a purchasing tour. Mr. James S. Walker, a young Scotchman, recently out from Glasgow, where he was brought up in the crockery trade in the establishment of McDougall & Sons, has secured a position as traveller for Mr. E. W. Klotz, of Toronto, Canadian agent for Maddock's and Allerton's pottery. Mr. Walker was seven years with the McDougalls, who have a pottery in North Glasgow, and subsequently he travelled in Scotland for J. H. Weatherby & Son and Charles Waine.

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I was in Quebec a few days ago, and drove out in a low sleigh through snowdrifts 12 feet high to the memorable Plains of Abraham, which is to be the scene next summer of a national celebration of the famous duel between Wolfe and Montcalm. The historic field lies 6 feet deep in snow, and presents a dreary aspect. I doubt very much if H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would care to be the guest of Quebec in winter, but it will look differently by the time the British squadron comes to anchor off the grim old citadel. Quebec has only two really good china and glassware stores, and they were complaining bitterly that their import orders last season did not arrive until after the holidays, and they had nearly all that stock still on hand. So they are not purchasing as freely as they otherwise would, despite the fact that the celebration should give them an extra harvest time for souvenirs. It was discouraging, to say the least, to see the holidays slip by with seasonable goods in transit, and undelivered until the beginning of the year. However, the orders given by the Quebec people were mostly for better class goods, so that the travellers had little fault to find with the figures in their order-books.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

REPORTS from the city and town retail houses show but an indifferent complexion as regards the turn-over met with during the course of March. The turbulent weather conditions experienced towards the close of February have not been repeated during March ; indeed up to within the last ten days of the month, comparative dryness has been the rule, accompanied, however, with very low temperature, which militated against any sort of shopping which could conveniently be put off, and buying pottery is unmistakably of that kind, as experience constantly teaches. What business there has been passing, too, has not been of the most profitable description, so that the whole outcome leaves a good deal to be desired. Price conditions have not shown any change during the month, the last advances being quite fully maintained.

Reports from the wholesale merchants and their travellers, and from the makers, reveal nothing very encouraging, but they are distinctly more satisfactory than those emanating from the retail section. Orders are now in course of execution for the coming seaside season, and as last season was much of a failure, the hope seems to be lively that this coming summer is to make up for last year's blanks. Fairly liberal orders have been coming in, including china, glass, stoneware, &c., and when early in May the season matures, the retail houses at the various watering places, and other health-resorts, will be found more than usually well-stocked in all the ordinary lines. The higher grade of values is reported as receiving general acquiescence by this time, though last season it still acted as somewhat of hindrance to liberal ordering.

Apart from the summer resort section of the outlook, there are the general country or agricultural and fishing districts, and in these the very bad cereal harvest of last year, and the somewhat scanty returns of the fishing industry generally, show themselves now in the difficulty experienced in gathering in outstanding accounts, accompanied, of course, by a restricted business in the matter of the needs of the current season. With a better harvest and improved fishing over the coming season (such as is fervently hoped for), these present drawbacks will, no doubt, be replaced by conditions much more acceptable.

One comforting circumstance within the Scottish field, is to be found in the stoppage of the beginning of a general strike in the Potteries. Only two potteries were affected at the time of writing a month ago. It was feared that more were to be involved, but by the exercise of prudence and common sense on both sides, the partial disturbance has been allayed, and work is now going on on the old terms, over all the Potteries. The solution has been found in the willingness of both sides to abide by the decision of the Board of Trade Arbitrator (under the Arbitration and Conciliation enactment) after examination by him of the points of disagreement. This examination will take place as soon as possible, and considering the really very indifferent vitality of the pottery industries generally, at the present time, there should be little doubt as to what the decision will be. The small Scottish "rift in the lute" may therefore be regarded as mended.

Rockingham distribution reports show that the demand during the month has fallen off perceptibly, but the values, as recently rearranged, are not affected. This, of course, is the off season for deliveries of jam jars, but production and stocking go on in fair volume.

Good progress is being made with the Edinburgh National Exhibition (to open in May), and it is certain that our industries will be represented, but exactly in what measure cannot yet be determined.

The Gazette.

Dissolution of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

PHILLIPS K. & M. (Kremke Phillips and Morris Phillips), 19, Mansell-st., Aldgate, glass merchants. Feb. 17. Debts by M. Phillips. (March 10.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

JENA GLASS CO., LTD. Resolved Feb. 3, confirmed Feb. 20 :—That the company be wound up. W. H. Barnes, 11 Poultry, E.C., liqr.

STANDARD POTTERY CO., LTD. Resolved Jan. 31, confirmed Feb. 15 :—That the company be wound up. J. S. Finney, Tunstall, liqr.

STUBBS BROS. & JNO. CHEW (LONGTON), LTD. F. T. Halcomb, King-st., Newcastle (Staffs.), liqr. released Feb. 13.

TRERICE CHINA CLAY CO., LTD. Resolved Jan. 30, confirmed Feb. 26 :—That having regard to the agreement of Dec. 30 made between this company and Chas. E. H. Donges, on behalf of a company then about to be formed to take over this company's business, this company be wound up. R. G. Laws, a director, liqr.

Notice of Intended Dividend.

HASLIP KATE, 48, High-st., Dover, glass dealer. Claims to J. O. Morris, Canterbury, O.R.

Private Meeting.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

WHITE FRANCIS J., china and glass merchant, trading as Frank White, 145 and 146, Queen-st., Portsea. The creditors of the above were recently called together at Portsmouth, when a statement of affairs, prepared by Poppleton & Appleby, was submitted. This showed liabilities amounting to £1,901 19s. 1d., of which £401 2s. 1d. was due to unsecured trade creditors, the balance

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of £1,500 17s. being in respect of cash claims. There was one fully secured cash creditor for £17, who held securities valued at a like amount. After allowing £49 18s. 5d. for preferential claims, the assets were expected to produce £620 1s. 7d., a deficiency being thus disclosed of £1,281 17s. 6d. The assets consisted of stock-in-trade, £900, estimated to produce £600; fixtures and fittings, £35; and household furniture, £15. Book debts amounting to £145 were expected to realise £50, but were assigned to a solicitor as security for costs and executions paid out. After allowing for these charges, the book debts were expected to show a surplus of £20. It was stated that the debtor purchased the business, in March, 1905, from Mr. Charles Gray, for a sum of £1,000. This money was advanced by the bank in consideration of securities being deposited with them by two of the debtor's friends. Last March one of these gentlemen died, and the securities were called in. The debtor then consulted his father-in-law, who agreed to guarantee the bank up to £1,100, and this amount was included in the cash claims. The business appears to have been carried on at a loss, and the debtor attributed his present position to the new regulations as to the supply of goods to the navy, the reduction in the number of licensed premises, and competition of larger houses. The deficiency was explained by loss on trading, depreciation of assets, and to the trade expenses being heavier than the gross profits. Owing to there being several suing creditors, a deed of assignment had been executed to Mr. E. H. Hawkins, of Poppleton & Appleby, as trustee. The debtor had no offer to make, and it was decided that the deed should be confirmed and the estate realised. A committee of inspection was also appointed.

Beech Jonathan, china merchant, Stockport (deceased). The creditors of the above were called together a few days ago, when a statement of affairs was submitted showing liabilities amounting to £511 14s. 4d. The assets, after allowing £27 1s. for preferential claims, were estimated to produce £427 4s. 5d., a deficiency of £84 9s. 11d. being thus disclosed. It was stated that the debtor died on Jan. 7 last, and by his will his wife was left the sole executrix, and the business had since been carried on by her. No trading account was submitted, as the debtor had not kept proper books. The widow was desirous of carrying on the business, and on her behalf an offer was made of a composition of 10s. in the £, payable as to 5s. in cash, and the balance of 5s. in three months. The offer appeared to meet with general acceptance on the understanding that the last instalment was secured to the satisfaction of Mr. W. Bateman, of Stockport. It was also decided that in the event of the composition not being accepted by all the creditors that the estate should be realised under a deed of assignment, or by a letter of authority to be given by Mrs. Beech.

Appointment of Trustee.

Winskell Rbt. G., 98, High-st., Merton, glass merchant. Trustee, F. W. Davis, 25, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is necessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—Eds. P. G.)

Beronius Victor, Victoria-house, Lydford-rd., Westcliff-on-Sea, and Geo. Seymour King, 83, Gore-rd., South Hackney, trading at 12, Fore-st., E.C., as Beronius, King, & Co., general merchants. Dated March 5. Filed March 11. Liabilities unsecured, £8,957. Assets, less secured claims, £1,068. Tr., S. P. Child, 42, Poultry, London, E.C. The following are creditors:—Anti-Attritrions Metal Co., Ltd., London, £34; W. & J. A. Bailey, London, £24; Becker & Co., London, £200; Darke, Day, & Co., Ltd., London, £154; De Grelle, Houdret & Co., London, £12; M. Ekenberg, London, £10; Harbard & Poole, London, £72; Kosta Glass Works, Ltd., London, £51; Langanese Bronze and Brass Co., Ltd., London, £36; Mahla Bros., London, £24; A. J. Pocock, London, £179; Roller & Co., London, £25; C. Richter, London, £16; D. Smith, London, £12; Topham & Co., London, £15; Trinder, Capron & Co., London, £21; Trade Mark Owners' Association, Ltd., London, £53; Dr. A. C. Tunstall, London, £39; O. W. Ulander, London, £50; Weiss & Biheller, London, £31; E. B. Westman, London, £707; Worthington Pump Co., Ltd., London, £43; J. Windart & Co., London, £12; Waterlow Bros. & Layton, Ltd., London, £11; Dr. Wright, London, £19; B. de Costa Andrade, London, £136; W. Turner, Boxmoor, £18; P. Wintlen, Christiania, £59; E. Rolle, Denis, £13; E. V. Beronius, Eskilstuna, £738; Dahlgrens Fabriks, Eskilstuna, £13; Eskilstuna Jernmanne Fallar, Eskilstuna, £348; C. O. Oberg & Co., Eskilstuna, £80; Tornblon & Hedengrans, Eskilstuna, £18; Smith & Maclean, Glasgow, £80; Karl Backlund, Gothenburg, £603; Axen Hofstedt, Gothenburg, £296; Athos Warnbaum, Haemstadt, £115; E. J. Bergens, Harnoagas, £37; Tinsda Jandstikferningen, Helsingfors, £421; Westerland & Co., Helsingfors, £13; Sandviks Geasbrook, Hofmantorp, £147; Husgvana Vapenz Fabriks, Husgvana, £67; Hall & Fox, Leeds, £12; Société Anonyme, &c., Manage, £84; Taylor & Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne, £24; J. Neill & Co., Sheffield, £143; Boulton & Mills, Stourbridge, £19; Aktiebotoget Johan Engstram, £102; Jones, Lang & Co., £28. Secured creditors, £103. Bankers' claims, £2,486. Contingent liabilities on bills, &c., £787.

Harrison Jemima, late the Beehive Works, Normacot-rd., and 15, Queen-st., now 7, Stone-rd., all Longton, dealer in and decorator of china and earthenware (wife of Chas. Harrison). Assignment of book debts, &c., upon trust, &c. Dated March 12. Filed March 17. Liabilities unsecured, £56. Assets, less secured claims, £30. Tr., Saml. A. Griffiths, Boardman's-buildings, Longton. The following are creditors:—Lang, Jonas & Co., London, £10; Greener & Co., Sunderland, £17.

Lisemore Mary, 7, Equity-rd., Leicester, china dealer (wife of Fred Hy. Lisemore). Dated March 9. Filed March 12. Liabilities unsecured, £76. Assets, less secured claims, £30. Tr., A. A. Spencer, 3, Welford-rd., Leicester acct.

White Francis Jas., trading as Frank White, 145–6, Queen-st., Portsea, and residing at Waterlooville, china and glass merchant. Dated Feb. 21. Filed Feb. 28. Liabilities unsecured, £1,935. Assets, less secured claims, £672. Tr., E. H. Hawkins, 4, Charterhouse-square, E.C. The following are creditors:—United States Glass Co., London, £12; Oppenheimer & Co., London, £16; L. Lepersonne L. & Co., London, £13; Gilbert & Co., London, £17; Ridley, Whitley & Co., London, £10; J. King, London, £12; — Saunders, London, £50; A. Wilkin, London, £140; Harrison Deykin, Birmingham, £11; Gaskell & Chambers, Ltd., Birmingham, £10; J. Cunningham, Brighton, £26; G. Hobson, Burslem, £31; Healing & Co., Burslem, £20; J. Kirkwood, Croydon, £42; Sowerbys, Ltd., Gateshead, £11; C. Ford, Hanley, £11; Equitable Advance Co., Landport, £10; W. H. Bolitho, Portsea, £10; Miss Snelling, Portsea, £16; Hampshire Advance Co., Portsmouth, £11; S. Barnard, Southsea,

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AND ROYAL SEMI-PORCELAIN, ALSO

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LONDON SHOW ROOMS,

49, HATTON GARDEN, E.C. GREEN BROS., AGENTS.

New York Agent, Edward Butler, 45, Warren Street.

Australian Agent, Neal Harrison, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Paris Agent, M. Mitaine, 39, Rue Paradis.

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£75 ; Kirkham Hollinshead, Tunstall, £20. Secured creditors, £17. Bankers' claims, £1,133.

Order Made on Application for Discharge.

STUBBS WILLIAM & ROBERT, china manufacturers, Hill Crest, Caverswall-lane, Blyth Bridge, and Upper Belgrave-rd., Longton, Stafford. On March 11, at the Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, an application was made to his honour Judge Ruegg for the discharge from bankruptcy of the above debtors. The Official Receiver reported that the failure occurred in 1906, and no dividend had yet been paid. The debtors started business in partnership in 1898 as china manufacturers at Argyle Works, Fenton, their joint capital amounting to about £1,150. The partnership continued until about July, 1904, when a limited liability company was formed to acquire their business and also the china manufacturing business for some time carried on at Mill-st., Longton, by Mr. John Chew. The nominal capital was £1,000, but little or no cash was derived from the issue of shares in the company. The statement of liabilities and assets relative to both businesses was prepared on May 1, 1904. The terms under which the businesses were consolidated, and under which the liabilities and assets were taken over by the company were that W. & R. Stubbs were to have £2,004 and Mr. J. Chew £1,618. W. and R. Stubbs' consideration was £2,000 in the first mortgage debentures and four £1 shares. Mr. Chew took £300 in first mortgage debentures, and the balance of the purchase money was to be credited to his wife as a loan in the company's books. The £2,000 debentures to Messrs Stubbs were transferred to their mother to secure her loan and interest, and the whole of their interest in the company then consisted of only two £1 shares each. Mr. Chew shortly afterwards retired from the company. William and Robert Stubbs were both directors, the former being the managing director and Robert the traveller, their remuneration being fixed at £3 a week each. Mrs. Emily Stubbs advanced a further £500 to the company in consideration of further debentures being issued to her for that amount. On Nov. 4, 1904, the debtors signed the guarantee of £500 to the company's bankers. In Aug., 1905, a balance sheet was prepared, which showed that the company had lost about £1,800 during the first year's trading. No further balance sheet was prepared. On May 19, 1906, Mrs. Emily Stubbs, as the principal debenture holder, appointed a receiver to take possession of the company's assets and to carry on the business. The debtors continued their employment at the works at the same salary. In March, 1907, the court made an order for the compulsory winding up of the company. The Official Receiver said the company was largely under the control of W. and R. Stubbs, and they were largely responsible for its disastrous termination. The Receiver, through W. and R. Stubbs, carried on the business for several weeks, and it was now being carried on by the debtors on their mother's behalf, their position being the same as heretofore. His honour remarked that the debtors started with a fair capital and did their best to make the business go, but they did not seem to have been successful. Their fortunes were entirely involved in the company, and it had come to grief. The discharge was granted, but suspended for two years.

Lead Poisoning.—We are officially informed just as we go to press that the Home Secretary has decided to hold an inquiry by means of a Departmental Committee, into the dangers attendant on the use of lead in several industries, and it is probable that the industry first dealt with by the committee will be the manufacture of china and earthenware. The composition of the committee is proceeding, and it is expected will soon be complete.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" by Messrs. G. F. REDFERN & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

CHINA CASTING APPARATUS, No. 4,806.—J. Stubbs. Improved apparatus for casting hollow and other ware of china and other materials. March 3, 1908.

CHINA CLAY DRYING, No. 2,396.—H. W. Hancock and A. H. Dykes. Improvements in and connected with the drying of china clay. Feb. 3, 1908.

CLAY TREATMENT, No. 3,485.—G. Keppeler and A. Spangenberg. Improved treatment of clay, kaolin, or ceramic masses. February 15, 1908.

DISHES, No. 4,501.—Cooper Bros. & Sons, Ltd., and T. Cooper. Improvements in entrée and like dishes. Feb. 28, 1908.

DRAIN PIPE JOINTING, No. 5085.—W. Smith. Improvements in jointing sanitary or other drain pipes and the like. March 6, 1908.

FIRE-BACK, No. 4,085.—D. McLean. Improved fire-back. February 24, 1908.

GAS-FIRED KILNS, No. 2,905.—G. Fenn and C. F. Priest. Improvements in gas-fired kilns. Feb. 10, 1908.

GAS-FIRED KILNS, No. 3,255.—D. Hadlington and E. Webster. Improvements in regenerative gas-fired kilns for burning bricks, pipes, tiles, pottery, and the like. Feb. 13, 1908.

GAS-FIRED KILNS, No. 5,187.—E. Schmatolla. Improvements in gas-fired kilns. March 7, 1908.

GLASS SHEET CUTTING IMPLEMENTS, No. 3,468.—C. F. Chapman. Improvements in implements for cutting shaped sections from glass sheets. Feb. 15, 1908.

GLASS TILES, No. 4,102.—A. Berndt. Improvements in glass tiles. Feb. 24, 1908.

INFANTS' FEEDING BOTTLES, No. 4,119.—A. J. B. Williams. Improvements in or relating to infants' feeding bottles. February 24, 1908.

INKSTANDS, No. 3,074.—G. H. Stutfield. Improvements in inkstands, Feb. 11, 1908.

INKSTANDS, No. 3,145.—E. T. Darke. Improvements in inkstands. Feb. 12, 1908.

KILN FIRING, No. 4,123.—A. Wilson. Improvements in or relating to the firing of rotary and like kilns or furnaces. February 24, 1908.

LAVATORY BASINS, No. 3,857.—H. J. Beresford. Improvements in and relating to lavatory basins for railway and like coaches. Feb. 20, 1908.

LAVATORY BASINS, No. 4,015.—A. Sherwin. Improvements in lavatory basins. Feb. 22, 1908.

LAVATORY BASINS, No. 5,003.—G. & D. Musgrave, Ltd., G. Musgrave and D. Musgrave. Improvements in lavatory basins. March 5, 1908.

PLACING CHINA ARTICLES IN SAGGERS, No. 4,416.—W. H. Grindley. Improved means for placing dishes, plates, saucers, and similar articles of earthenware and china in saggers. Feb. 27, 1908.

PLASTIC MATERIALS, No. 3,582.—R. W. Wallace and G. Reynaud. Process for obtaining elastic plastic and mastic materials. Feb. 17, 1908.

PLASTIC MATERIAL TUBE, No. 3,725.—J. Denham and W. Whyte. Improved tube or bag for use with plastic materials. February 10, 1908.

POTTERY, No. 3,801.—C. T. Tyrer. Improvements in or relating to the manufacture of pottery, earthenware, fireclay-ware, and metal enamelled-ware. Feb. 20, 1908.

PRISMATIC PLATE GLASS, No. 2,777.—J. R. Corsan and J. T. Corsan. Prismatic plate glass. Feb. 7, 1908.

REFLECTORS, No. 2,695.—C. H. Wingfield. Improvements relating to reflectors. Feb. 6, 1908.

ROTARY KILNS, No. 3,010.—H. J. Haddan (W. R. Warren, United States). Improvements in the manufacture of cement. February 10, 1908.

SEALING CONDUCTORS INTO QUARTZ GLASS, No. 3,761.—The Silica Syndicate, Ltd., and H. A. Kent. Improvements in sealing conductors into quartz glass and the like. Feb. 19, 1908.

TEAPOT LID, No. 3,148.—J. Brown. Safety lid or cover for teapots and the like. Feb. 12, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

3,449.—Bailey. Combined slop pail and night commode.

4,155.—Gee. Method of treating china-clay, ochre, and similar materials and apparatus therefor.

11,936.—Monks. Chimney pots.

13,533.—Twyford & Moore. Gas-fired pottery and others kilns or ovens.

17,465.—Milliron. Method of and apparatus for drawing hollow glass articles.

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All kinds of Colours, Glazes, and Stains

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Mr. T. ADAMS,
Terrace North, Fenton, Staffs.
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19,315.—Robinson. Milk and like bowls.
23,238.—Mayer. Process of and apparatus for bedding or placing china, porcelain, and the like for firing.
27,829.—Von Baeyer. Medicine bottles.
8,268.—Koenig. Glass furnaces.
8,687.—Lovatt, Lovatt & Lovatt. Process of decorating or finishing earthenware or pottery.
23,074.—Potts. Detachable handle for jugs and other vessels.
24,576.—Eugster. Porcelain-lined syphon heads.
27,943.—Gee. Feeding bottles.

Designs.

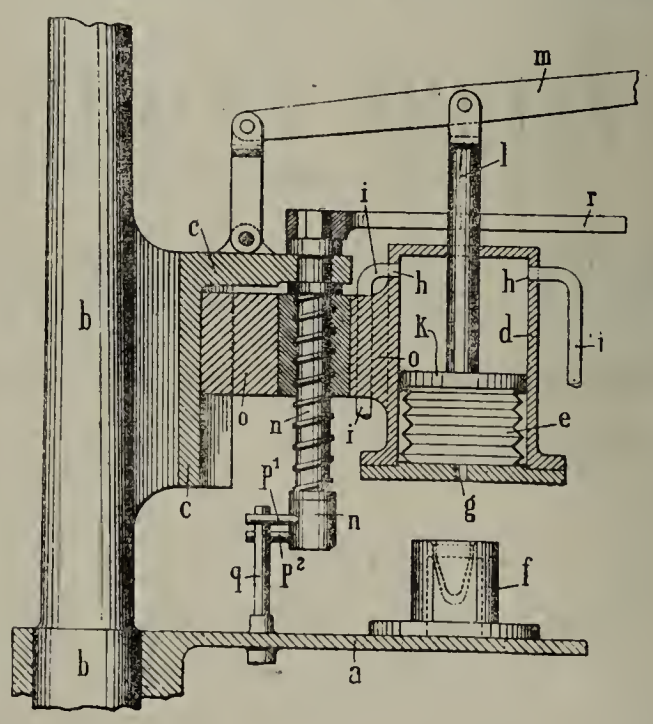
518,733.—Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem.
518,739.—Falk, Stadelmann & Co., Ltd., 83, Farringdon-rd, E.C.
518,763-4.—Fletcher, Russell & Co., Ltd., Warrington.
518,780-1.—Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem.
518,867.—Falk, Stadelmann & Co., Ltd., 83, Farringdon-rd., E.C.
518,910.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton, Staff.
518,912.—Rubian Art Pottery, Ltd., Park-rd., Fenton.
518,913.—J. Walsh Walsh, Soho and Vesta Glass Works, Lodge-rd., Birmingham.
518,926.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton, Staffs.
518,927.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
518,936.—W. Pelzer, Laubenheim, near Mayence, Germany.
518,965-7.—Barkers & Kent, Ltd., Foley Pottery, Fenton.
518,968.—Atlas China Co., Ltd., Wolfe-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
519,016.—G. Terry, 107, Bothwell-st., Glasgow.
519,017.—Schlinder & Co., 9, Aldermanbury-avenue, E.C.
519.018.—Art Pavements and Decorations, Ltd., 7, Emerald-st., E.C.
519,019.—J. Affelbaum, 22, High-st., Manchester.
519,031.—J. Bourne & Son, Denby Pottery, nr. Derby.
519,720.—Fletcher, Russell & Co., Ltd., Warrington.
519,722.—Sandlands & Colley, Ltd., Lichfield Pottery, Hanley.
519,787-85.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.
519,834.—J. Macintyre & Co., Ltd., Washington Works, Burslem, and Bryant & May, Ltd., Fairfield Works, Bow, E.
519,113.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
519,576.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
519,702.—H. W. Lake, 35, Wood-st., E.C.
519,721.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.
519,756-8.—C. T. Maling & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
519,765-6.—Hopkins & Co., Hose-st., Tunstall.
519,883-9.—Pilkington's Tile and Pottery Co., Ltd., Clifton.
519,900-1.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E.C.
519,902.—British and Foreign Bottle Co., 107, Cannon-st., E.C.
520,013.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
520,026.—C. Davis, 147, New Bond-st., W.
520,168.—British and Foreign Bottle Co., 107, Cannon-st., E.C.
520,159-60.—Thos. Forrester & Sons, Ltd., Phœnix Works, Longton.
520,169.—S. Maw, Son, & Sons, 7-12, Aldersgate-st., E.C.
520,226.—John Tams & Sons, Sheffield-st., Longton.
519,072.—Henry Richards Tile Co., Pinnox Works, Tunstall.
519,078.—A. Bromet & Co., 39, Jewin-st., E.C.
519,086.—H. J. Ford, 5, Norfolk-rd., N.W.
519,087.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E.C.
518,831.—Max Emanuel & Co., 41-2, Shoe-lane, E.C.
518,937-8.—Siemens Bros, York-st., Westminster, S.W.
519,083-4.—Telephos, Ltd., 115, Cannon-st., E.C.
519,211.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
519,267.—T. H. Dent, 16, Langton-st., Preston.
519,315-8.—Furnivals, Ltd., Cobridge.
519,330.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E.C.
519,353-4.—Empire Porcelain Co., Hanley-rd., Stoke-on-Trent.
519,380.—H. M. Williamson & Sons, Bridge Pottery, Longton.
519,388.—Cutler, Wardle & Co., Ltd., Manchester.
519,389.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E.C.
519,073.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
519,343.—Wiltshaw, Robinson & Son, Stoke-on-Trent.
519,413-4.—Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville.
519,432.—Welsbach Incandescent Gas Light Co., Ltd., 344-354, Gray's Inn-rd., W.C.
519,574-5.—H. & R. Johnson, Elder-rd., Cobridge.
519,577.—E. S. Blain, 6, Woodfield-rd., Ealing.
520,268.—J. Baker, 111, St. Ann's-rd., Rotherham.
520,276.—Miss J. A. Smith, Kingston Infirmary, Surrey.
520,335.—Taylor, Tunnicliff, & Co., Ltd., Eastwood, Hanley.
520,344.—H. J. Ford, 5, Norfolk-rd., St. John's Wood, N.W.
520,386-7.—S. Reich & Co., 23, Aldermanbury, E.C.
520,388-9.—H. Tuchman, 2, Dyers Buildings, Holborn, E.C.
520,458.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.
520,459.—Hopkins & Co., Hose-st., Tunstall, Staffs.
520,460.—Odol Chemical Works, 59-63, Park-st., S.E.
520,463.—C. E. Challis, Oakbridge, Epping.

Earthenware and Pottery, of common varieties, to the weight of 85,876,400 kilos, and valued at £903,480, were imported into France during the year 1907. Both quantity and value show a large increase.

Latest Complete Specifications.

Producing Highly Glazed Coloured Earthenware.—Karl Fischer, Art Pottery, Sulzbach, Upper Bavaria, Germany, pottery manufacturer, declares this invention to be described in the following statement :—This invention relates to a method of producing highly glazed coloured earthenware. According to the ordinary process customary in the earthenware industry, only dull glazed earthenware goods are produced without the use of glazes, by the raw articles being rubbed smooth and clean with a stone, piece of wood, or with rags and fired, or by their being coated with an enamel or colouring layer formed of clay sludge and then fired at a high temperature which causes the coating to fuse. In the latter operation, however, the goods only receive a glaze in parts, and are also unequally coloured, whilst with a weaker firing the coating or enamel only forms a coloured unglazed surface, which in case of need has to be covered with glaze. By the said method, therefore, it is not possible to produce articles of so highly uniform and velvety a glaze and so fine a colouring as the Roman earthenware goods known under the name of "terra sigillata" show. By this invention the same effect is produced in earthenware as is known in terra sigillata, by the raw articles being provided in a semi-dried, dried, or half-fired condition, first with a coating or covering in known manner, and then polished, after which only they are finally fired. The clay sludge or slurry which forms the essential constituent of the coating has colouring matter added to it in known manner. In order that the goods provided with the coating may be polished, they are allowed, after being coated, to entirely or partially dry. The polishing is continued until the goods have assumed a high glaze. During the subsequent firing the coating substance is converted into a highly fluid condition, without, however, the glazed surface of the earthenware, previously obtained by polishing, being lost.

Glass-Blowing Apparatus.—A. Schiller, 4, Luitpold-strasse, Berlin, claims :—(1) In glass-blowing apparatus the combination with a table, a mould thereon, an air-compressor mounted above the mould and vertically adjustable in relation thereto of an actuating member for pressing the compressor mouthpiece hermetically against the mould and securing same in that position. (2) Glass-blowing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 characterised by



the mounting of the air-compressor cylinder on a screw. (3) Glass-blowing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, characterised by the air-compressor having the shape of a cylinder provided, near its cover or above its piston, with air outlets to which are connected pipes extending close to



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Also best qualities and special terms for Blue, Black, Ivory, and Buff Clays, for various Earthenware, Tile, Sanitary, Majolica, Stilt, Door Furniture, &c., Bodies.

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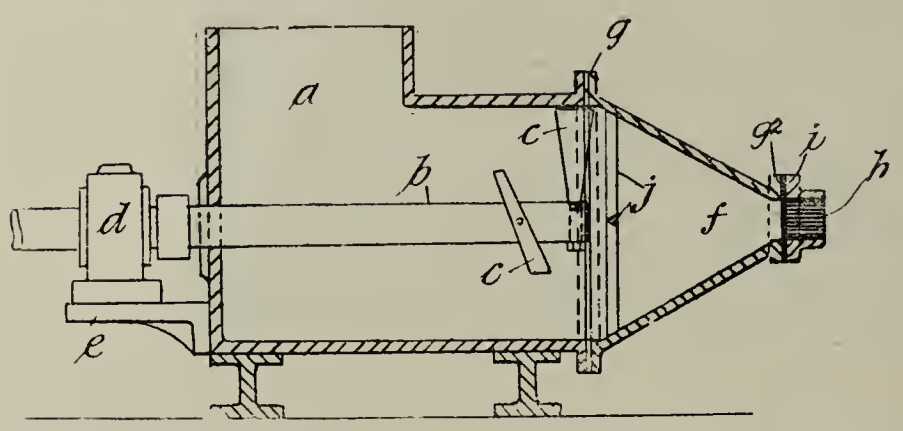
SAMPLES ON APPLICATION. Telegrams: "KEY, NEWTON ABBOT."

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the moulds or other parts of the apparatus to be cooled, for the purpose of cooling the moulds or the like by the operation of the piston. (4) Glass-blowing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, characterised by the air-compressor being constituted by bellows enclosed in a cylinder provided with cooling pipes. (5) Glass-blowing apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, characterised by the mould table being rotatable and connected to the air-compressor in such manner that the latter is vertically reciprocated by the rotation of the table, for the purpose of bringing the air-compressor, by the rotation of the table, so close to the mould that it is merely necessary to make a very small supplementary movement in order to put it on the mould in a perfectly air-tight manner.

Improvement in Pug-Mills.—S. Jones, Globe Engineering Works, Cook-street, Longton, claims :—The adaptation to and combination with the barrel of pug-mills or like extrusion machines of a detachable tapering metallic cylinder, connected to its fore-end, having a smooth interior surface and a detachable parallel or tapering

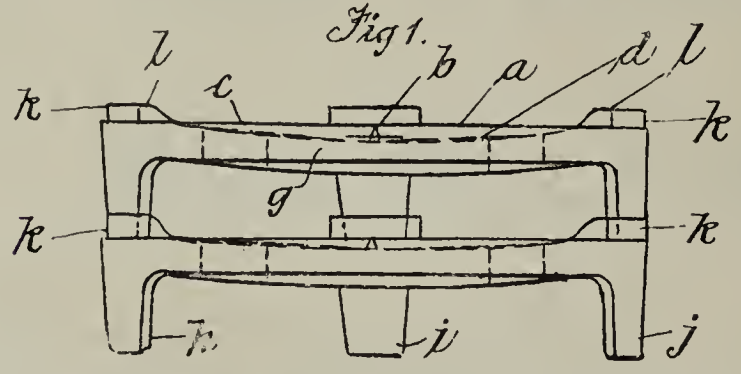
Fig. 1.



metallic mouthpiece or outlet in one piece of the required shape and size secured by its flange to the flange around the smaller end of such tapering cylinder, and having straight channels, flutes, or grooves in same, as shown on the drawings hereto annexed for compressing or solidifying clay or like semi-plastic material as it is extruded from such machines.

Supporting Pottery During Firing.—W. W. Howlett, 19, Aynsley-road, Shelton, declares this invention to be as follows :—Cranks for use of potters, such as china and earthenware and the like, so constructed and made as to lock themselves to prevent or reduce the possibility of slipping off each other, when placed in the saggars with plates, saucers, or other articles on them, ready for firing in the ovens or kilns, and thus obviating damage to the plates, saucers, or other articles, which otherwise partially

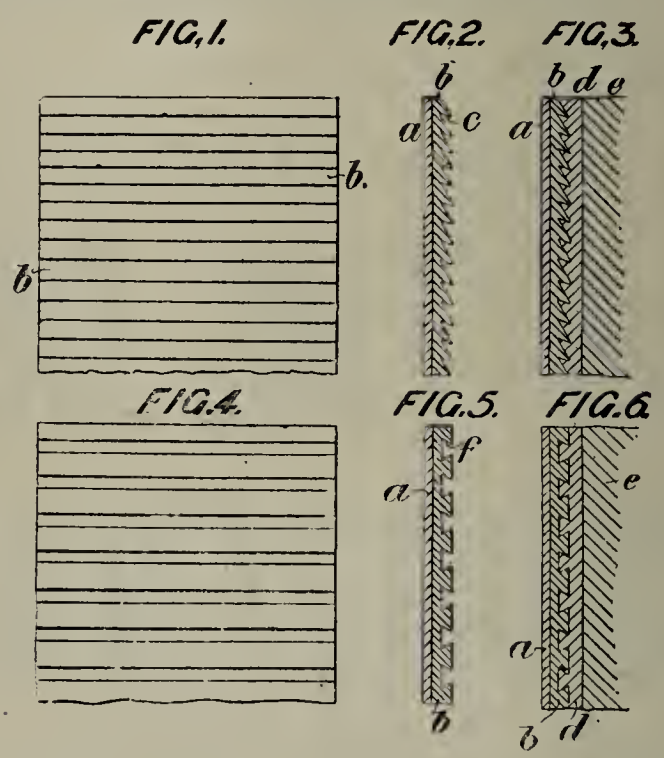
Fig 1.



slip off the cranks for want of rigidity of the cranks. This is attained by making the feet or legs of the cranks, by means of countersinking or flanges or otherwise to correspond at the top and the bottom so as to form a lock. The said cranks as above described to be so constructed and made as to reduce the weight and diminish the liability of what is known as "drippers" being formed by the fusing of any iron contained in the substance which the cranks themselves are made of, and the glaze with which the cranks are washed or dipped in before being used, or any glaze absorbed by the cranks from the glazed ware, whilst being fired. These ends are attained either by suitable perforations in the surface of the cranks or by making the cranks with two, three, or more arms joined together in a certain manner, and stretching out to a certain radius according to size required. The said locking arrangement, and the said reduction of the weight and dimensions of the cranks as aforesaid, will facilitate the handling of and prolong the life or use of the cranks, and allow a freer play of the heat in the firing, and diminish the losses incurred by the drippers, which sometimes fall on the ware in the firing.

The Treatment of Corundum for the Manufacture of Ceramic and Other Compositions.—Dr. Fritz Engelhorn, trading as C. F. Boehringer & Soehne, 44, Werderstrasse, Mannheim-Waldhof, Grand Duchy of Baden, claims :—A method of treating corundum (natural, artificial, or molten aluminium oxide) with cement, lime, gypsum, and other binding materials which harden with water, for the manufacture of ceramic masses of all kinds, articles, and coatings, such method consisting in mixing the corundum with the said materials, and moulding or casting and burning the same, the burning taking place either immediately after the moulding or as required.

Improvements in Glass Tiles.—J. E. Rendle, 85, Norroy-road, Putney, and Callow, Wright & Hewlett, Ltd., 70, Newman-street, W.C., claim :—(1) A glass tile provided at the back with a layer of composition, forming a backing of an elastic and impervious nature, in which the said backing is provided with undercut grooves or channels adapted to form a key for the cement by which the glass



tile is affixed to the wall. (2) A glass tile as claimed in Claim 1 in which the backing is applied in a plastic condition and the said backing is caused to adhere to the back of the tile by means of pressure. (3) A glass tile as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 in which the grooves are undercut substantially as described and shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. A glass tile as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 in which the grooves or channels are made of a more or less dovetail section substantially as described and shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6.

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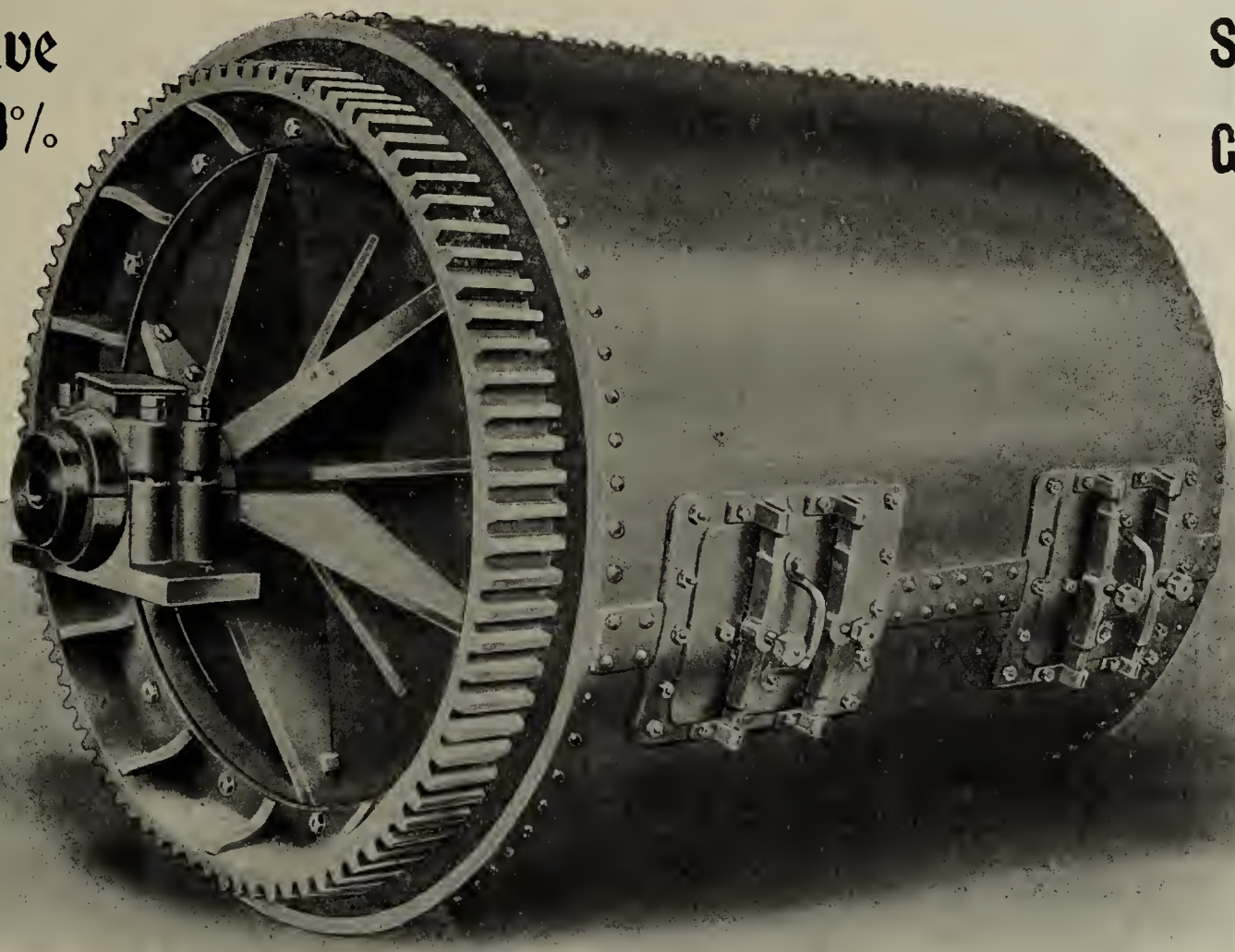
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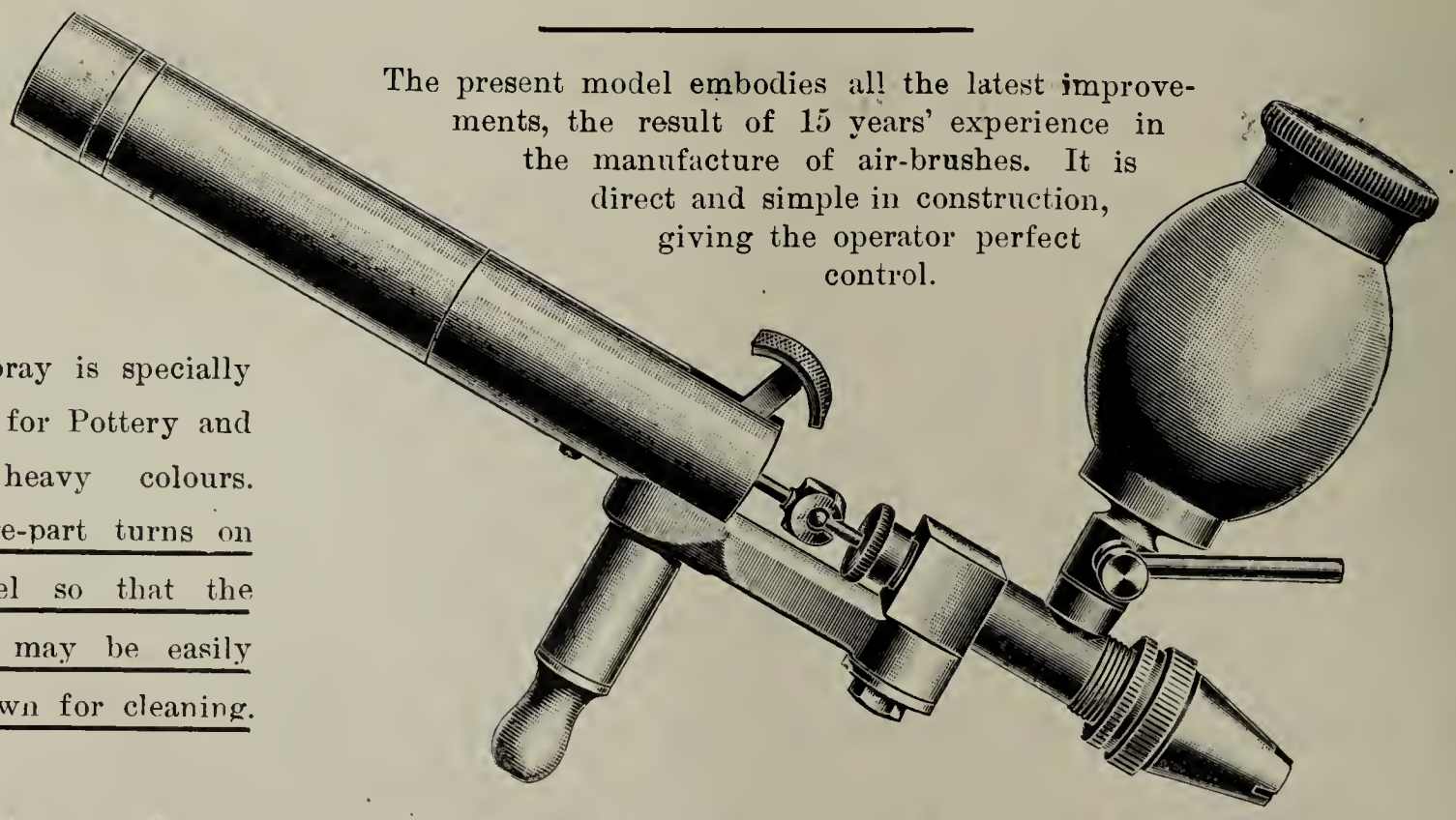
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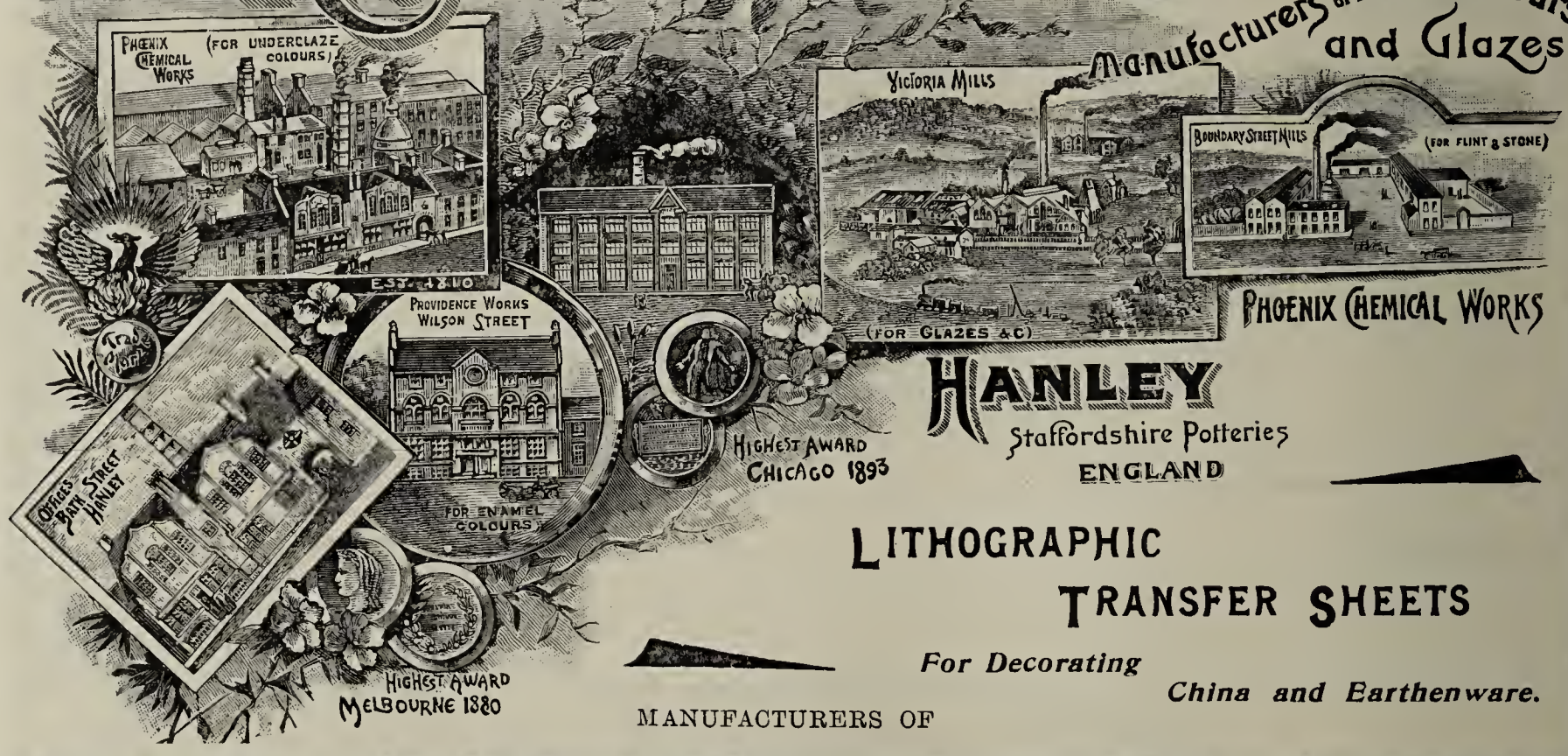
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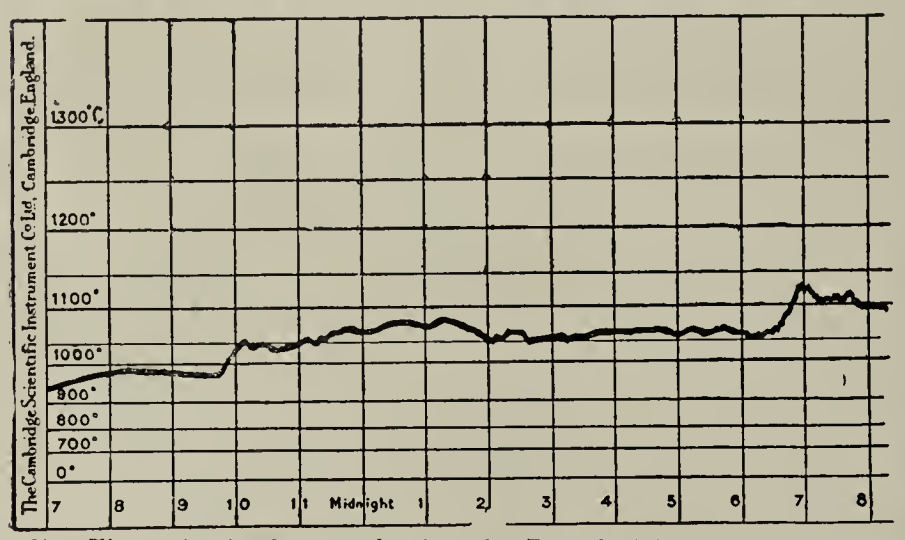
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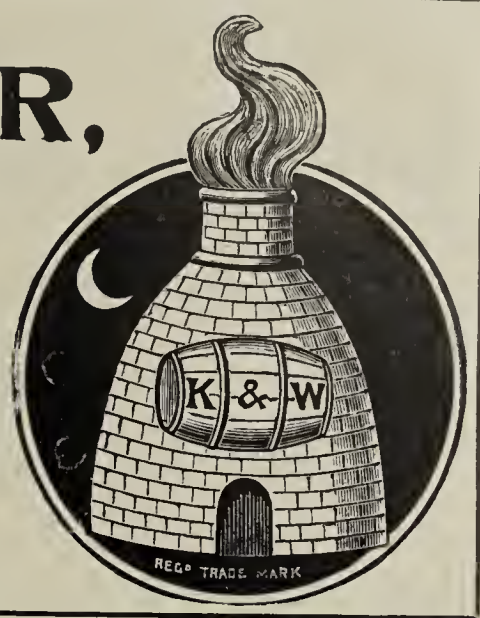
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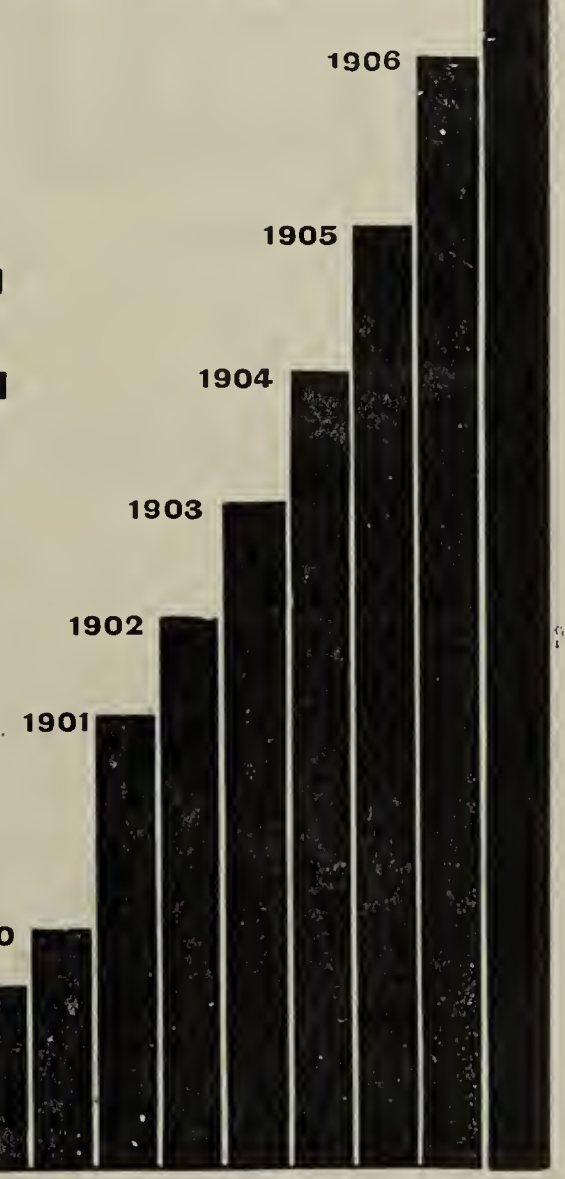
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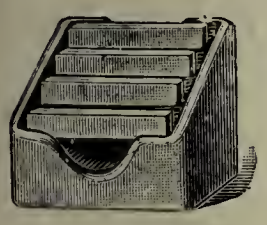
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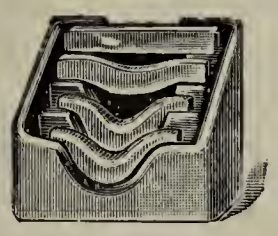
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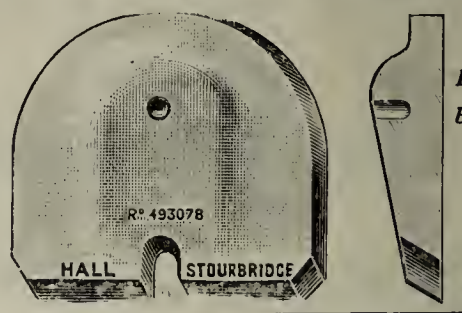
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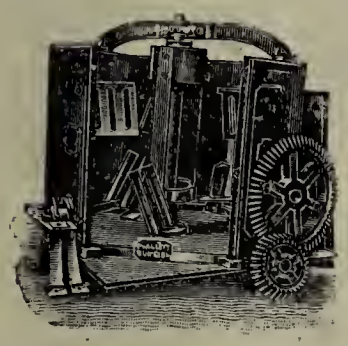
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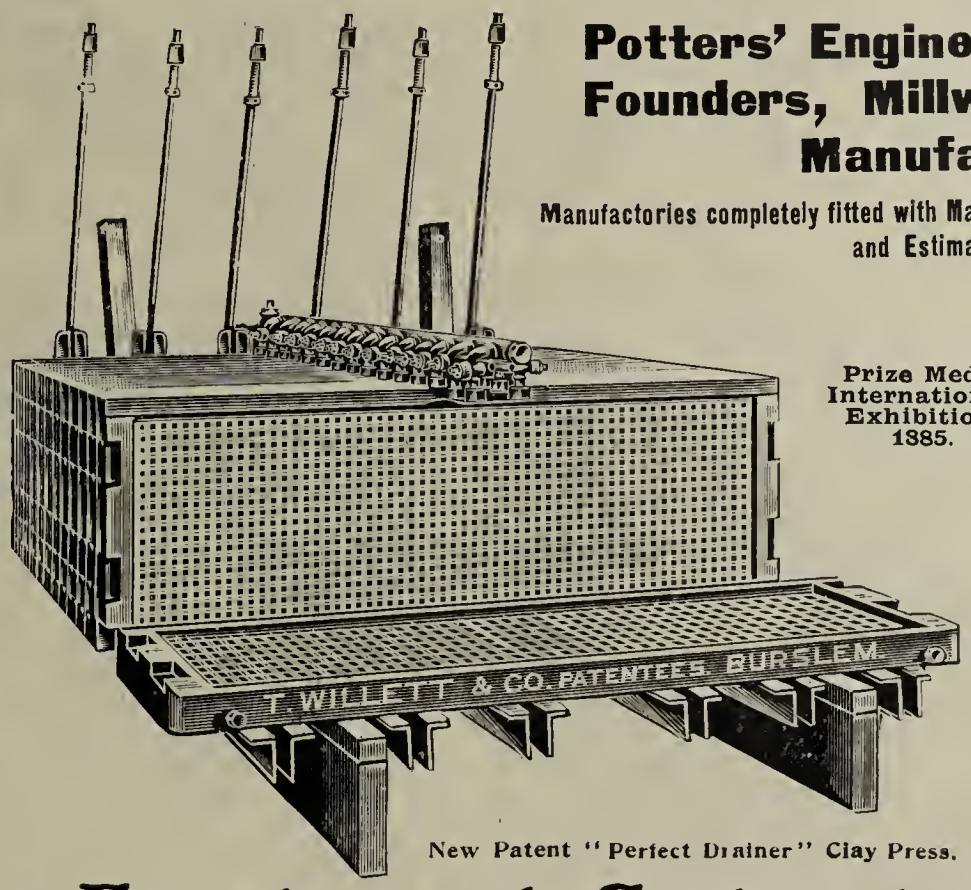
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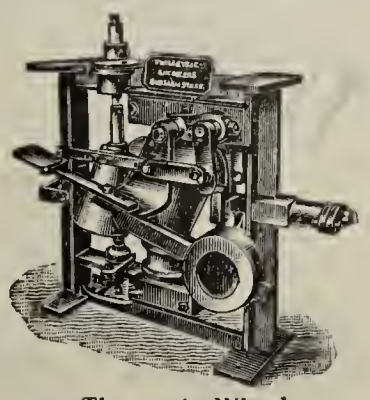


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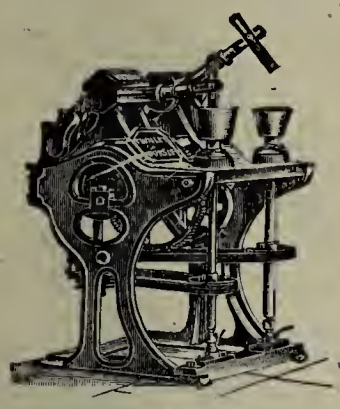
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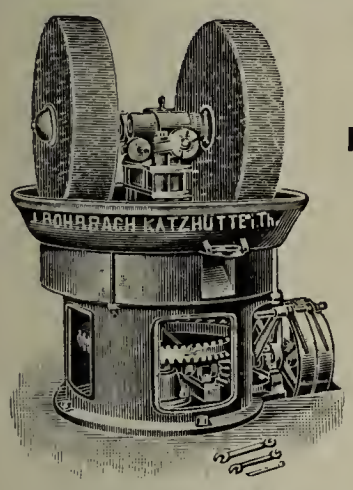
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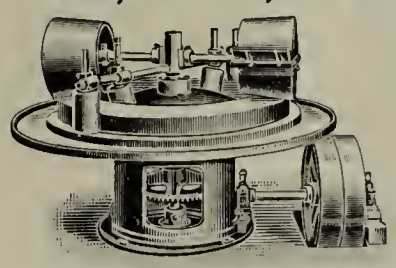
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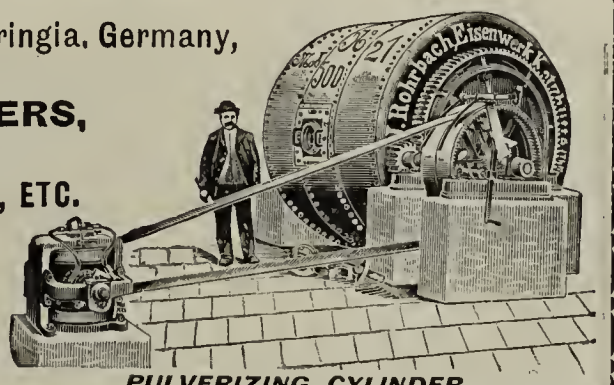
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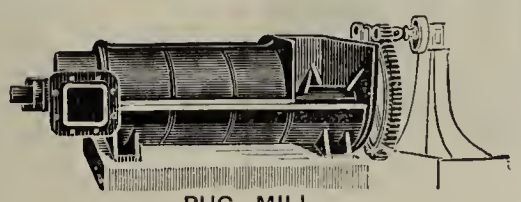


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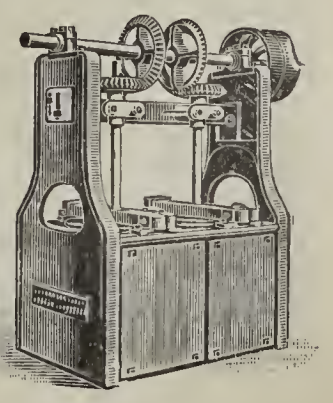
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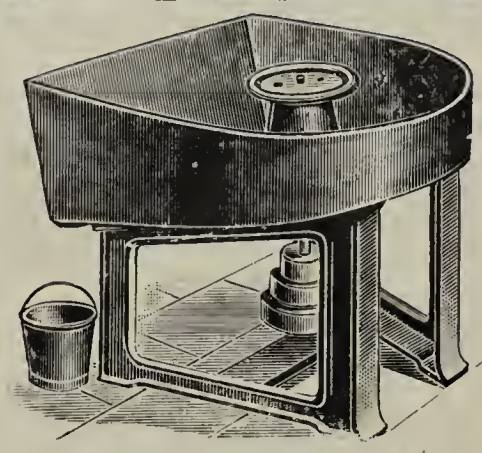
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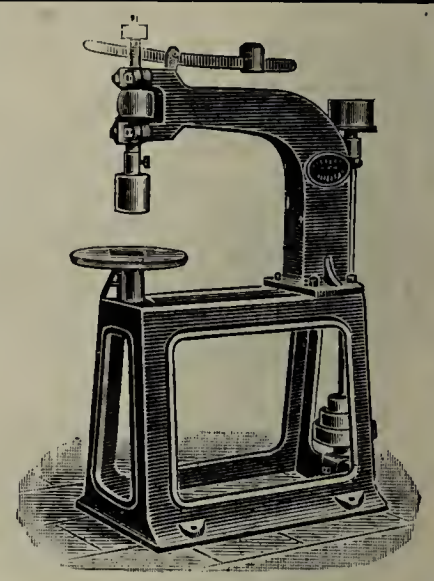
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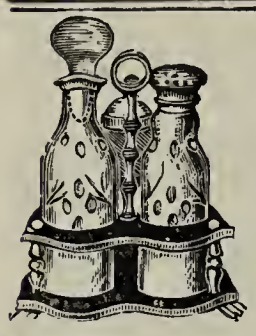
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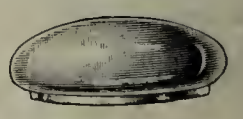
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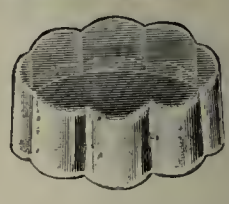
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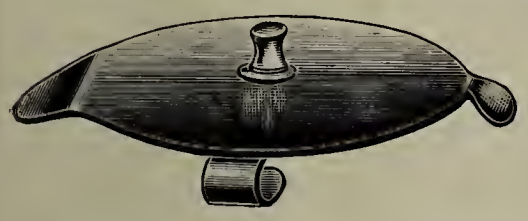
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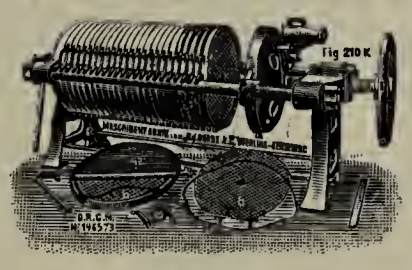
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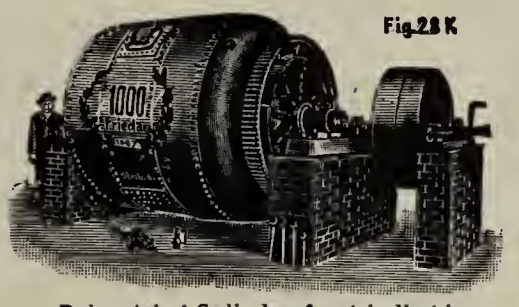
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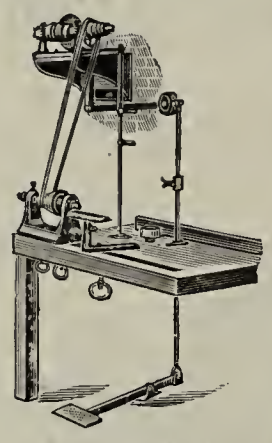
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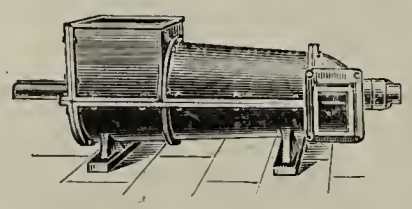


Potter's Lathe.

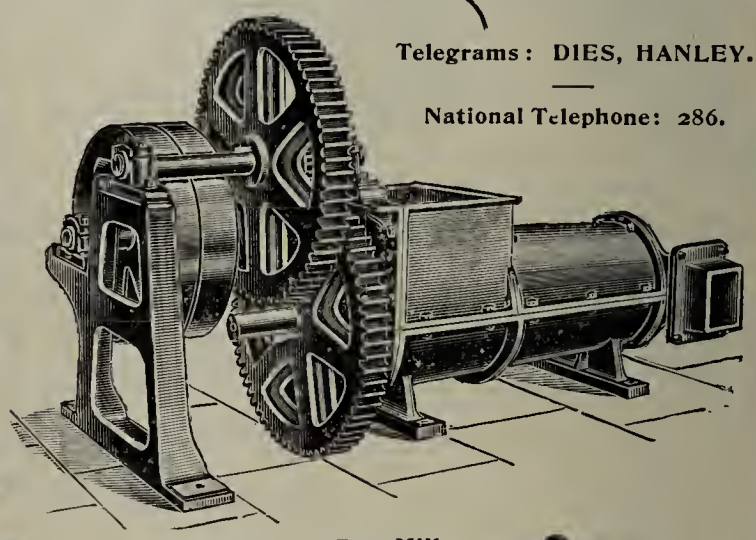
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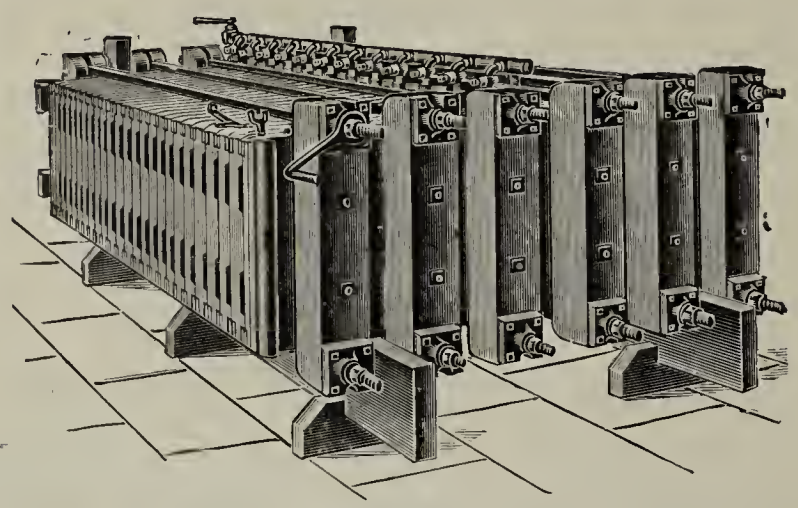
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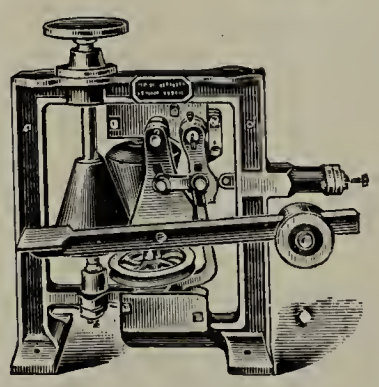


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



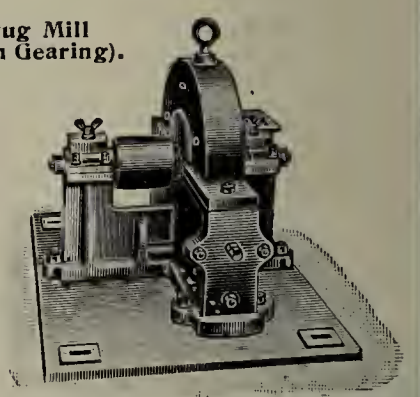


Filter Press.

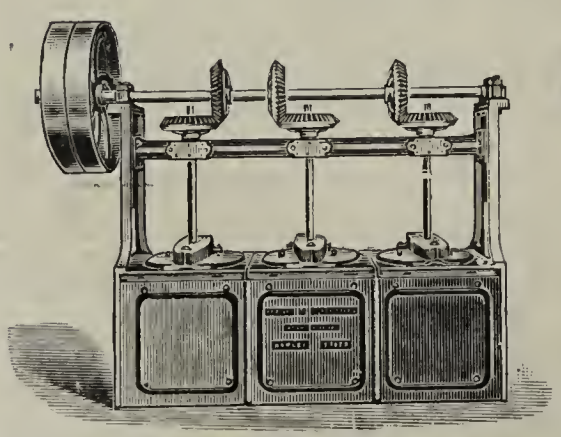


Throwing Wheel.

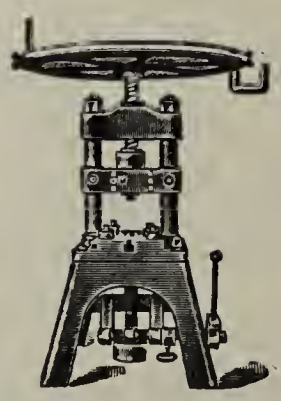
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



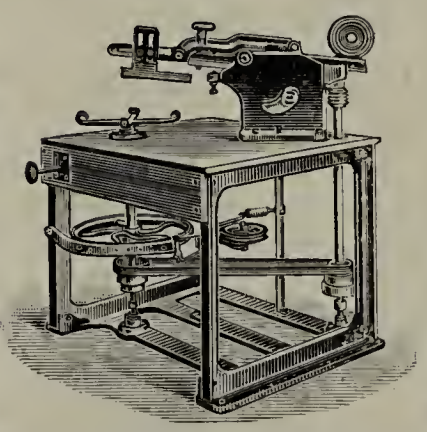
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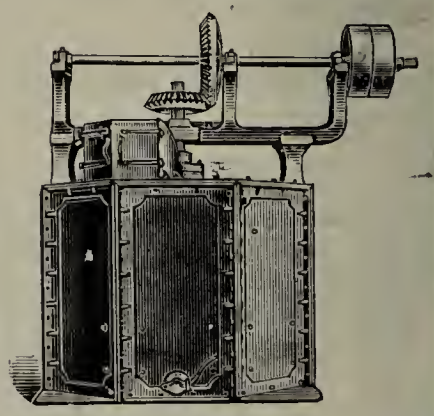
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All alterations for June issue must reach us by May 25th.

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All announcements for this Heading for June issue must reach us by May 28th.

Special Trade Announcements

Managers, Travellers, Salesmen, &c., Requiring Situations.

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GENTLEMAN OPEN TO REPRESENT good glass or fancy house (English or Foreign). Ground covered, South Wales and West and South of England; commission.—Address, Box P. 1276, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

TO TILE MANUFACTURERS.—Advertiser IS OPEN FOR ENGAGEMENT as Manager; ten years' practical experience in all branches of Tile Manufacture. Excellent references.—Address, Manager, Box P. 1283, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

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Continued on page 508.

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Special Trade Announcements—
continued from page 506.

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(CENTRAL.)

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THE Proprietor of the Patent No. 16279 of 1904, for Improvements in or Relating to the Process of and Apparatus for FIRE-POLISHING GLASS, is desirous of entering into arrangements by way of licence and otherwise on reasonable terms for the purpose of exploiting the same and ensuring its full development and practical working in this country.—All communications should be addressed in the first instance to Haseltine, Lake & Co., Chartered Patent Agents and Consulting Engineers, 7 and 8, Southampton Buiioings, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

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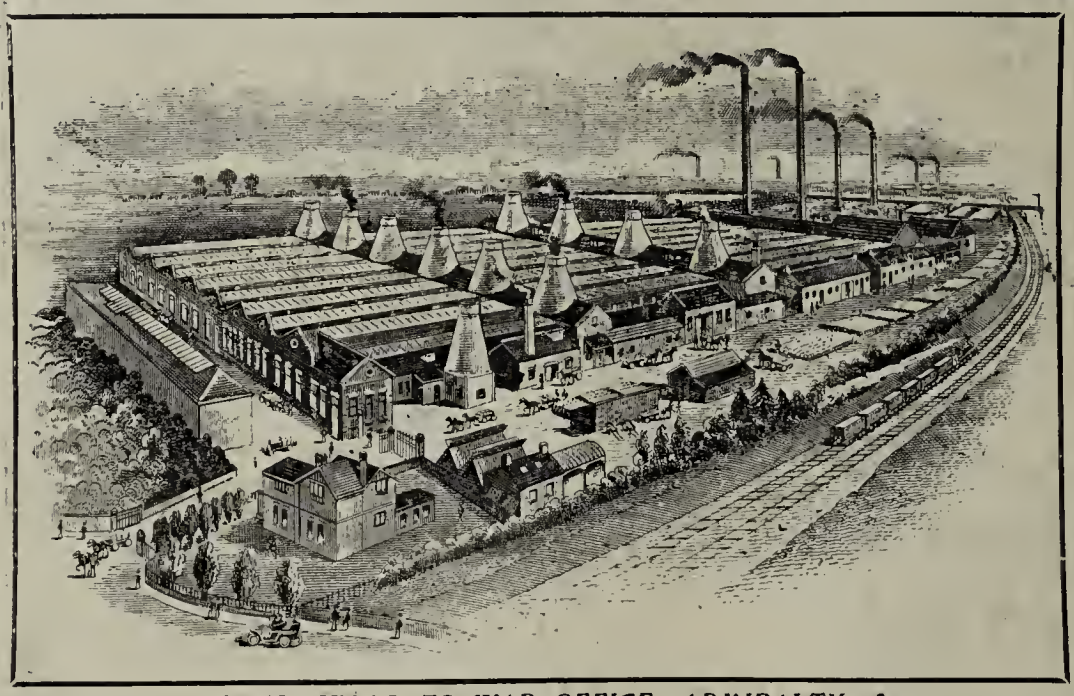
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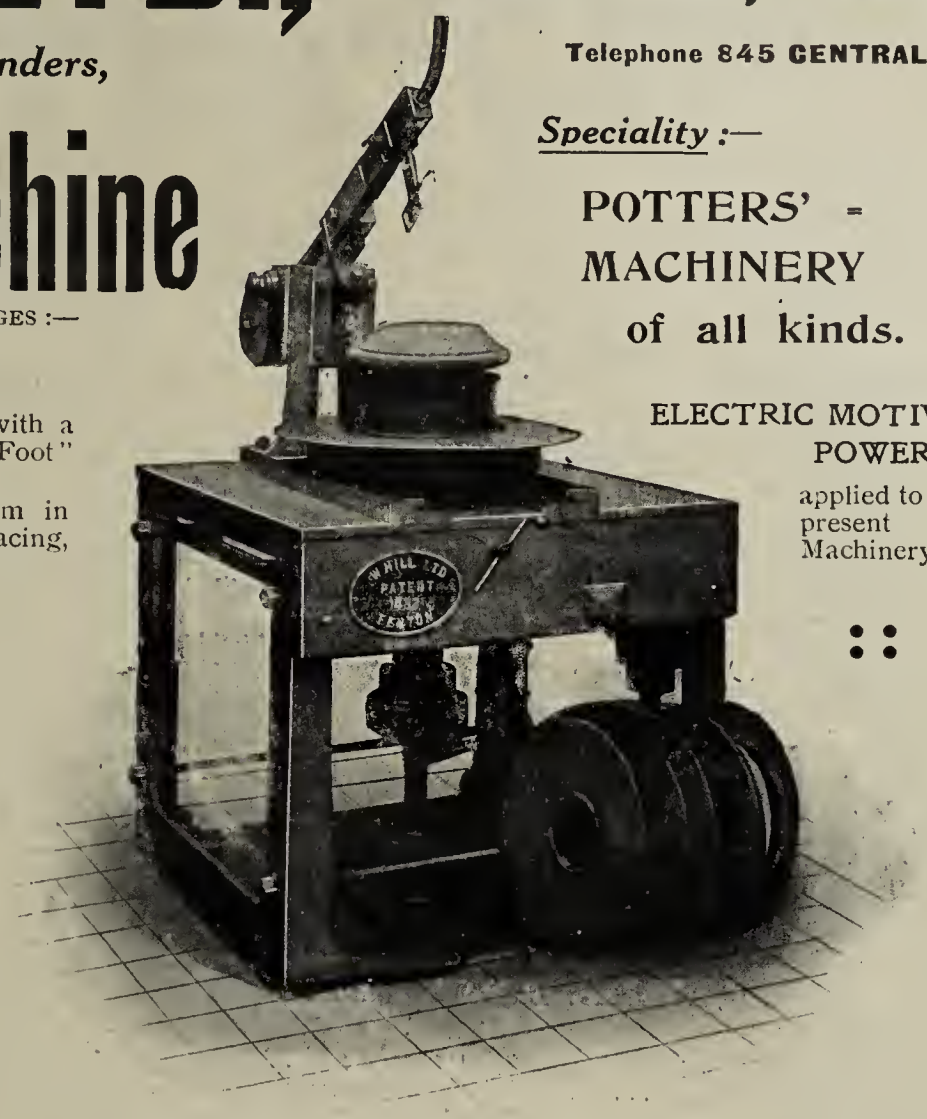
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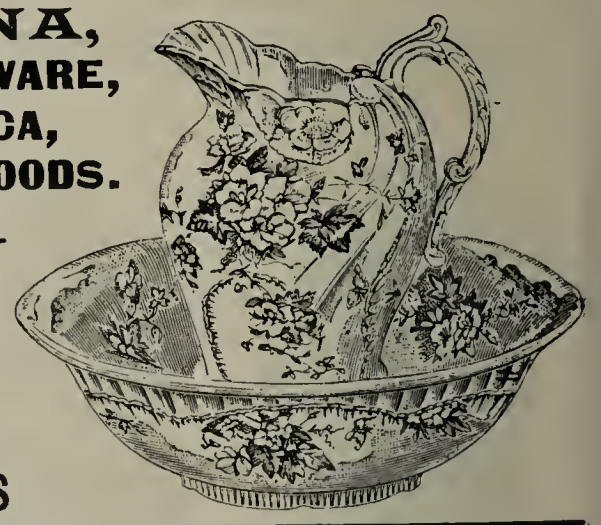


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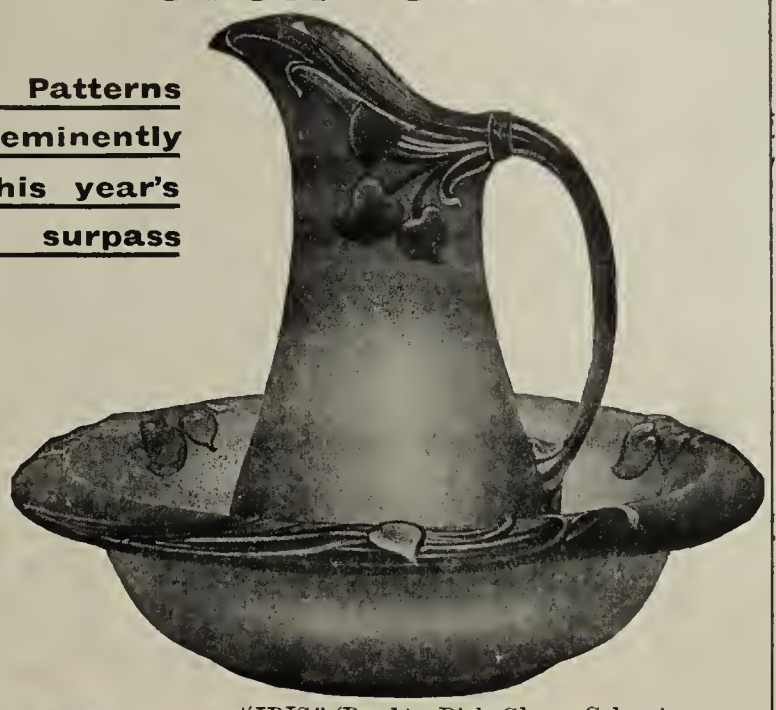
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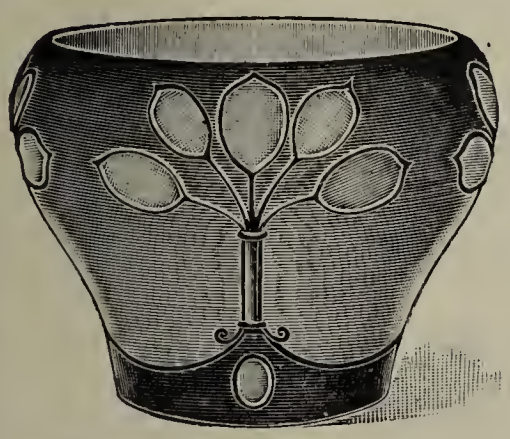
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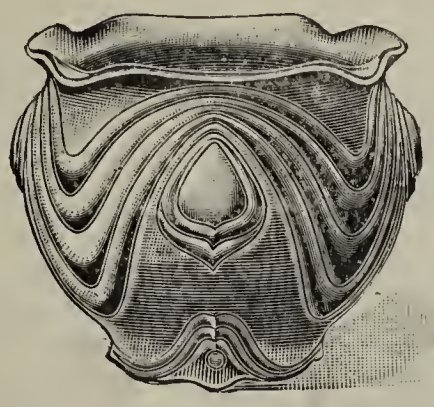
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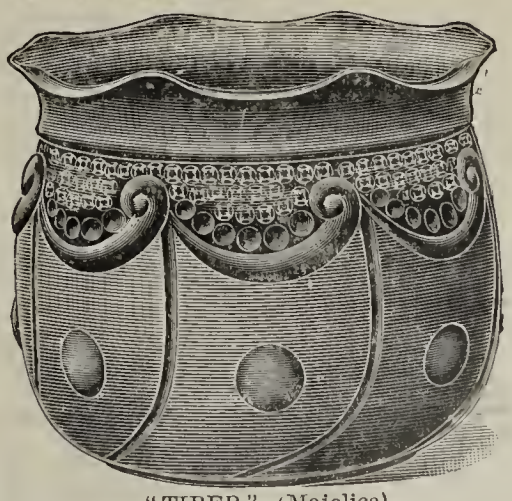
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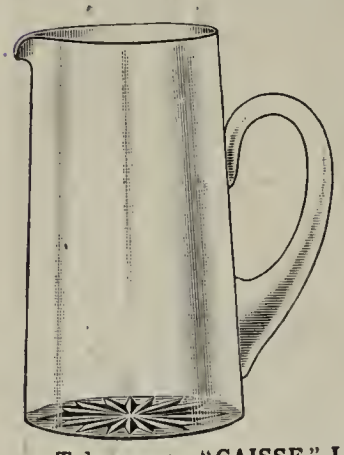
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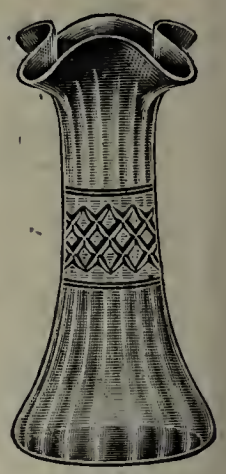
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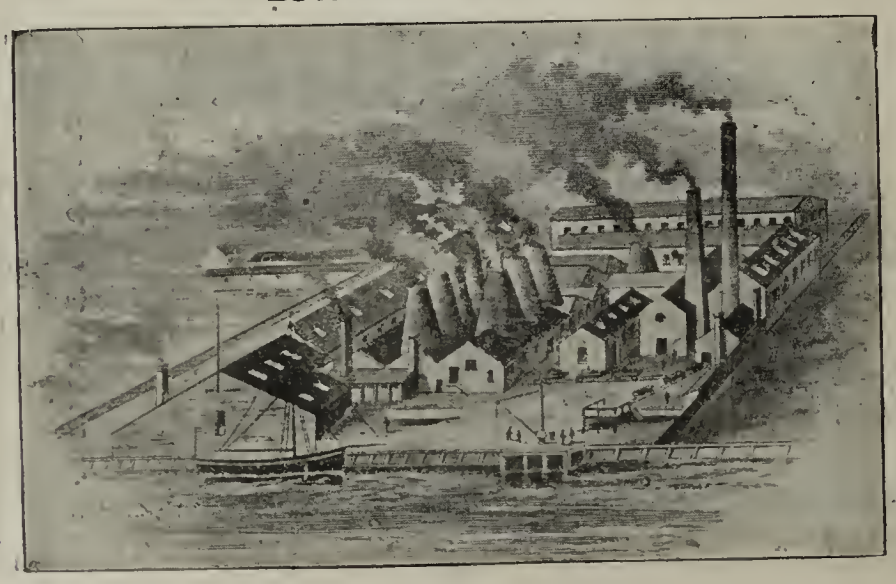
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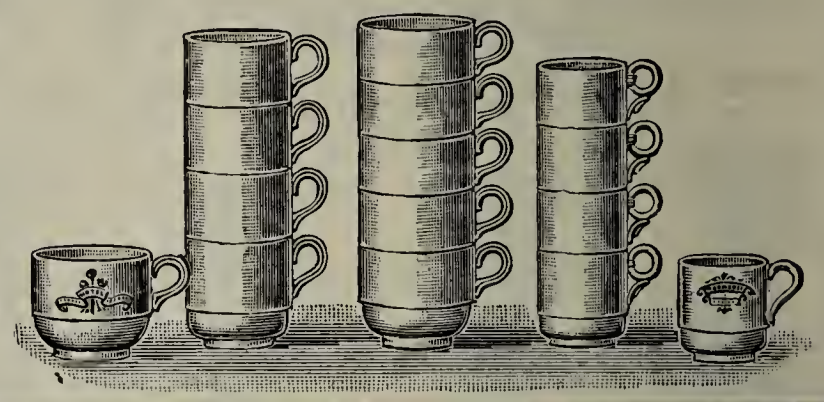
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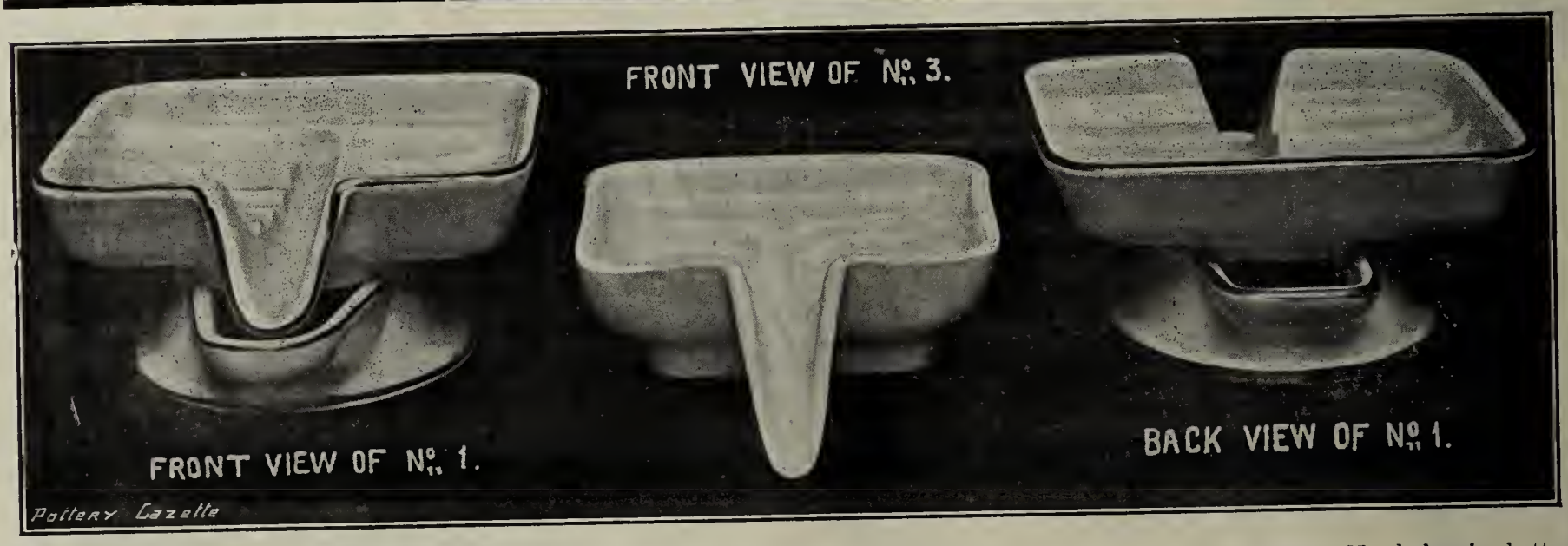
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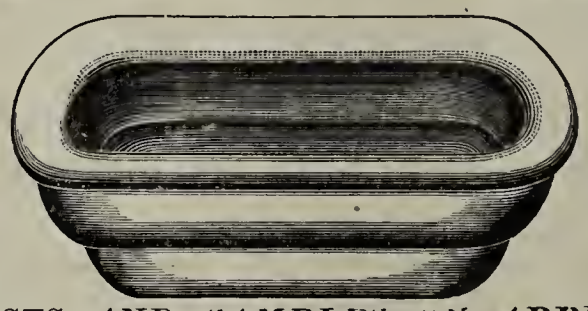
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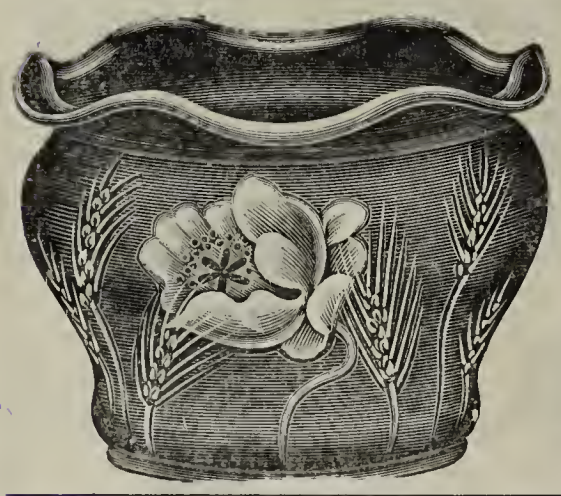
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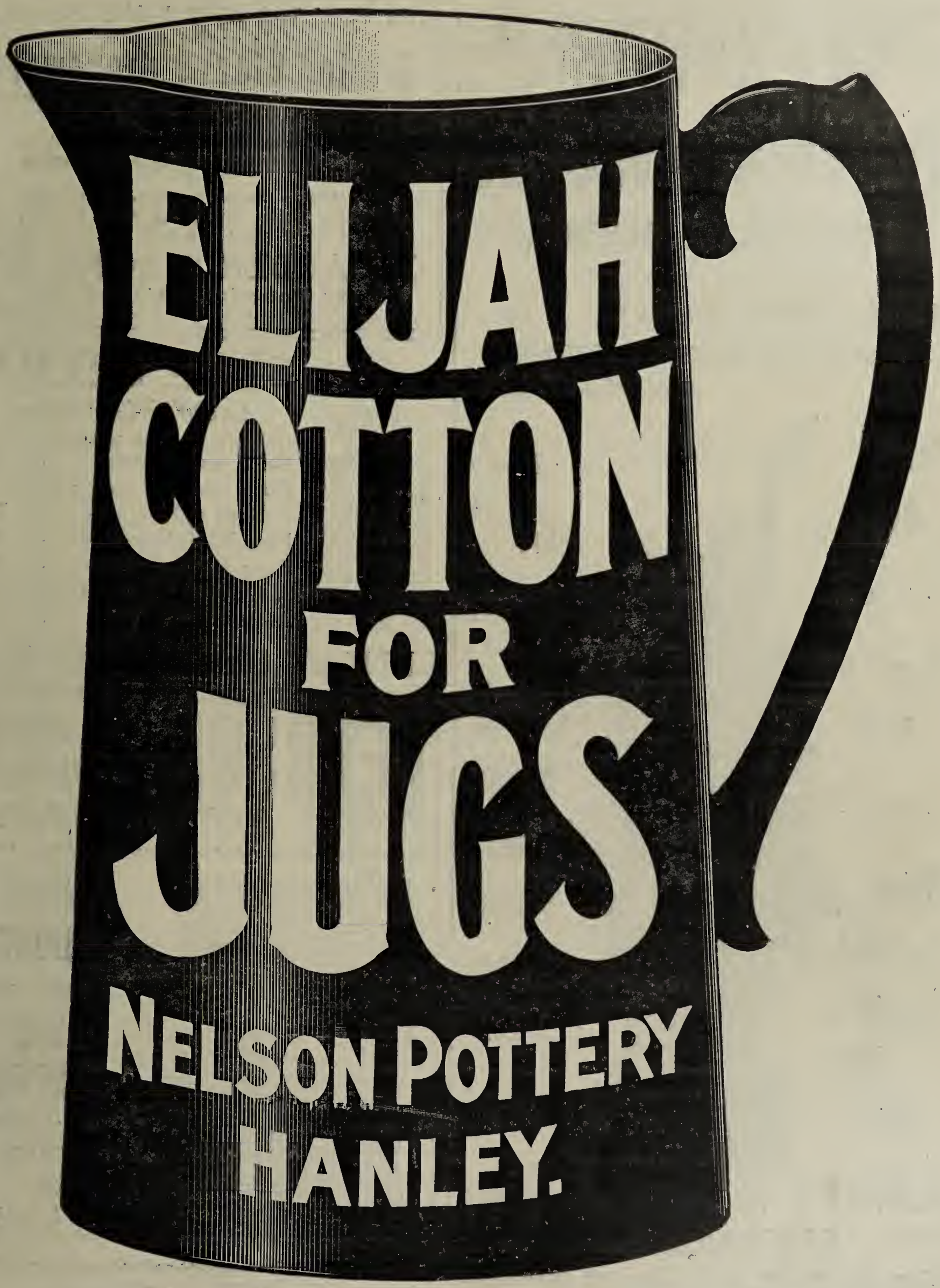
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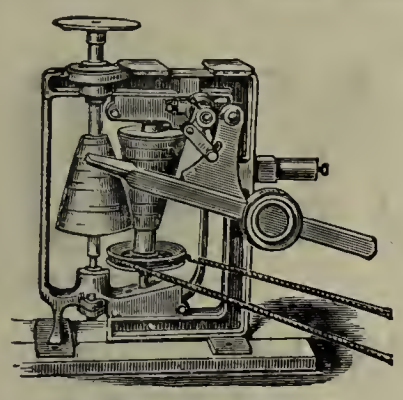
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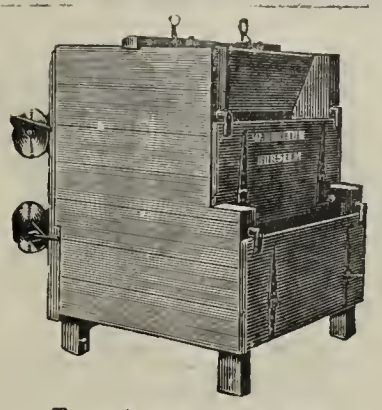
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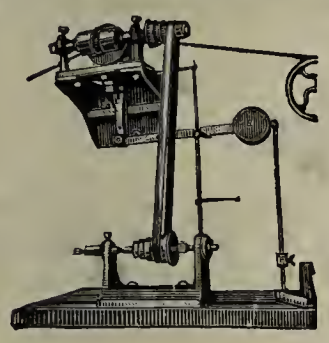
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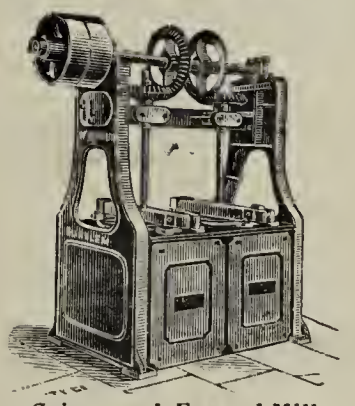
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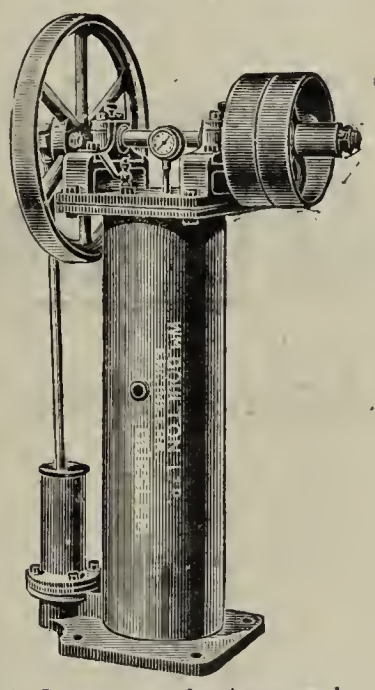
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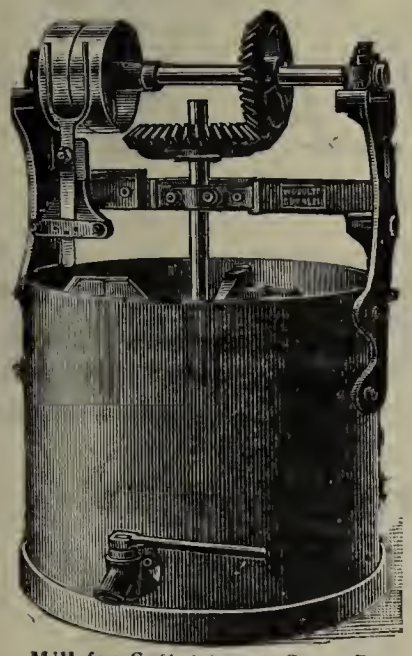
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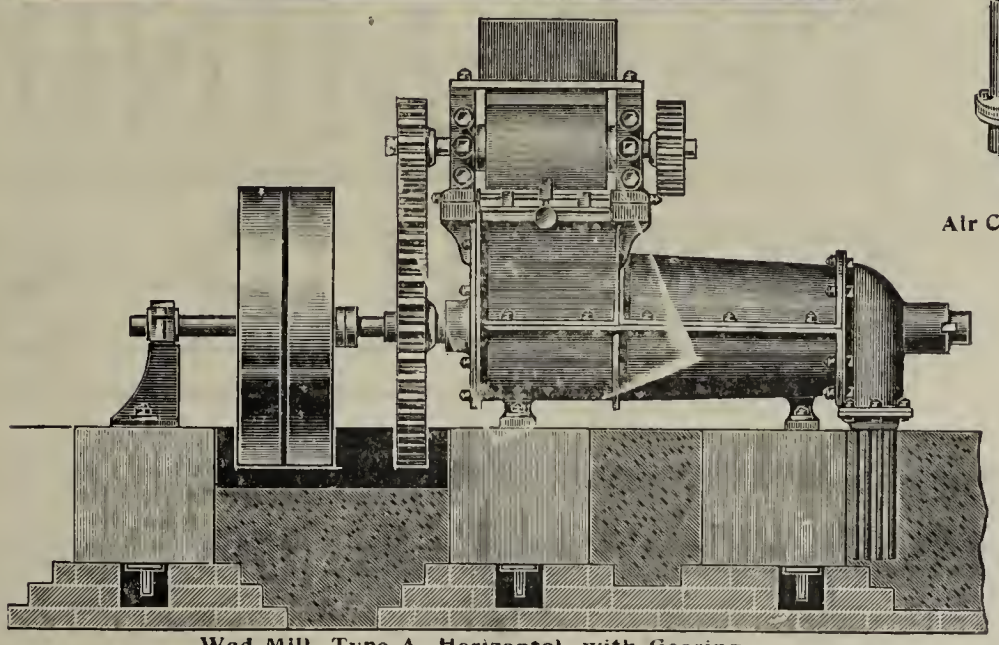
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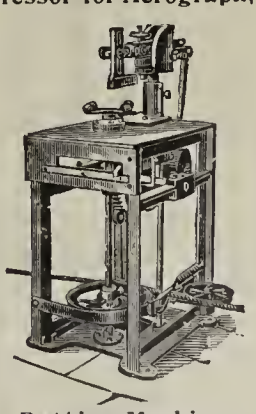
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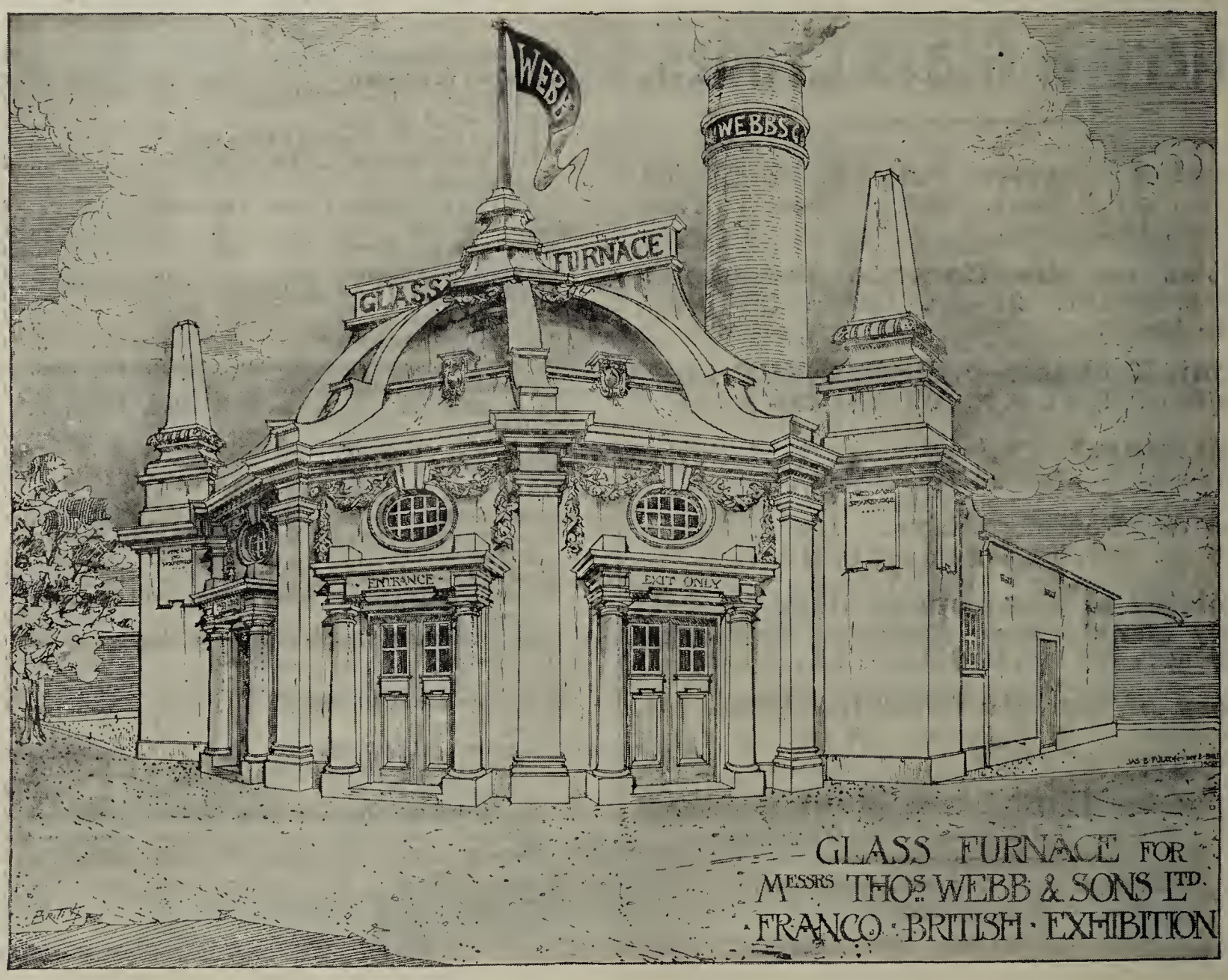
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Editorial Notes.

HONESTY IN BUSINESS.

THE dishonest practice of copying another manufacturer's shapes and decorations is unfortunately not confined to any trade, nor to any country. The Patent Laws and Trade Marks and Designs Acts are intended to stop this practice, and very properly there are pains and penalties for those who copy a patented article, or a design protected by registration. It is a reflection on industrial morality that legislation should be necessary to protect a man's interest in his own original invention or idea. In this country if a man registers a good, useful design, it is understood that another who copies it can be restrained by law from doing so. The American courts have improved upon this. They have decided that it is illegal to copy another manufacturer's goods, even when they are *not* protected or registered. In the United States Circuit Court, Ohio, Villeroy & Boch, Germany, brought an action against a firm in Wellington, Ohio, seeking to restrain them from making and selling certain *un*patented steins which the complainants have been making, and to enjoin the defendants from using the complainants' trade-mark and the word "Mettlach" in connection with their sale. The evidence showed that the defendants had copied the originals exactly. The facsimiles were produced from plaster moulds taken directly from the originals. The court held that it is unfair trade and unfair competition for a manufacturer to literally copy the designs of another, and the injunction was granted and afterwards made permanent.

We question whether such a common-sense decision could have been secured in this country. The designs were not patented, and it has been assumed by persons not over-sensitive, that it is open to anyone to imitate an article not so protected. It is morally as wrong to copy an original shape or design, as to steal a piece of ware embodying them. The American court says it is legally wrong, and must not be done. We should be glad if British courts would come to the same sensible decision.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

THE Anglo-French Exhibition of Science, Arts, and Industries will be opened early this month and will be not only the largest, but the most interesting, and, from a commercial point of view, the most useful of all the exhibitions ever held in London. The enterprise, suggested, we believe, by the French Chamber of Commerce in London, has the approval of our King, of the President of the French Republic, and of high officers of State in both countries. It differs from other great International exhibitions in that it is strictly limited to two nations and their colonies. It is a sort of amicable duel between France and England, and, according to the original prospectus, the "science, arts, and industries of the two countries were to be exhibited side by side in their respective buildings." Of course, we shall give a detailed account of exhibits of pottery and glass as soon as the Exhibition is fairly under weigh, but we intended to have given in this issue just a summary

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of the exhibits representing our industries. We much regret that, though held in our own capital, very few manufacturers in the industries we represent will be found taking part in this exhibition. This is regrettable from a national as well as from an industrial point of view. Unless some sensational concessions are made between the date we write and the opening day, the show of British pottery and glass will be a small one. It would be evident to anyone that there must be weighty reasons for their absence when we find firms who have exhibited at Paris, Chicago, St Louis, and New Zealand are not exhibiting in London. We should have thought that, from national pride the executive Committee would have given our manufacturers every facility to make the best possible display of their productions. From authentic information placed at our disposal, we are obliged to say—and we really do say it with considerable reluctance—that our manufacturers have been treated with scant courtesy in their negotiations with the Exhibition authorities. It would appear that the authorities realised something of this, for we understand that late in the day, finding so few in our industries had taken space they made an effort to get the principal manufacturers to combine in a joint exhibit. Needless to say the effort failed, and considering the standing of the firms approached, we are surprised it was ever made. We hope that manufacturers in other industries fared better than those in our own, and though there will not be the display there might have been of British china and glass, our wish is that in all other respects the exhibition may be a successful one. We do not doubt that it will.

THE TURN OF THE TIDE.

PESSIMISTIC individuals will probably find in the Board of Trade returns of the imports and exports of merchandise to and from the United Kingdom during the first quarter of the present year, which have just been published, a good text from which to preach doleful discourses concerning the decline of British trade. After a long absence, minus signs have reappeared in many instances, and affect some very considerable totals. The value of the imports, £160,880,072, is £10,313,910 below the first quarter of last year, but still £6,638,340 above the three months ending March 31, 1906. The decline is heaviest in raw materials, especially cotton and wool. An increase in "Food, Drink, and Tobacco" is balanced by decrease in manufactured articles of nearly every description. The exports, £91,197,096, are £2,616,281 less than in the corresponding period of 1906, but £8,053,699 above that of 1905. The re-exports, £22,718,112, have fallen off £6,267,229, and are also £2,655,975 below the first quarter of 1906. The decrease in exports is almost wholly in manufactured goods; in re-exports all the three main divisions are adversely affected, though plus signs appear before a few of the sub-totals. In studying the decreases in the returns, however, it must be borne in mind that the figures for the past few years have been exceptionally high, and that, as we have from time to time pointed out, it was not likely that the rate of increase could be maintained, as each successive record established a higher standard, and one less likely to be exceeded. The totals, as they stand, represent very respectable amounts, and, besides, we have to remember that our home market is of far more importance than our foreign trade, and that the diminished imports may indicate a general return to favour of articles of British production. This, in turn, would tend to lessen the volume of the exports. So there is, as yet, no reason for undue alarm to be found in the shrinkage of our foreign commerce as indicated by the returns. The trades represented by this GAZETTE have held their own very well as compared with the corresponding periods of the last two years, the exports of British manufactures having increased, while both the imports and exports of goods of foreign origin have decreased. The total imports of Earthenware and Glass were valued at £921,195, being £51,235 less than in the first quarter of 1907 and £149,895 less than in the three months ending March 31, 1906. The value of the exports of similar goods, £953,331, is respectively £29,049 and £86,769 above the figures for the March quarters of 1907 and 1906. The re-exports were valued at £38,908, the falling off being £5,508 and £20,278, as compared with 1907 and 1906 respectively. The detailed figures are dealt with elsewhere in this issue as usual.

POTTERY MANUFACTURERS AND THEIR FUEL.

THE coal bill has always been one of the most important factors in pottery production, and yet manufacturers in the Potteries, for some occult reason, are charged more for their fuel by local coal owners than is paid by consumers outside their district. This is evident from the statement, published by the North Staffordshire Coal Owners' Association, that the "selling price of coal in North Staffordshire averages 7s. 6d. per ton." Seeing that pottery manufacturers are paying far higher prices than this average, other consumers must be paying far lower. Surely if the Coal Owners' Association is disposed to give any preference to its customers, it should be given to the paramount local industry—pottery manufacture. We should have thought that selfish regard for the prosperity of the district would have induced colliery proprietors to give the best terms to their largest and most regular consumers. Following the increased prices charged for coal last year, pottery manufacturers are naturally uneasy as to the effect of the "Miners' Eight Hours Bill." There seems to be no doubt that if it becomes law, the price of coal will be advanced. The question at present is what the advance will probably be, and when will it take place. In reply to a question in the House of Commons, put by Mr. D. A. Thomas, as to the date on which the "Miners' Eight Hours Bill" will come into operation, the Home Secretary said: "I have decided to propose an amendment to the Bill relating to the date of its operation, so as to provide that in any event no change shall be effected by it until after June 30, 1909." It is generally understood that the coal owners had come to the conclusion that if the Bill came into operation before that date, it would be necessary to include in contracts covering that period a clause providing that the price of coal should be increased by 1s. 6d. a ton. The significance of this should be kept in mind by dealers. The selling prices of pottery must of necessity be increased.

FIVE YEARS' TRADE OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

AS the result of questions addressed to him by Mr. Erskine, M.P., the President of the Board of Trade has issued a statement giving the value of imports and exports of merchandise into and from the United Kingdom in its trade with India, the self-governing colonies, other British possessions, and foreign countries in each of the years 1902 to 1907 inclusive (for which last-mentioned year the figures are provisional) in millions of pounds sterling. The statistics given show that during the past six years

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imports into the United Kingdom from all sources of supply have steadily, and in some cases enormously, increased. The value of the total imports in 1902 was £528,400,000, which in 1905 rose to £565,000,000. In 1906 the figure was £607,900,000, and last year £645,900,000. Of these figures, imports from the self-governing colonies have increased from £59,900,000 in 1902 to £88,600,000 last year, the total imports from British possessions being £157,200,000 in 1907, as compared with £106,900,000 six years ago. Imports from foreign countries, which in 1902 were £421,500,000, increased by small annual increments to £437,100,000 in 1905, but in 1906 there was a leap up of £28,600,000. The figure for 1907 was £488,700,000, or £23,000,000 in excess of 1906. Exports from the United Kingdom to all quarters have, like the imports, largely increased. In 1902 they stood at £283,400,000, rising to £300,700,000 in 1904. The year 1905 showed an excess of £29,100,000 over the preceding year, but it was in 1907 that the largest annual increment took place, this being no less than £50,600,000 over 1906. Of these figures the exports to British possessions last year were £137,400,000, as compared with £109,100,000 in 1902. Last year foreign countries took £288,800,000 worth of merchandise from the United Kingdom, or £114,500,000 more than six years ago. Exports from the United Kingdom to the self-governing colonies were £60,400,000 worth in 1902. In the following year they fell from £59,300,000 to £52,300,000 in 1904, and there was a still further decline in 1905. A change, however, took place in 1906, when the figures increased by £5,000,000, and last year the exports rose to £64,000,000.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

THE CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Will you permit me to draw the attention of dealers everywhere to the announcement of the annual meeting to be held on May 20.

I thank you for your remarks in this month's issue (April). I hope your statement that it has been impossible to get a meeting of 50 dealers to further the objects of this association will cause a feeling of shame among them; you might have put the case even more strongly. There are strong organisations of dealers in almost every other trade, but not 1 in 500 of the glass and china dealers in the country has hitherto had sufficient pride or interest in his trade to join an association formed to look after its interests.

I hope the annual meeting will disclose a determination to unite in an effort to keep our own trade in our hands.—Yours, &c.,

13, Minster-street, Reading. A. E. WATSON
April 22, 1908. (Hon. Sec.)

FROM CANADA.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I beg of you to send one copy of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, as a sample. Why I want one is, I am intending to apply to manufacturers for agency for their wares. I observe out here there is a great field for our British glass, china and earthenware; not only that, but I intend to introduce to the makers at home a means whereby they could keep the whole trade here within their own hands, People out here want cheap British goods, and we want china shops to be conducted on our own British style, in an upright, honest way. Note, for example, at present there is a great scheme on hand, known by the Centenary Celebration of Quebec. Now if the china potters were on the alert they could have over here their wares with mottoes of the plains of Abraham or the High Rock picture of Quebec on a great variety of articles. People out here at a time of that sort will spend money by the thousands without thought. One thing would have to be considered, a good deal of French language would require to be printed on instead of English; there would be double sold in the French provinces of Canada.—Yours respectfully, &c.,

J. D. [650].

The name and address of the above correspondent will be supplied to British subscribers on application.—[EDS. P.G.]

TRAVELLERS AND BUYERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Your correspondents "Traveller" and "London Representative" in your issues of March and April respectively have stated a grievance which concerns the principles of distributing houses, quite as much as the representatives of manufacturers. If I, as a retailer, employ a person to buy goods for me, and to look after the stock kept in my shop, I should expect him to buy the goods most suitable to the particular customers I have, and to get the latest of those. How could a buyer do me and my business justice if he will not take the trouble to look at new goods a manufacturer offers him? I admit a buyer cannot order all the new goods he sees, but when a buyer says he will not look at anything a certain house offers him, is he acting honestly to his employer? Employers, whether they are individual proprietors or managing directors of a company, are not treated fairly when a buyer is influenced in his purchases more by the person who submits samples than by the merits of the samples. He cannot judge of the latter when he refuses to look at them.—Yours truly,

London, April 15, 1908. AN AGENT.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. H.—An article in this issue will tell you all we know on the subject you refer to.

H. & C.—The "seconds" of the house you mention are not for sale in this country. They are exported.

L. M. D.—Yes. We think the Federation of the pottery towns will improve trade conditions.

T. J. & C.—The place you mention is not well served in our trade. More than this we do not wish to say.

Mrs. R. S.—Tell your customer there is not the least danger from lead to the user of pottery. Lead poisoning arises during the manufacture of the ware and never occurs from the use of it.

B., Germany.—The mark you give (the word "nepaulese" enclosed in a wreath, letters F M & Co. below and surmounted by a crown) is an old one, and was used by F. Morley & Co., Broad-st. Works, Hanley, Staffs. This firm sold their business in 1859.

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ELECTRIC FURNACES FOR GLASS-MAKING.

WE received an inquiry from a correspondent a few weeks ago, asking if we knew any glass works where electric furnaces were in use for glass making. We were obliged to reply that we did not know any firm using electric furnaces in their manufacture of glass.

The question was an interesting one, and recalled to our memory that patents had been applied for in France, Germany, and in this country for the purpose named, but we were unable to say whether any had ever been granted. We have since investigated the matter, but though we find that patents have been obtained, we cannot hear of any having been worked.

About eight years ago, J. Luhme, of Aix-la-Chapelle, took out a patent in France for an electric furnace for making glass and other analogous substances. We do not think it was ever tested on a business basis, but we believe it was operated for experimental purposes, and with satisfactory results. Briefly, the following was the method of procedure.

In this furnace, the materials to be melted are fused in a chamber by the passage of a single or double-zone of voltaic arcs. The melted mass is collected in a channel in direct contact with the zone of fusion, and conveyed through another channel into a tank divided into three compartments, the third of which is also utilised for work with the pot. The negative electrode is formed of a tubular body of square section, with lateral orifices for blowing in air so as to cool or heat the electrode, while positive electrodes are arranged in rows all along the two opposite lateral edges of the negative electrode, and direct access to the voltaic arcs is closed to the substances to be melted by an undulating formation of the lateral walls of the melting chamber. The temperature of the melted mass is maintained after it has passed out of the hearth by an arrangement of conductors of the second-class incandescent bodies, and in the compartments of the tank, either by conductors of the second class or by a pipe for the admission of oxygen charged gases, such as nitrogen protoxide or mixtures of oxygen and hydrogen (atomised water) or by a combination of both conductors and pipes. Several tanks may be combined with one smelting hearth, suitable means being provided for running the melted mass through a valve into one or other of the tanks alternately.

In 1902 a large installation for the smelting of glass by the electric current was erected at Deutsch Matrei, in Tyrol. They were said to be the first works expressly constructed for the manufacture of glass by electricity. We do not know the result of this venture.

About four years before that, successful attempts at glass manufacture by electricity were made at Cologne by a glass-maker named F. Becker. It was found that there was danger of devitrification through the intense heat generated by the arc. To surmount this, Becker arranged a series of arcs, the glass, in a molten state flowing into crucibles which were heated by coal, or other means. But Becker found this process of combining electrical and ordinary heat unsatisfactory.

Voelker's Patent.

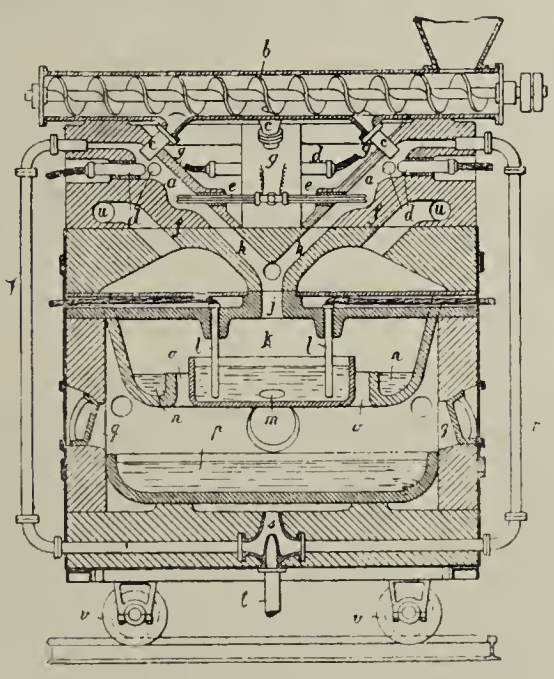
In 1901, Dr. Auguest Voelker, of 29, Werderstrasse, Cologne, was granted a German patent for an electrical glass furnace. We do not know whether it was ever worked or not. If any of our readers can tell us, we shall be glad to publish the information.

The following is a copy of the complete specification granted to Dr. Voelker :—

"This invention relates to an electrical furnace for melting glass and producing water glass, characterised by inclined radial passages in which melting is effected by the heat of electric arcs produced by electrodes arranged in them, these passages leading to a common refining receptacle, in which the material is heated by the heat resulting from electrical resistance.

The accompanying drawing is a vertical section of a furnace according to this invention.

The materials for forming the glass are fed by a worm conveyor *b* to four tubes *c* which lead into inclined radial passages over what may be termed the hearth *a*. The materials are melted by the heat of arcs produced by electrodes *d* arranged in each passage and also by arcs of electric candles *e* of the Jablochkoff kind. The passages are formed in four refractory blocks *f* and are covered by slabs *g*. The molten materials flow down the inclined channels *h* which meet in a central channel *j*, and thence they flow into the refining pot *k*, in which when fine glass is to be produced refining is effected by the heat caused by resistance between two electrodes *l*, which can be led in by earthenware pipes and supplied with continuous alternating electric currents. From *k* the fluid glass flows by openings *m* into the annular trough *n*, and thence overflowing descends by passages *o* into the basin *p*, from which it is worked by tools through the working doors *q* or the basin may be so arranged that it can be emptied by tipping.



The combustible gases evolved in the passages, which cannot descend because the outlet *i* is closed by the molten material, are conducted by pipes *r* to a burner *s* where they meet with air entering by a pipe *f*. The flame from this burner serves to maintain the heat of the working out basin *p* and its contents. Such incombustible gases as are evolved pass away by channels *u*. The furnace is preferably mounted on wheels *v* so that it can be readily moved from place to place, and its outer walls are enclosed in a metal casing.

The patentee declares that what he claims is :—

(1) A furnace for melting glass and production of water glass characterised by several inclined radial passages, all leading by one central channel to a refining pot and working out basin, and having electrodes arranged in them for production of electric arcs to melt the glass material.

(2) In combination with the inclined radial passages *h* converging to one outlet over the refining pot *k*, the electrodes *d e* for production of arcs to melt the glass materials.

(3) In combination with the furnace the gas pipes *r*, air pipe *t* and burner *s* for consumption of the combustible gases produced in the furnace and heating of the working out basin.

[We are informed that the Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., have a small furnace (Bottomley's patent) at Wallsend-on-Tyne. If any of our readers can contribute any further information on this subject, we shall be pleased to publish it in the general interest.—Eds. P.G.]

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

The Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd. made their usual spring display of ornamental and useful fine porcelains during the past month. At the commencement of the month the new productions were on show at the company's London rooms, 8, St. Andrew-st., and since then the principal pieces not sold, together with many interesting additions, have been displayed in the fine galleries at the works. The unanimous opinion of the trade is that for beauty of form, and variety in rich, chaste, and delicate ornamentations, the company have this year surpassed all previous displays in London. That they did not exhaust their resources in making it was made evident when their London representative, Mr. Louis W. Hadley, showed me some choice pieces that he had received from the works since the return of the pieces now being shown at Worcester. The company, however, have always such a superb show in London that a buyer visiting their rooms now would not realise the extent to which the specimens had been depleted. There is still in London, as there always is, a selection large enough and varied enough to meet all requirements. The recent display was remarkable for the abundance of reproduction of old Worcester forms and ornamentations. This is not due to any lack of originality in the artists and craftsmen of to-day, but to meet the public taste, which just now gives preference to early productions. Many of the finer vases for this season have the Royal Blue ground for which Worcester is so famous. Vases, jardinieres, and fancy pieces were shown in abundance and in various treatments, but none more effective than the rich Royal Blue, which for a century has been one of the striking features in Worcester porcelain. We illustrate a group of three vases, typical of old Worcester on the lines I have been referring to. These vases are decorated with painted subjects, in raised gold panels on Royal Blue ground. The mounts are treated in Royal Blue and burnished gold. The panel on the centre vase encloses a group of finely painted roses by F. Roberts, and the panels on the side vases contain groups of painted fruit by R. Sebright. These artists are well known for their flowers and fruit, and many examples of their work are seen amongst the collection now in London. Old Worcester flower and fruit in small panels on Royal Blue ground and gilt, form a combination difficult to surpass, and the particular vases illustrated are typical of this peculiarly Worcester treatment. The Worcester old scale blue was shown on numerous reproductions of old shapes. I was shown a finely modelled square dish, gadroon shape, with beautifully painted flowers on blue ground. Many of the early Worcester models were taken from silver plate—this gadroon shape. Jewellers and silversmiths were connected with the early porcelain manufactories, and the retail distribution of ornamental china was at one time to a large extent in the hands of fashionable silversmiths. This accounts for the number of old "silver shapes" among the richly decorated pieces of to-day. A new treatment shown is a delicate pink blended with light green, with festoons of roses in the old style. This is of general application and is shown on many forms. It is a pleasing variant on the schemes in blue, which we have been noticing. The old Worcester treatment of shells in panels is well illustrated in the samples at present on show in London. In quite a different class is a fine cabinet full of light pierced pieces—celadon and gilt—specimens of the most delicate pottery produced. This piercing on ivory body differently tinted presents charming effects. The patient labour of the skilled artist who can execute this delicate work on wafer like porcelain is only equalled by that of the glass cameo carver. Mr. Hadley has a charming novelty which he judiciously shows isolated, on a draped stand. A vase, classical in form, is ornamented with exquisitely painted sweet peas and shaded in mauve ivory and white. It is a delicate combination, the effect of which would have been destroyed if the vase had been shown near the bright



WORCESTER "ROYAL BLUE": RAISED GOLD PANELS.

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colours of other pieees. There is a happy union of artistic form, skilful painting and delicate shading. The pieees shown in this treatment are espeeially suitable for a lady's dainty boudoir. Several ranges of pieces are shown in the naturalistie style whieh is eharaeteristie of Hadley deeorations. These floral groups are very pleasing and will appeal to those who like bright, florid ornamentation. A number of pretty mounted plaques are very skilfully ornamented with flowers and figures painted by Baldwyn, Hawkins and other artists. The useful side of the Woreester Company's productions was speeially attraetive with new shapes and deeorations in dinner, tea, and toilet ware. In dinner ware, several new shapes were on show, in addition to the revivals of old shapes spoken of. Some neat border patterns were shown, including rieh designs with aeid gold borders in sections, and neat trefoils painted in the breaks between the seetions. Small neat border patterns predominate. In tea ware, the new ornamentations inelude small painted roses and garlands. Afternoon tea sets were shown with rose deeorations—various coloured roses on the cups and saueers in eaeh set—a sort of harlequin floral set. Riehly painted fish and game sets were shown, while the always interesting colleetion of dessert sets was enriched by several new bright sehemes of decoration. On a stand on the ground floor (part of the spring show) there was a group of miseellaneous pieces with "Tudoresque" views on vellum ground. The form and ornamentation are typieal of the Tudor period, eurious old-world buildings and seenes in broken monoehrome effeets.

Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville, near Burton-on-Trent.—Generally speaking, the statement that "there is no new thing under the sun" was doubtless true at the time it was written, but if we eome to particulars it would scareely be so correet to-day. It certainly is not true now of pottery deeoration. Pottery was made and ornamented in the old biblical times referred to, but it is probable that simple and crude forms and deeorations satisfied the demands of the publie then. But with the advanee of civilisation, and the spread of education, there is now an insatiable desire for that whieh is new. The British public owe a great deal to firms like Tooth & Co., who have done, and are doing, so much to improve the taste of the publie, and to give them not only new, but beautiful

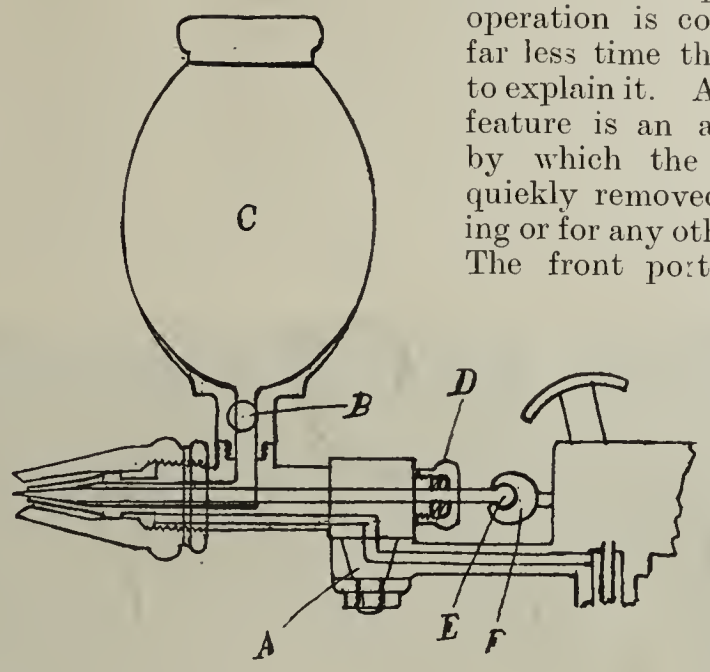


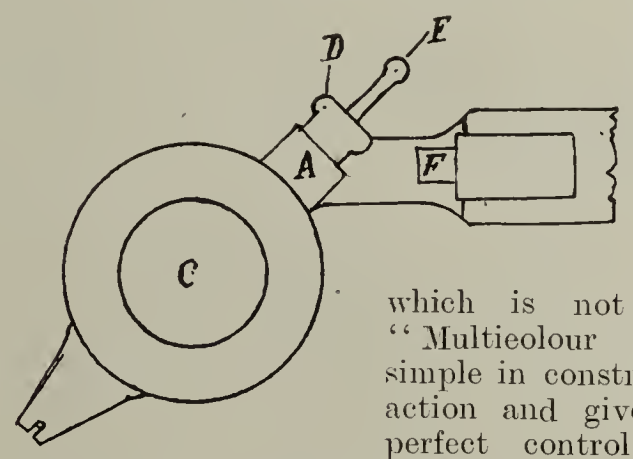
Bretby "Cloisonne" Ware.

pottery. The firm are represented in London by Mr. E. Gamage, 127-131, Audrey House, Ely-plaee, Holborn-circus, E.C., who has charge of a fine show of samples of their goods, ineluding many that are at onee new, wholesome, and in good taste. It is not given to everyone to be able to reeognise, foster, and satisfy the desire of the publie for things beautiful, but Tooth & Co. can elaim to have done it as far as pottery is coneerned. The samples in London have been overhauled, all old and obsolete designs have been disearded, and only the most popular and best selling lines have been retained. To these have been added new designs and new deeorations. In the rooms there is now a wider range of patterns, and a greater variety of eolours and of deeorative treatments, than ever before. One of the most notable introduetions for this season is what

they aptly deseribe as Bretby "Cloisonné" ware, whieh is shown in a variety of vases, plaques, jardinières, umbrella stands, pedestals, pots, and other goods. This new deeoration has been applied in conjunetion with the "Bronze" effect, for whieh they have had so splendid a run that they have been eneouraged to experiment further with it, and "Cloisonné" is the result. The aecompanying illustration eonveys a general idea of the beauty of this produetion, but to form a full appreeiation of it the ware itself must be seen. "Cloisonné" was the eoloured enamel work produeed in China and Japan, in whieh the eoloured parts were separated by metallie partitions, these erratic partitions forming elaborate patterns of flowers, birds, frets, diapers, &c. The "Bronze" ware, which has had sueh a sueeessful run, forms a most suitable foundation, or setting, for the charming new deeoration "Cloisonné." The "Bronze" effeets, relieved by birds of rieh plumage, or by flowers of exquisite eolourings, in "Cloisonné" of gold, give a decorative effeet which will appeal to all lovers of artistie pottery. Dealers visiting Audrey House just now will find, in addition to the lines referred to, a number of other distinctive productions of the firm such as their "Bamboo" ware, "Ligna" ware, and "Bronze and Jewelled" ware. Another very charaeteristie produetion represents antique forms with hammered metallie effects. This is appropriately called "Copperette" ware. There is a niee variety of bulb bowls on show in seif eolours and many sizes. There is a good demand for these useful and pretty bowls, and Mr. Gamage is showing some with plants in bloom in them. In one, the flowers had gone, but the tall bright green leaves of the hyaeinth were in happy harmony with the green-eoloured bowl. Messrs. Tooth's samples inelude a large variety of flower-pots (embossed patterns and plain), in all sizes and in all eolours. Amongst the miseellaneous goods I notieed some additions to their amusing novelties. People are not now deeeived with them, and do not attempt to take a nut or a biseuit from the plate, or a cigar from the ash tray, as they once did, but they are pleased with the "deception" all the same. Tooth & Co. are amongst those manufaeturers who realise that it is just as easy to produee goods whieh, while comparatively inexpensive, are a credit to the maker, and pleasing to the artistie sensibilities of the public.

The Aerograph Co., Ltd., 43, Holborn Viaduet, London, E.C., are pioneers in the supply of air brushes for pottery deeoration and for other purposes. Their "Aerograph" spraying deviee is one of the most useful, and therefore one of the most popular, accessories the pottery deeorator has at his eommand. Its advantages are numerous. For instanee, the use of it effects a great saving of time as compared with hand brush work. It produees beautiful results in ground laying, blending, steneil work, and in pottery decoration generally. Since the introduction of the "Aerograph" there has been a eomplete revolution in the decoration of pottery, from whieh manufacturers their workpeople, and the trade have eaeh benefited in different ways. There is a consensus of opinion that the "Aerograph" does better work, and does it more expeditiously, than was possible by hand before its introduetion. But its greatest reeommendation, after all, is that it is a preservative of the health of the workers. (One of the medieal Inspeetors under the Faetory Aet in his annual report said, "I wish the old form of blowing was done away with and the 'Aerograph' substituted.") The effieieney of the original deviee, has been greatly improved and extended. Mr. C. L. Burdiek, the inventor, and managing direetor of the eompany, is constantly experimenting with the view to improve upon his last improvement. The latest thing in spraying instruments is the "Multieolour aerograph" for pottery and other shading and steneil work. The aecompanying diagrams illustrate the special features of the new model. The colour cups (C) are easily detachable, and ean be quickly removed, and another one substituted, when a ehange of colour is desired. The little tap at the point (B) turns off the eolour, the cup is unscrewed and removed, and another one fixed in its plaee. This operation is completed in far less time than it takes to explain it. Another new feature is an arrangement by which the needle is quiekly removed for eleaning or for any other purpose. The front portion of the instrument turns on a pivot (A), and the needle (which has a ball at the end of it, E) is swung out of its socket (F). It can then be easily removed by the fingers. There is no loosening of nuts required, and no eomplicated meehanism to be dealt with. There is another useful feature—when the needle has been replaeed, it is automatically adjusted for the right length, as it resumes its former position exactly. The removal of the needle faeilitates the introduetion of new washers in the paeking box (D), should this be required, which is not frequent. The "Multieolour aerograph" is simple in construction, direct in action and gives the operator perfect control. The various ehanges (of which the present is the latest) introduced in the "Aerograph" from time to time are the result of an experience, extending now over fifteen years, and of the practieal working of spray machines for potters' use. Users will be interested in knowing that the "Multieolour aerograph" and the other spraying devices of the eompany are made throughout at the Company's own works near London.





The Exports of Austria-Hungary during last year included 153,299,300 kilos of ehina elay, valued at £223,541, and 755,977 kilos of earthenware, valued at £1,293,666, ineluding 16,838,400 kilos of poreelain, valued at £960,416. Hollow glassware to the value of £1,579,000 and weighing 65,475,400 kilos was also exported.

Pottery Clay in Egypt.—The report of the Corporation of Western Egypt, Ltd., passed last month, states that beds of pottery elays have been located whieh surpass in degree or servieeableness any elays hitherto found in Egypt. The clays have been fully tested, and have been proved of high value for firebricks, salt-glazed bricks, salt-glazed drain pipes, &c., inasmueh as such refraetory clays have been seldom found in Egypt. Their suitability for all kinds of red and buff terra eotta and floor tiles and glazed pottery also has been amply demonstrated.

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"SHORTER'S, SPITALFIELDS."

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

THERE is nothing disrespectful in this crisp way of referring to one of the oldest—I think I may say *the* oldest—of the wholesale glass and china houses in London. The name "Shorters'" may not mean much to manufacturers and dealers in other industries, but it is a very significant one to all who are engaged in the pottery and glass trades. Manufacturers know them as amongst the largest buyers, and retail dealers know them as amongst the largest wholesale distributors in London. There are not nearly so many strictly wholesale dealers in our trade as there were. Within the past quarter of a century there has been a great change in business methods generally, and in our trades especially. I can well remember the time when the bulk of the trade in pottery and glass in London was done through wholesale houses, and I am not alone in the opinion that, taken all round, business was more satisfactory then than it is now. It has been the spirit of competition (and not always healthy, or even honest, competition) that has aimed at dispensing with the wholesaler, and to a large extent it has done it. In some trades, no doubt it is an advantage to bring the consumer as near to the producer as possible, but it is not so to the same extent in ours. To those who say "the wholesale man is a thing of the past"—and there are some who say it—I would reply, "Have you seen Shorters'?"

MESSRS. SHORTER BROTHERS, 36, Crispin-street, Spitalfields, London, E., are wholesale glass and china merchants, as their ancestors have been, and at the same address, for nearly one hundred and twenty years. It was in 1790 that Mr. John Shorter came from Staffordshire, and commenced business as a dealer in pottery in London. It is interesting to learn that the business then commenced has remained in the Shorter family and under their sole control, from that day to this. The present proprietors, Messrs. Thomas and James Shorter, are the great-grandsons of the founder of the business. There are many businesses in London that have been carried on under the same name for upwards of a century, but in the majority of instances the proprietor now does not bear the name under which the business is conducted. Messrs. Shorter, however, are hereditary pottery and glass dealers, and more than this, they have a thorough practical knowledge of their trades, having been actively engaged in them all their business lives. The result of that activity is seen in the extensive and well-stocked premises in which they conduct their old-established business on the most modern lines. If the Mr. John Shorter who founded the firm and opened up the south of England trade at the end of the eighteenth century, could to-day see how the business has increased year by year till it reached its present proportions, successful man as he was, we think he would be satisfied with the energy and enterprise displayed by his descendants. For three generations the "Shorters" have studied the requirements of retailers, and the crockery and glass markets, and the vast connection they have is proof of the appreciation in which they are held by the trade. But where there is



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

SHORTER BROTHERS: SHOW AND STOCK ROOM (EARTHENWARE).

enterprise there is no rest, and the present proprietors are not content to wear the laurels others have worked for. They recognise that to-day, more than ever, the requirements of the retailer necessitate the closest and most careful attention. Dealers have often unexpected demands made upon them. Shorters' claim that however unusual, if they are in pottery and glass, they are in a position to supply them, and in any quantity, from one pound's worth up to almost any figure. The outcry everywhere is for variety, and shapes and patterns have increased enormously in numbers, so that dealers with limited space find they cannot keep much stock of any one line. Still, they must have variety, if they are to do any trade at all. Wholesale houses like Messrs. Shorters are the places where this variety can be obtained by the dealer on demand.



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

SHORTER BROTHERS: PART OF SHOW ROOM (CHINA, &C.).

These houses practically keep stock for retailers. I was afforded an opportunity of seeing the extent to which Shorter Brothers do so by a walk through their premises. They have grown by degrees to their present dimensions, additions having been made from time to time until they now occupy a freehold area 101 feet by 167 feet, covered by warehouses (some five, others three stories high), stock rooms, show rooms, packing rooms, offices, stables, and basements. The basements under the whole of the premises are filled with heavy stock—dinner ware and flat goods, which, stacked in tiers, form very heavy masses. Many tons weight of stock dinner patterns is kept in this department, with brown ware and other heavy ware. On the ground floor there is a fine show room for tea and breakfast ware, with toilet ware at the end. They show 200 samples of china tea sets, and they keep a stock of each, and other lines in similar proportion. We give an illustration of this room from a photograph taken specially. The stock of dinner ware, toilet ware, miscellaneous goods, and flower pots is large and varied. There is an entire floor devoted to jugs and tea-pots. The glass stock rooms are long and lofty, with well arranged bins. Unfortunately the bulk of their immense trade in glass is done in foreign. Messrs. Shorter regret this, but say the prices of British glass are prohibitive for every-day sale. The third floor is filled with flower pots and fancy goods, while white ware is kept on the fourth floor. The private offices of the partners, and the general offices, and stock room for glass, are also on the ground floor. They keep every grade of china, earthenware and glass, from the very best downwards, and they carry a large stock of each variety. They claim to keep—ready for prompt delivery—a stock of everything that a glass, china, and earthenware dealer requires. They have an excellent system of storing their stock in bins specially constructed for the different goods. The whole premises are clean and free from litter. They have a rule that no straw shall ever be left in the warerooms or store rooms. As soon as the goods are removed from the straw, the latter is at once taken to the packing-room. This is for the sake of safety, as well as for cleanliness. The large packing rooms where goods inwards and outwards are dealt with, are connected with the upper floors by two large "lifts." The greater portion of their earthenware comes loose from the Potteries in trucks, and they cart it from the station themselves. They receive on an average five railway truck loads each week from the English Potteries, but they also import pottery and glass

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direct from America, Franee, Germany, Bohemia, Austria, and Sweden. Thcy have good stabling for horses, and keep vans for delivering their goods. They wait on thc Trade with no fewer than seven travellers. They employ a staff of between forty and fifty. Many of these have seen long serviee with the firm. Those who frequented Shorters' some years ago will remember the short elderly warehouseman on duty at the eounter on the ground floor. He was a genial eharaeter and was on familiar terms with all who ealled frequently on the firm. In speaking of the firm he always used the word "we"—evidently considering himself one of them. (I am speaking of the days of the father and uncle of the present proprietors.) He was sixty years in the service of thc Shorters', and two of his sons are with them now. It thus appears that the business, the proprietors, and the employees are alike hereditary.

The firm do all kinds of glass ornamentation by sand blast. They have their own maehines, and a powerful gas engine for operating them. I was shown some beautiful and fine speeimens of their sand blast work. It is done by a method of their own, all the details eoming out sharp and distinct. Crests, monograms, and badges, as well as decorative designs are exeeuted. They also do gilded work for spirit urns, tablets, &c.

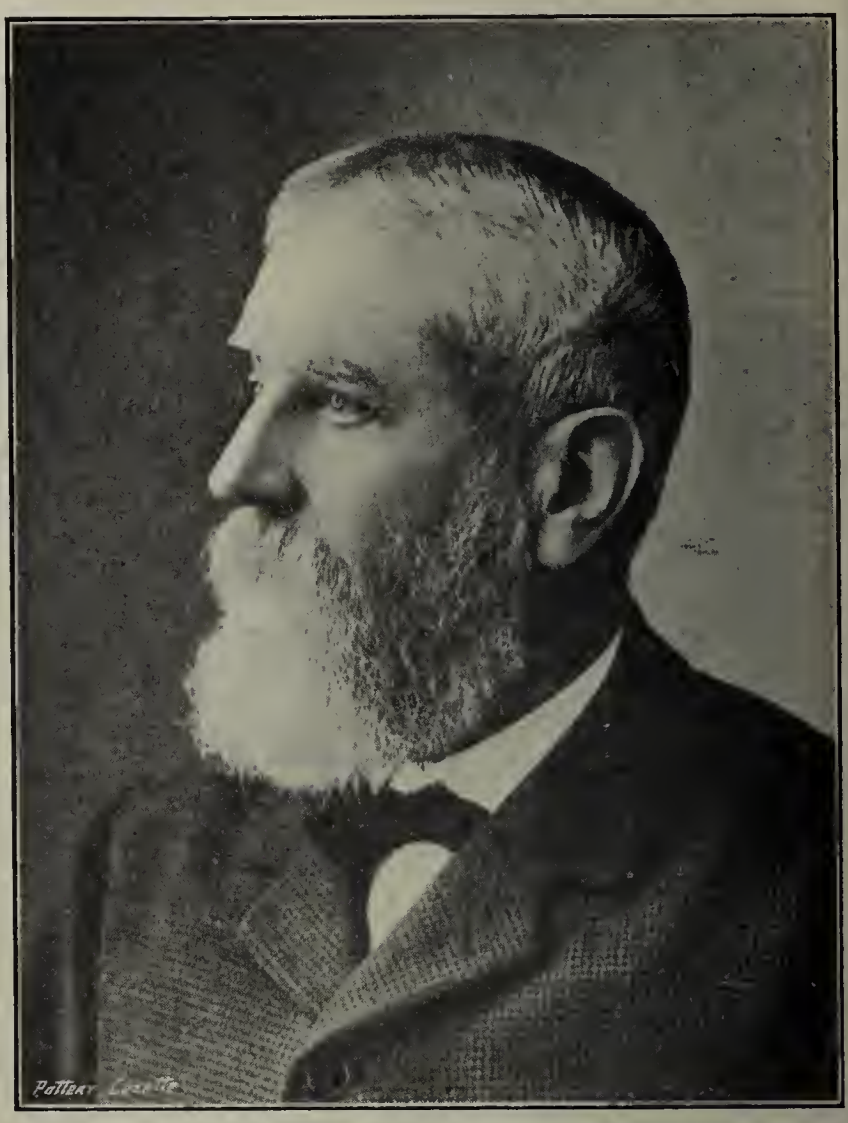
Messrs. Shorter Brothers are interested in pottery undertakings, in addition to their own plaee at Burslem, and they control the output of more than one faetory in Staffordshire.

Obituary.

WILLIAM FOWLER MOUNTFORD COPELAND.—AGED 80.

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. William Fowler Mountford Copeland, which took place at his residenee, Quarry House, St. Leonards-on Sea on April 11, in his 80th year. The late Mr. Copeland had been fairly well, eonsidering his years, and his rather sudden death was due to acute pneumonia following a severe eold. Hc was intensely fond of his garden, and it is thought he eaught that cold by going out in unpropitious weather into his picturesque grounds, to greet the many friends who eame year after year to see and admire the thousands of eroeuses that filled the banks and borders with their vari eoloured beauty.

For nearly 60 years the deeeased was actively engaged in the eel brated firm of W. T. Copeland & Sons, potters, Stoke-on-Trent. His grandfather, Mr. Wm. Copeland, was a partner with Josiah Spode who founded the business in 1770. When, in consequenee of inercasing business, the firm decided to open a London depot, Mr. Wm. Copeland took charge of it. Their first warehouse was in Fore-st., but requiring more room they moved to larger premises in Portugal-st., Lincoln's Inn-fields. Mr. Wm. Copeland died in 1826, and his partner (then the younger Spode) died soon after. The business seems to have been carried on then by the exeeutors of this Josiah Spode, until it was bought from them in its entirety by Mr. Wm. Taylor Copeland, the father of the deceased. Mr. W. T. Copeland was an alderman of the City of London, and in 1835 was Lord Mayor. He was also member of Parliament for Coleraine for four years, 1828 to 1832, and for Stoke-on-Trent for fifteen years, 1837 to 1852, and again represented Stoke for eight years, 1857 to 1865 He took his four sons into partnership with him, and the style of the firm became W. T. Copeland and Sons, as it is to-day. Mr. W. T. Copeland died in 1868. The deeeased retired from the business several years ago, and has resided sinee then at St. Leonards-on-Sea, where he died. The only one of the four brothers now in the firm is Mr. R. P. Copeland of Kibblestone Hall, Stone, who has his two sons associated



WILLIAM FOWLER MOUNTFORD COPELAND.

with him. The deeeased was a magistrate for the County of Stafford and for Herts, and also for the City of Westminster. He was an old member of the Court of the Goldsmiths' Company.

Dutch Imports during 1907 included 322,391 tons of earthenware and ehina, prineipally from Germany. The import in 1906 weighed 361,077 tons. The glassware import was only 59,413 tons in 1907 as against 105,169 tons in 1906. Belgium and Germany are the prineipal sourees of supply.

Potteries in the Transvaal.—We have received a very interesting eommunieation from Mr. Harold Emery, manager of the new pottery at Olifantsfontein, Transvaal. Mr. Emery has been in hospital for nearly two months suffering from enterie fever, but we are glad to say he is rapidly reeovering. The new pottery is a development of the business of the "Consolidated Rand Briek Pottery and Lime Co., Ltd." Mr. Emery reeently gave evidenee before a "Customs and Industries Commission," in whieh by faets and figures he demonstrated that there was a certain future in the Transvaal for the industry, on which he is a reeognised authority. At present Mr. Emery intends to devote his attention to the manufacture of vases, general domestie earthenware, glazed tiles and sanitary ware. Mr. Emery expected to have his first produetions in Transvaal pottery on the market by the beginning of May.

PHARMACEUTICAL CERAMICS.

ONE of the charms of the potting business is the wide range of subjects with which it is connected, So many utensils are made for such varied uses that the student of pottery is continually being brought into touch with all kinds of arts and industries in all countries and in all ages. Our contemporary the "Chemist and Druggist," has lately been investigating the history of the pottery used by pharmacists, and has published a series of interesting illustrated articles thereon, one of which, that dealing with French collections, we are permitted to reproduce :—

The Central Pharmacy of the Parisian Hospitals is an institution interesting in almost all its aspects, but one of its most special and remarkable features is the collection of pharmaceutical pottery. As (in spite of periodical propositions made by those aware of its value and variety) this has not yet been thrown open to the public as a museum, it is comparatively little known to the average Parisian, and even less so to the pharmacist or ceramist whom business or pleasure may call to the French capital. It comprises some 600 specimens, nearly all of French manufacture, and many of high artistic merit and professional interest.

FIG. 1.—CHEVRETTES.

As "every schoolboy knows," nearly all the existing Parisian hospitals are installed in convents confiscated at the time of the Revolution—in fact, the Central Pharmacy is itself an ex-convent. These convents were usually endowed by wealthy and aristocratic patronesses, who, with that little leaven of personal ostentation which characterises the "pious founder" in all ages, often presented "their" institution with a set of pharmacy-jars emblazoned with the armorial bearings of the noble family to which they belonged. It is whispered that (even in those days) cases were treated in charitable institutions that could well afford to turn elsewhere, and also that many a worthy apothecary broke the Tenth Commandment as he compared these strikingly handsome hospital ceramics with the coarser utensils of his own *officine*.



FIG. 2.—SPOUTLESS SYRUP-JARS.

The *laïcisation* of the Parisian hospitals, which finally severed the connection existing for so many centuries between the various religious bodies and the hospitals of the French capital, is a matter of modern history. As the nuns left each institution such of the ancient pharmacy-jars as seemed worthy of preservation were conveyed to their present home, thus forming a collection of specimens of ancient French drugpots which is probably unequalled either in France or abroad. The fact that in most cases each piece is inscribed with the name of its former contents



FIG. 3.—VASE FROM BEAUJON HOSPITAL.

gives additional interest to an inspection. The largest and handsomest jars were usually reserved for the electuaries—those monuments of mediæval polypharmacy of which half a dozen still figure in the French "Codex." Here one may see the receptacles in which they were formerly enthroned in the place of honour, alike in the apothecary's shop and the hospital pharmacy—the wondrous "Theriaca" (or Venice treacle), which contained no fewer than seventy ingredients, including vipers and castoreum; the "Catholicum" (compound electuary of rhubarb); the "Diascordium," wherein honey is used as an excipient, and which contains a small quantity of opium; the "Confection of Hyacinthe" (compound saffron electuary), for which a small quantity of precious stones was once used (and which nowadays contains "porphyrised eyes of crayfish" and "terre sigillée"), &c.

Smaller in dimensions, but curiously characteristic in shape, and interesting as having been the exclusive appan-



FIG. 4.—LOUIS XVI. JARS.

age of the apothecary of times gone by,* is the spouted "chevrette" (Fig. 1) or syrup-jar. This was used for oils and aqueous preparations, as well as syrups, until glass bottles came into general use. The most recent specimens

* Dr. Dorveaux, Librarian of the Paris School of Pharmacy, has pointed out that while grocers or surgeons might have other drug-pots in their premises, the "chevrette" was the monopoly of the apothecary. On several occasions domiciliary visits were made, and these articles—when found in non-pharmaceutical premises—seized and confiscated.

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have an earthenware lid or cover, but the older ones were tied up (like jam-pots) with paper, parchment, or linen.

Of the huge containers used for liquid preparations, the two handsome specimens from the Trousseau Hospital, marked "Sirop de Limon" and "Sirop de Pas d'Ane" (Fig. 2), are excellent samples. In ordinary pharmacie



FIG. 5.



FIG. 6.

STOCK JARS FOR AROMATIC WATERS.

these large-sized jars would be in coarse white or brown ware. Closed with a bung or simple round of cardboard, they would stand on the floor under the counter or the stock-shelves. But these are highly ornamental specimens; the blue-rose ornament seems to indicate they come from the renowned St. Cloud pottery.

The small jar for cassia pulp standing between the two pitchers in the photograph (Fig. 2) is fromthe Necker Hospital, in the rue de Sèvres, an establishment founded by the famous Minister of Finances of Louis XVI. This particular jar only bears the baronial coronet, but the larger pieces ("Hyacinthe" and "Theriaca" jars, &c.) are ornamented with the arms of Necker ("on a field gules a swan argent on a lake of the same," and a bunch of grapes) and of his wife ("on a field or an altar sable on a terrace sinople surmounted by a flame natural"). The "pulpe de casse" (see inscription on pot) was a popular medicament in those days. Readers of Molière's "Malade Imaginaire" will remember Toinette's allusion to the "bonne casse." These pots were all made in 1778 by Thery, the potter of the rue de la Roquette.



FIG. 7.

NIDERWILLER WARE.

Hardly less historic than Necker was Beaujon, the founder of the Beaujon Hospital (the "St. George's" of Paris, lying as it does in the aristocratic neighbourhood between St. Philippe du Roule and the Parc Monceau), the famous financier of the latter days of the Royal *régime*, who was fanned to sleep daily, we are assured, by the dames of France's proudest aristocracy. The jars from the Beaujon Hospital are particularly charming specimens of the purest Louis XVI. ornament, as may be judged from the engraving of the receptacle for "Orvietan" (Fig. 3)—another of the historic electuaries, which figures, it will be remembered, in Scott's novel "Kenilworth." In this collection one notices the inevitable "Diascordium" and "Hyacinthe," the Opi. Mesenteriq; Duobus salts, Epsom



FIG. 8.

salts, Ex. de quinquina, Sel de lait, P. d'Aloes, P. Bal de Sthal (*sic*), &c.

Another artistic set in Louis XVI. style is that of which the "Elec Diaprun" jar (Fig. 4) is a sample. These were possibly made at Rouen or Limoges. The electuary in



FIG. 9.

question was a popular laxative, taking its name from the prunes which were its principal ingredient. There was a "simple" electuary and a "solutive"—this latter con-

tained scammony. "Oleum Laurininium" and "Ung. Bascilicum" are inscribed in similarly roomy receptacles and largest of all is the "El Catholicum." On smaller pots of the same collection one notices (in Latin) the names of extracts of borage, fumitory, jalap, black hellebore, catechu, senna, valerian, and blessed thistle.

The bottles marked "St. Jean de Dieu" have a capacity of about 3 gals. each (Fig. 5). They bear on the one side the figure of the saint (apparent in the engraving), and on the other the inscription "A Pauer R." (Aqua Papaveris Rhœados). Slight mistakes in authography (Latin or French) are common enough on these old drug-pots. One may be noted—"A. Saluiæ" for "A. Salviæ" (Fig. 6), &c.

The pottery of the Charité Hospital was made at Paris in 1690, and has a simple floral decoration. This set is rich in specimens of the cylindrical jars termed by the French "pots à canon," and by the Italians "albarelli." There are also the usual receptacles for distilled waters and huge Orvietan and Diascordium jars.

Passing by the blue-and-white ware of the "Enfants Assistés" (on much the same lines as the last named), we find sixty white-and-gold jars from the Ville d'Evèque Hospital. There is an assortment of ointments—basil., merc., arcaci, lauri, citrinum, populem, antioptht., &c. The set from the Hôpital du Midi (manufactured at Chambéry) shows an equally large choice of jars for pills or pill-mass—ante-cibum, angelicæ, Bontii, Bacherii, cynoglo, hydrarg. b., Mortonii, Fullerii, saponacæ, &c.

But to describe in detail the features of this assembly of pharmaceutical ceramics would be to tax unduly the patience of the reader. One can only advise all interested in the subject to inspect it for themselves (permission from the chief pharmacist is necessary).

Numerous specimens of old pharmaceutical pottery may be found in the various Paris museums, but none of these collections are so complete and characteristic as that of the Pharmacie Centrale des Hopitaux; and in most cases—at the Louvre, the Cluny Museum, &c.—the Italian pots are much more numerous than the French. In the new Museum of Decorative Art (recently annexed to the Louvre) may be seen a few samples of the celebrated Strasburg ware of the eighteenth century (pots marked "Ung. Rosat" and "Cast. Moch.," and adorned with wreaths of roses in the natural colours on a white ground), as well as a few of the blue-and-white seventeenth-century pots (without inscription) which were supplied to the Pharmacy of the Invalids.

A visit to a French provincial museum or hospital pharmacy will often prove of interest to the collector of historical pottery. Just outside Paris, at St. Germain-en-Laye (where King James II. of England died in exile), the pharmacy of the hospital still retains its quaint old drug pots; at Chateau-Thierry and other towns remarkable collections may also be found. Among the provincial museums the "Musée Lorain" of Nancy deserve special mention as containing an artistic and extensive collection of snowwhite Niderwiller ware drug-pots in the purest Louis XV. style (Fig. 7). These bear the crown and monogram of the good King Stanislas (father-in-law of Louis le Bienaimé), an enlightened patron of art, as all visitors to the modern capital of French Lorraine can attest. They come from the pharmacy of the Hospital of St. Charles. In this case the names of the drugs were not baked on the pottery, but added by hand as occasion required.

So far collections belonging to public bodies have been referred to, but this is not an inappropriate place to mention the private collection of M. A. Dutertre, pharmaceutical chemist, 36, rue Victor-Hugo, Boulogne-sur-Mer. There are over 360 pots in the collection. Many choice specimens are shown at various points of vantage in the pharmacy, and visitors to Boulogne often exhibit considerable interest in the collection. The groups Figs. 8 and 9 are of characteristic specimens. M. Dutertre has several very fine old mortars.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN MARCH.

The Pottery Trades.—Employment in the pottery trade continued moderate, and was worse than a year ago. Employment in Staffordshire was moderate; it was also moderate at Swadlincote and in Scotland; in Devonshire and at Newcastle-on-Tyne it was fair. With earthenware makers in the South Yorkshire and River Aire district employment showed a decline. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries, it continued bad; packers worked only five days per week; and engravers also reported employment as bad. Some improvement was shown in the sanitary, rockingham, and jet trades. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester and Gateshead; and dull at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades was fairly good on the whole, but not so good as either a month ago or a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 7,763 workpeople in the week ended March 21, and paying £9,250 in wages, showed a decrease of 2·4 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 4·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was entirely in the glass bottle branch. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 1·9 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 1·4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being almost entirely in Lancashire and the North of England. Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol, and fairly good at Leeds; fair at Wakefield, at Barnsley, and in Scotland; moderate in Lancashire and the North of England, dull at Castleford and Dublin. With medical glass bottle makers employment was good at Sheffield and Rotherham and fair at Leeds. Employment with flint glass makers was good in Scotland, and fairly good on the whole in England. With cutters it was fair; at Stourbridge and Wordsley it was fairly good. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad; with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was fair. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment continued bad, short time being general.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on the pay day in week ended March 21:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,317	£6,586
Plate Glass	191	196
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,885	2,057
Other Branches	370	411
Total	7,763	£9,250

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid to them on the pay day in week ended March 21:—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	907	£947
Yorkshire	4,438	5,476
Laneashire	654	722
Worcester and Warwick ..	656	820
Scotland	787	971
Other parts of United Kingdom	321	314
Total	7,763	£9,250

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WORDSLEY SCHOOL OF ART.

ON Monday, March 30, there was a large gathering at the School of Art, Wordsley, at a double function. The principal event was the unveiling of a tablet to commemorate the gifts and scholarships of Mr. W. H. Richardson, and the second, the presentation of prizes and certificates awarded by the Board of Education, the City and Guilds of London Institute, the County Council, and the committee, which were handed to the successful pupils by Alderman John Addison, J.P.

Mr. Owen Gibbons, C.C., chairman of the committee, unveiled the commemorative tablet, which is placed in the entrance hall. Mr. Gibbons said Mr. W. H. Richardson, of Glasgow, had given more scholarships than any one else to that institute, and to commemorate those gifts they had placed the tablet there. That was a great honour to Mr. Richardson, and a great honour to the district, and he hoped the scholarships would be of as great use as he was sure Mr. Richardson hoped they would be. The younger people present perhaps would see the good the scholarships might do in the years to come. He had much pleasure in unveiling the tablet. Mr. Mason read the inscription, which was as follows :—

> Richardson Donations and Scholarships.
>
> This tablet was erected to commemorate the various gifts of W. H. Richardson, Esq., of Glasgow, to this institute. Those donations amounted to £282 10s. from the year 1892 to 1907. Further, he gave the income from Richardson Hall to provide scholarships in this hall in memory of his sister, the late Miss Martha Haden Richardson.
>
> Owen Gibbons, (Chairman.)
>
> Erected 1908.

Mr. Benjamin Richardson, on behalf of his uncle, returned thanks for the erection of the tablet. At his recent visit to the school his uncle was pleased to see the young men working at the bench, and said he felt sure that the young people who were receiving instruction in the school would be all the better fitted to make their way in the world. Addressing the chairman, he said, "Mr. Gibbons, I shall convey your kind wishes to my uncle, and I thank you again for the kind words you have used."

Presentation of Prizes.

Afterwards, the annual report of the committee was read, and Mr. Alderman Addison was asked to present the prizes and certificates to the successful students. Before doing this, Alderman Addison delivered an interesting address. Alluding to a remark by the chairman in reference to foreign competition, he thought enough had been said about Germany. They had to look at home and improve themselves, and he was sure that this country would not then fall behind in the commercial race or any other. English people were never comfortable unless they had a bogey, but he had come to that age when one was sceptical whenever a new bogey was raised as to whether it had any cause for existence. In older days he remembered that France was a terrible bogey, and it was said that France would overtake this country in matters of commerce. Now France and England looked upon each other as natural friends. They might take an example in many respects from Germany, especially in matters of education, without by any means being frightened of what Germany might do. If they were behind Germany in technical education, such was the virtue of the free institutions of England that they need not fear either in commerce or anything else.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Addison was proposed by Mr. Benjamin Richardson, who said he could, however, hardly agree with some of Mr. Addison's remarks. The glass trade was not so flourishing as in 1860, but they were hoping for better things. If the district depended upon the glass trade it would be in a poor way, and they had to thank the chairman and his brother for the introduction of a new industry into the district. They must be satisfied that the village had increased in population, and if the glass trade was not flourishing other trades were. Mr. Woodall seconded the proposition, and the vote was carried.

There was an exhibition of very meritorious work by the students.

THE HYGIENE OF THE POTTERY TRADE.

IN our March issue we gave a brief summary of a lecture delivered by Mr. William Burton, F.C.S., the well-known writer and lecturer on ceramics, on Feb. 12, before the members of the Royal Society of Arts at the Society's House, John-st., Adelphi, W.C. The following extracts are from the full report of the lecture, published in the Journal of the Royal Society. The lecture is the third of a series of "Shaw Lectures on Industrial Hygiene."

Mr. Burton admitted at the outset that there are dangers and difficulties in connection with the manufacture of pottery. He came there to explain what they were, and, at the same time, to endeavour to show that they were all, happily, in process of extinction. Whether the extinction would be rapid or slow depended on circumstances, for which the manufacturer himself was not entirely responsible.

"It would be easy to demonstrate, when we remember the numbers of workpeople employed, and take into consideration the amount of mischief caused to the workers in the pottery trade, that the whole industry is less inimical to those who work in it than many other dangerous trades ; but two blacks do not make a white, and while I could readily indicate trades which are in greater need of attention than the pottery trade is now, my sole business to-night is to consider the present position of our trade in its influence on the health of the workers..

Leaving aside for the moment questions of excessive or irregular temperatures, insufficient ventilation, &c., which are of minor importance, it is certain that the chief danger to the health of pottery operatives can be summed up in the word "Dust." The trade is one of many processes—probably no more detailed and intricate manufacture exists to-day—and in many of the processes dust is naturally and necessarily created. Two kinds of dust always arising in pottery works must be considered.

(*a*) The mixed mineral dust, composed of particles of finely ground clay, flint, felspar, or stone, which is created in the shaping and finishing of the clay vessels (plates, cups, dishes, &c.) before they are fired, or in suitably arranging them in saggers or fire-clay boxes for firing, or in preparing them for glazing and decorating after they have been once fired.

(*b*) The dust of glazes containing lead compounds, smaller in amount than the other, affecting a much smaller number of workers, but far more dangerous to health on account of its toxic properties.

The course of my lecture is definitely laid out for me by this simple subdivision of the main problems that concern the health of pottery workers. I want to make it plain, from the outset, that the great danger is the creation of dust—the dust of potters' clay, of fine flint or stone, on the one hand, or the dust of glazes containing toxic ingredients on the other.

Roughly speaking, some 73,000 workpeople are employed in Great Britain in all the processes connected with the making, decorating, and finishing of pottery. Of these not more than 26,000 are exposed to danger from any kind of dust. The remainder are employed in callings which are not only, generally speaking, less laborious and less dangerous than any other trade, but in callings that are as free from risk as, say, that of an ordinary clerk in a merchant's office. In one sense, therefore, it is unfair to speak of pottery as a dangerous trade ; it is a trade divided into many branches, each of them presenting a great variety of separate occupations, some of which are undoubtedly inimical to health unless they are conducted with due regard to their special dangers.

Reverting to our division of the various kinds of dusts into mineral dust and toxic dust, we can further subdivide these 26,000 workers into two groups :—(1) Some 19,000 workers who are exposed to the risk of breathing the mineral dust of powdered flint or potters' clay ; and (2) 6,500 to 6,700 workers who are exposed to the risk of breathing dust containing lead compounds. It is upon these two groups of workers that our attention must be concentrated.

One further complication needs a word of explanation. Pottery is a very wide term used to cover everything manufactured of clay —paving and decorative tiles, sanitary ware, stoneware, earthenware, brown tea-pots, and china. In the majority of works only one branch of manufacture is followed, but there are a number of large and important works in this country where many kinds of pottery are made. It cannot be too clearly borne in mind that each of these branches of manufacture differs in important particulars from the other, and that rules and regulations possible in one may be quite impossible in another, owing to the difference of working conditions. The figures quoted already as to the number of workpeople employed and those exposed to any special trade risk relate to the whole industry.''

THE EFFECTS OF DUST.

We must now consider the effect on the workers of employment in processes where mineral dust is produced. I am not a medical man, of course, so that I shall not attempt to treat this question from the medical point of view. The general consensus of medical opinion—though there seems to be some weighty authorities who do not accept the general view—is that when clay dust, flint dust, or any similar material dust is regularly breathed during a portion of the working day, such condition of employment gradually produces considerable and serious mischief in the lungs. Among potters, this lung condition has in the past been generally spoken of as ''potter's asthma'' or ''potter's phthisis.'' It seems to be clearly established that it is neither one nor the other. The dust causes a degradation or a breaking down of the delicate lung tissues, but, provided a worker so affected is able to keep clear of the infection of ''phthisis,'' and he is not attacked with other lung diseases, he can go on working to old age, and die at last from what are apparently natural causes. But the degraded condition of lung produced by the regular breathing of fine mineral dust naturally pre-disposes that workman to other forms of lung disease; and our greatest difficulty in dealing with this trade disease is the fact that the cause is nearly always complicated by organic disease changes over which the manufacturer has no control, and for which it seems, therefore, unfair to hold him responsible. You may very well ask the question at this point, if the facts are as I have stated, why does not the manufacturer conduct his process in such a way as to avoid the production of dust?

I must say at once that it is impossible to make and finish pottery without producing dust in certain operations, and all hope of reform or improvement of past conditions lies in the invention and adoption of suitable appliances and arrangements for dealing with the dust so that it shall not be breathed. It would be impossible, in the time at our disposal, to consider all the dusty processes in detail. I propose, therefore, to select two or three of those in most general use, where clay dust or flint dust is largely created, and to show you how each of these can now be conducted so as to reduce its dangers to a minimum.

Here I must diverge for a moment from my direct course to enter a caveat against the oft-repeated statement that English pottery workshops are more dusty, and therefore more inimical to health than the corresponding workshops in foreign countries. My own experience, which is probably as extensive as that of any living person, is entirely contradictory to any such idea; and I may remind you that Dr. Oliver, who was despatched by the Home Office to examine into the hygienic conditions of the French pottery industry, found that the workshops of Limoges were more unhealthy, from this point of view, than those he had visited in Staffordshire.

As illustrations of typically dusty processes in English pottery manufacture I propose to consider—

(*a*) The ''fettling'' or finishing of earthenware plates, dishes, and similar articles;

(*b*) The creation of dust in the grinding of clay, and the compression of that dust into tiles, in the ordinary process of tile making;

(*c*) ''China scouring'' in which flint dust has to be removed from the china ware after its first firing.''

The lecturer then dealt with these processes seriatim, explaining that the principle of all methods of dealing with dust is the same, viz., that as near as possible to the spot where the dust is created, there should be an opening into a trough or duct, communicating with a fan of sufficient power to create a current of air capable of drawing such dust away from the face of the worker and removing it from the room. He described and illustrated by views thrown on the screen, methods of removing dust created by fettling or finishing earthenware plates, dishes, and similar articles, as adopted in several factories. He said the most perfect installation of the kind he was acquainted with was in one of the workrooms in the new factory of Pountney & Co., at Bristol. There the fan ducts are very large, and as powerful fans are used the volume of air drawn over the working place is relatively great, whilst the openings are most suitably placed for ensuring that the dust is completely captured and sucked away. He then described the grinding of clay into dust and its compression into tiles, illustrating tile presses with dust-exhaust, as in use at Pilkington's Tile Works, Clifton Junction. The lecturer then spoke very fully on

CHINA SCOURING.

The dusty processes already described are concerned only with the dust of potters' clay, which, as I have said, is far less injurious than the dust of hard mineral substances like sandstone, flint, or granite. We have now to consider an occupation in which one of these hard, sharp, mineral dusts is created, viz., the dust of flint. May I explain what ''china scouring'' is and how the flint dust arises?

English china is a species of pottery quite distinct from Chinese, French, or German porcelain. The material from which your china cups, saucers, plates, or vases are made is compounded of kaolin, felspathic stone, and calcined bone-ash, all reduced to a state of minute sub-division and intimately mixed. To fire articles fashioned from this mixture into translucent china, the temperature must be so high that they are almost on the point of softening and going out of shape. To avoid disastrous loss from such causes the articles, especially saucers, plates, and dishes, are bedded in finely-ground flint powder in the saggers or fireclay boxes in which they are fired. When the pieces are removed from these boxes at the finish of the firing it is found that they are covered with a coating of flint dust, which needs to be brushed or polished off with stiff brushes or sand-paper, &c. For many years now it has been customary to use fans for removing the dust from the revolving brushes; but before that time ''china scouring'' was rightly considered as the most dangerous of all the potters' dusty processes; flint dust being from its very nature much more injurious to the lungs than clay dust. Fortunately, I am able to demonstrate the successive steps by which this occupation, only a few years ago the most dangerous to health in the pottery works of this country, has been improved, until to-day appliances are in use which entirely remove the danger. I throw on the screen a slide showing the arrangements of the china scouring shops at the Burslem factory of Messrs. Doulton & Co., as it existed some ten years ago. These arrangements were then considered so excellent that they were illustrated in the report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1899. I need not say that Messrs. Doulton have been among those English manufacturers who have paid great attention to the health of their workpeople, and have stinted neither money nor enterprise in effecting improvements towards this end. The gist of this method of china scouring, which we may call the first improved method, is that the revolving brushes for removing the skin of flint from the fired china are hooded, each hood being connected with a general fan, and as far as possible, no brushing is done except in the vicinity of the fan openings. Many manufacturers during the last ten years spent considerable sums of money in the erection of plants of this kind, and yet none of us were satisfied, because even at the best it was difficult to get rid of all the flint dust by such means, and until that could be done it was impossible to cease from further experiments.

An important new departure was taken by the Worcester Royal Porcelain Company, also about ten years ago, in applying the principle of the well-known ''sand-blast'' to china scouring. I have now on the screen a diagrammatic representation of how a blast of sand was applied to this purpose, and in the next slide you will see the operator at work. I have often seen this machine in use and, so far as safe-guarding the operative, it acts perfectly; but Mr. Evans, the managing director of the Worcester works, tells me they find it much more useful in scouring fancy ornamental articles than for getting through the heavy work of scouring tableware which is, after all, the main product at most of the china factories in this country. Another drawback to the sand-blast apparatus, as introduced at Worcester, has been the difficulty of getting rid of the finest dust (note that it is necessary for the operator to wear a respirator) and the finest dust is probably the most dangerous.

Within the last two years Aynsley & Co., of Longton, have installed in their works a much improved form of sand-blast where the articles to be scoured are passed twice through the machine on travelling bands, so that they are completely scoured on both sides, and the operation is conducted in such a way that the women in charge are entirely protected from the flint dust which is exhausted by a powerful fan. I am informed by Mr. John Aynsley that he is perfectly satisfied with the working of this machine, for not only is the scouring well done, but there is no escape of dust into the air of the room.

Within the last fifteen months the problem has been attacked in another way and, as far as we can see, has been finally disposed of. Most of you will be familiar with the simple machine known as the ''rumbler,'' used in engineering workshops for cleaning castings, &c. An engineer living in Staffordshire, Mr. Wainford, hit upon the ingenious idea of applying the same principle to china scouring, and preliminary experiments, carried out at Messrs. Doulton's works at Burslem, demonstrated that china-ware might be scoured by the friction of fragments of broken china in a revolving drum. At first, the method, though very good for doing the actual scouring, presented the difficulty that when the ware had been scoured it came from the machine coated with fine dust, which in turn must be removed by brushing, and this, of course, involved a certain amount of risk. Mr. Hartley, of Stoke, a potters' engineer of great skill, hit on the idea of coupling the machine to a fan so that air could be drawn through it as it revolved and the dust-

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automatically and perfectly removed without entering the room at all. The unscoured china-ware is placed in skeleton racks of wood, which are made to slide into sections of the drum. A quantity of broken fragments of china is put into the machine; the drum is closed, and is set revolving slowly, when the friction of the fragments polishes off the flint dust without damage to the ware, and in about two hours the ware can be removed effectually scoured. I consider this invention a remarkable one, for it is applicable to the scouring of every kind of biscuit china; it is economical in use as it replaces a considerable amount of labour, and it effectually disposes of the dust, and therefore of the danger. *

Mr. Burton exhibited a number of pieces of "unscoured" china, with the adherent flint dust and a similar set that had been scoured in one of these machines. He pointed out that the latter were perfectly smooth and free from every trace of grit or dust. Continuing, the lecturer said:—

Minor difficulties associated with flint dust in the firing of china arise in connection with the processes of "flat-knocking" and "flint-sifting," but so few work people are engaged in these departments that I can do no more than refer to them. The same remedy must be applied in these cases also, viz., the introduction of methods for removing the fine flint dust so that it shall not be breathed by the operatives.

Before leaving that branch of my subject which deals with the dangers involved in the shaping or finishing of clay wares and the scouring of china, I must refer to some questions of a general nature concerning potters' workshops.

(*To be continued.*)

THE SOUTH DEVON CHINA CLAY TRADE.—VI.

(*Continued from page* 198, *February* 1, 1908.)

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

IN one instance, on the pumping out of a "lake," it was found that no clay had been cut at all, but only the "callow" removed, many years previously, and, of course, at enormous expense. Skirting the river as this land does, it is easy to conjecture what happened. The river began to show signs of rising, and those old men saw signs of it long before it did, so they pushed up a cleverly constructed dam. This answered admirably, until some adventurous stoat, weasel, rabbit or mole, tunnelled it, and then at the next great flood the dyke was broken, and the water rushed in. After a couple of months' strenuous and continuous hand pumping, the sett was left, for fifty years, perhaps, and then the engine had it dry in a couple of days, the merchant finding great store of clay, and the cutter great sport in the capture of a lot of wriggling eels.

It must not be imagined that the early miners were easily daunted. It is urged they thought more of water in their pits than their representatives of to-day; so, perhaps, they did, but it was in an intelligent kind of way. It was necessary for them to think, and use their brains, for they had no powerful engines, and as all pumping was done by hand, they made every effort to keep a pit dry without it. "Prevention is better than cure," was their motto, and they considered it as important to keep water from entering a pit as to get it out after it was there. And so some pits, after they were cut, were left as cisterns, and this drained off a lot of water. Sometimes a pit would be cut near one of these deep cisterns, and when the new pit was ten feet deep, a ledge or platform of clay would be left at one end, with a square "box" or well to catch the water. A hole would be drilled from the bottom of the box to the side of the cistern, carrying a steady stream of water to the cistern, none of which had found its way into the body of the new pit. Then, too, the sources of streams that ran or were at all likely to run into a pit were traced, and the waters diverted, advantage being taken of their old channel drains, made of small stones, or the stream turned down on some old works, so that old works became to be looked upon as blessings in disguise. Engineers, when attempting to discover the cause of the contamination to a water supply, throw salt, clay, chalk, flour, or chemicals, or dyes into the suspected source, and by testing the well ascertain if the agent used can be detected, and so determine the possibility of sewage having percolated through to the well. This is considered the most up-to-date and scientific method for the detection of pollution in underground waters. But the clay man knew all about it years ago, and engineers are often discovering new methods which are old in the clay trade; just as, in the pottery line, designers produce something "quite new" that would make the fortune of any firm taking it up, and the potter has to break it gently to them that the wonderful new pattern was designed in Nineveh, or took well in Pompeii, but that lately a German firm was running if for 6½d. bazaars.

Of such excellent quality was the output from the old pits that the proud boast of the merchants was, that a child could go to market and sell their clays. However this might have been, it did not prevent them from sending as ambassadors of commerce eloquent gentlemen who, with aggressive activity, pushed their wares at every possible opportunity. There was then no POTTERY GAZETTE in which to insert well-placed, convincing advertisements proclaiming, in clear, cold print the wisdom of purchasing, and advantages accruing from the purchase of, certain clays, and persistently to present this view of the case to prospective buyers, in season and out of season, at home and abroad, morning, noon, and night. The merchants were anxious to sell; so eager, that it was more likely a potter would receive clay before he ordered than that there should be delay in shipping. The object was to bore, sink, drive, mine, cut, dig, and rip up with feverish haste as much clay as possible before that great and terrible day should come, when it would be said that "pots, pans, and pipes (tobacco) were made of many things, sometimes even of clay." There was no limitation of supplies, for limitation of supplies was not studied until a much later date. It is believed that the first to take the matter up was the good lady who supplied dumplings to the clay men. "Dumplings," written in a good round hand on half a sheet of notepaper attracted the attention of a passing stranger, who was so delighted with the couple purchased, that he drew up on a whole sheet a fuller and more effective ad. A rush of new customers followed, and the demand speedily exceeded the supply, so the old notice was again put up and the new one burnt, and a hundred hungry and disappointed mortals learnt that the number at the next quarterly baking would be limited to two dozen as heretofore. Some potters are inclined to suppose that the old lady was not the only one who failed to move with the times, and that the results of the publicity given to a really good clay has overtaxed the merchants' resources, and that his methods were all right for the handful of potters his customers had dwindled down to, but were useless to enable him to cope with the demands made upon him by new customers, men like his old clients of high standing in the commercial world and good repute, some from the home market, and some from over the sea. They had seen his advertisement in the POTTERY GAZETTE, and were buyers. These "outsiders'" orders soon made an appreciable difference to the stocks, and it became evident that, after the old heaps were exhausted, the output, unless considerably augmented by new shafts and pits, would be inadequate to supply the demand, and someone would have to go short. Endeavours to please everyone seems to have met with its usual fate, of satisfying none, and there is found a general complaint at the length of time that elapsed (sometimes six months) between the placing of an order and receiving a cargo. "Time enough" has always

* We saw one of these effective "China Scourers" in operation at Longton recently, and an account of it appears in the POTTERY GAZETTE for March, page 325—ED. P.G.

been an honoured expression in the west. It is not that the men of Devon are lazy, for when they are in earnest they are terribly in earnest, but "time enough" is one of their little peculiarities. It always was so, as long ago as when that "gallant merchant ship full sail to Plymouth Bay" caused such a stir. It was the West-Country man who suggested "there is time enough" to finish the game and beat the Spaniards. And there is time enough to get the cargo off, there is time enough to bore the clay, time enough to cut it, time enough to cart it, to barge it, and when the clay is quite ready, no indecent haste will be shown in fixing a vessel, for there is time enough to ship it. This naturally irritates the potter, who is apt to judge the merchant rather harshly, and consider he is playing the part of the creature who could not eat the hay, but sat upon it; or see in him an old man of the sea, whose curious antics threaten to throttle their trade; or regard him as men would the dusky potentate arrayed in all the glory of top hat or big jam pot and a smile, who is yet sufficiently powerful to hinder the progress of the trading mission that wishes to pass through his territory. Certainly merchants appear to have been rather dilatory, but the delays are not altogether their fault.

The scarcity of sailing vessels (a circumstance over which they have no control) must be taken into account. Most of the great fleet of wooden vessels that carried so much clay are at the bottom of the sea. But that is only one of the difficulties. The fact is, great changes are taking place in the conditions under which the trade is carried on. Potters, merchants, clay-cutters and ship-masters are standing with reluctant feet, where the quiet brook of private enterprise and the rushing river of limited liability meet. The potter knows the quantity of clay he requires, and the fact that expenses are high in the pottery hinders him from taking a larger vessel offering (say) 100 tons more than his requirements, which under different circumstances he would have accepted without hesitation. Having allowed her to "pass" he must remain in the unsatisfactory state of "waiting for something to turn up." His only alternative is to load a steamer. This he is unwilling to do, for the master of the "tramp" has the reputation of not taking as much care of his cargo as he might. The craft is not his, and he has no interest in her beyond his monthly wages. The skipper of the schooner was often owner, part owner, or sailed on the "thirds." Insured up to half his value in one or other of the (more or less solvent) shipping clubs, he took the greatest care of the cargo at both ends. He was in no hurry to sail, and this did not affect potters as it would do to-day, in consequence of the great number of vessels employed in the clay-carrying trade; but when at last he crossed the bar, and there was the least sign of bad weather "out over," he got away under Berry or Portland, and lay there for a week or a fortnight. Of course, with the master of a steamer it is vastly different. He cannot hang around to see balls of clay "progged" in one by one, or if very "short," passed in by hand as tenderly as if they were babies. Now, it must be tumbled down a "shute," and if there is a high percentage of "brokes," its not the captain's fault. Timed into harbour and timed out he must bring his boat around smartly, or his owners will find a man that can, and if the barges and trucks are not alongside to time, he goes away short or sues for demurrage. There are still a few "hearts of oak" left, but these too often arrive, in fact, seem to have a trick of arriving, just when the particular clay they wish to carry to their special port is sold out.

The old merchants had an excellent plan of "heaping," and also of removing large quantities of overburden during the winter months to be ready for spring orders. Sometimes the orders were a long time coming, but the merchant still continued "heaping" clay and "unhealing" clay. They were great believers in preparatory work, and in having a good lot of clay "in sight" ready for cutting. They even went so far as to sink pits in any solid ground where a pit was likely to "stand," and cut through gravel, "shovel sand," and "not saving" right down to the market clay, thus having a pit ready for working at a moment's notice. With a few of these pits cut down, and large heaps in reserve, they were ready for all orders, "small" or "ball." Now clay, for an order, is raised as required. The value of ball clay is so much more than "brokes" that it does not pay to keep a lot of clay in the cellar to become overdry and break. Neither will the merchants put more mining clay to the heaps to "weather," than he can help, for that is money lying idle, and the stock must be turned over quicker than in the old days. But some things must not be hurried any more than the old mare that drove the whim. She led an easy, if dizzy, life, and once a year increased the live stock. All efforts to induce her to make this a quarterly instead of annual event were without avail, and just as useless are the abortive attempts to produce in a clay, in twelve weeks, the result of twelve months' weathering. The process of weathering may be slow, but it is exceeding sure, and there is as much difference in offering a potter weathered or green clays as there is in placing before him a nicely cooked joint, done to a turn, or piling his dish with raw meat.

A correspondent having written to the Editors of THE POTTERY GAZETTE complaining that in these notes the writer does not make a sufficiently clear distinction between china clay and the blue ball clay used in making stoneware, perhaps the following note will serve to elucidate matters:—Although "china" clay is a term which, at one time, was applied solely to kaolin (such as found at Lea Moor in Devon, and St. Austell in Cornwall), it is now by usage, if not consent, employed to describe each and all the many varities of ball and other clays found in the white and black pits of Devon and Dorset. So we read that a ship has sailed from a North Devon port, with "china" clay, when, as a matter of fact, there was not a grain of china clay on board; that a vessel recently lost was well known at Poole, from which she had carried numerous cargoes of "china" clay, though the clay that particular craft had been in the habit of carrying was very different from kaolin. A few weeks ago the "Lord Beresford," from Teignmouth to Antwerp, with a cargo of "china" clay, put into Ramsgate, leaky. Still more recently we note that the "Pool Fisher," lost in collision, was described as having been employed in the Teignmouth "china" clay trade. And, still later, another sad calamity, the loss of the "Silverlands" with "china" clay from Teignmouth to London, is recorded. "China" is the recognised prefix in the trade to describe one of the best S. Devon ball clays. It is also a handy word for describing in general a group of clays and so distinguishing them from those extensive deposits of clay, South Devon clays (red), which could not, even by the greatest stretch of imagination, be termed china clays. Such was the clay which, mixed with chopped straw, was anciently so largely used for building purposes, and from which, in later times, the enterprising builder with the help of a man and boy, would make enough common bricks for his villas. The manufacture of this class of goods is now only carried on by large firms, and the works are extensive. Whether the "china" clay is the blue ball or "potters' clay" the sandy stoneware, or "ivory" clay, they are all invaluable to the potter, whilst some china clay firms sell all their output to paper merchants, chemical works, &c. So, perhaps, potters' clay would be a more strictly correct term.

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Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Swan & Co., china and glass merchants, have acquired the business at 159, Stroud Green-rd., Finsbury Park, N.

Mr. Boag, china and glass dealer, is opening new premises at 20, Empire-parade, Sydenham-rd., Sydenham, S.E.

Mr. J. Assersohn, china and glass merchant, has removed from 59, High-rd., Lee, S.E., to 134, High-st., Lewisham, S.E.

Mr. E. O. Spencer, manufacturers' agent, has moved from 12, Oxford-circus-avenue, London, W., to 101, Hatton-garden, E.C.

Mr. B. N. Rogers, china and glass merchant, has taken over the business of Messrs. Whiston, Limited, 61, Dartmouth-rd., Forest Hill, S.E.

A minuet of Chelsea china figures is to form part of the Chelsea Historical Pageant, which is being organised to take place at the end of June.

Glass Earthenware and Allied Trades Association., Ltd.—Registered capital £1,000, in £1 shares. Objects as indicated by the title. Registered office, 34-36, Gresham-street, London, E.C.

Mr. J. E. Heath, London representative of Adderleys, Ltd., Longton, and Thomas Webb & Corbett, Ltd., Stourbridge, has removed his show-room, from 49, Holborn-viaduct, to 18, Charter-house, E.C.

Celtic Pottery.—During the construction of an addition to the golf links at Beacon Hill, Hindhead, the workmen discovered the remains of Celtic pottery and several flint implements. They were only 3 ft. below the surface.

Tenders Accepted.—For supply of earthenware for Richmond (Surrey) Isolation Hospitals: Atkinson & Co., Lambeth.——For supply of earthenware to the Brentford Board of Guardians: L. Finney, Hammersmith, £151 3s. 8d.

John Hall (Dunkinfield).—Registered capital, £10,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to carry on the business of a firebrick and tile manufacturer carried on by S. Haughton, at Dukinfield and Ancoats, as John Hall & Son. Registered office, Wharf-st., Dukinfield.

Aylesford Pottery Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £10,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business carried on at the Aylesford Pottery, near Aylesford, Kent, to adopt an agreement with H. L. C. Brassey,, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of bricks, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, &c.

Midland Glass Bottle Works, Ltd.—Registered capital of £1,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business carried on at 23, High Park-street, Nechells, Birmingham, by W. Roberts, and to carry on the business of glass blowers, bottle makers, manufacturers of and dealers in glass goods, &c.

Liverpool Glass Co., Ltd.—Registered capital £2,500, in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of glass bottle manufacturers carried on at 49, Freemasons'-row, Liverpool, as Grice & Co., and to adopt an agreement with F. Walton. Registered office, 85, Westmoreland-place, Liverpool.

Diamond Pottery Co., Ltd. — Registered capital, £3,500 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with J. Boulton and S. Hawthorn, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of earthenware, porcelain, china and other articles made from marl, clay, or earth, &c. Registered office, Diamond Pottery, Brook-st., Hanley.

Royal Society of Arts.—It is announced that Mr. William Burton, in consequence of the pressure of other work, is unable to fulfil his engagement to deliver the course of Cantor Lectures on "The Nature and Structure of the Porcelains," announced for Mondays, May 4, 11, and 18. The course will therefore not be given this session.

Benjn. Ware & Sons, Ltd.—Registered capital £6,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business carried on at Uckfield, Sussex, as Benjn. Ware & Sons, to adopt an agreement with B. Ware, A. Ware, and W. J. Ware, and to carry on the business of makers of bricks, tiles, pipes and pottery, terra cotta workers, winners and workers of clay and marl, &c. Registered office, Uckfield, Sussex.

New Trade Marks.—The only new trade marks in class 16, advertised for registration in the United Kingdom last month (up to April 28) were the words "Limpet" (No. 300,540), covering tiles included in the class, claimed by Galbraith Winton, 185, St. Vincent-st., Glasgow; and "Cetem" (301,133), covering china and earthenware and claimed by C. T. Maling & Sons of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Trade Unions and Inquests.—At the annual conference, of the Midland Counties Trades Federation held at Cradley Heath on April 21, the following resolution was carried:—"That it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee to introduce a Bill making it legal for officials of all trade unions to have the right of attending coroners' inquiries on behalf of the members they represent in cases of accidents."

British Clay Exports.—The export of unmanufactured clay from the United Kingdom during the first quarter of the present year amounted to 143,029 tons, valued at £156,728, including 8,488 tons of fireclay, valued at £8,302. The export of unmanufactured clay in the corresponding period of last year was 146,525 tons, valued at £159,477; in the first three months of 1905 the export was 124,169 tons, valued at £132,683.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—So far, the present year appears to have been more favourable for glass, china and earthenware dealers than 1907. Only three persons engaged in these trades were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during the first three months of the year, as compared with nine gazetted during the first quarter of last year. Three were gazetted during the month of March, 1907, and none during the corresponding month of 1908.

The Grindley Hotel Ware Co., Ltd., is the title of a company registered with a capital of £15,000 in £1 shares, to adopt an agreement with W. H. Grindley and J. H. Fleming, and to carry on the business of pottery manufacturers, and dealers in earthenware, sanitary ware, china, porcelain, parian and other ceramic ware, bricks, tiles, &c. The subscribers are: W. H. Grindley, Mrs. S. T. Grindley, J. H. Fleming, Miss A. M. Fleming, C. Bailey, Mrs. A. C. Bailey, D. G. Norman.

North Cornwall China Clay Co. (1908), Ltd.—Registered capital, £150,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire lands and obtain licences to work and get china clay, china stone and other minerals thereunder in Cornwall or elsewhere, and to take over the business of miners, refiners, and dealers in china and mica clay and china stone carried on by the North Cornwall China Clay Co., Ltd., at and near Wenford Bridge, Cornwall. Registered office, 14, Gray's Inn-sq., W.C.

Stoke and Foley Mills, Ltd.—Registered capital £10,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the freehold and leasehold potters' mills known as Mellor's Mill, Stoke-on-Trent, and Foley Mill, Fenton; to adopt agreements (1) with W. M. Drakeford and others, and (2) with Annie L. Goodwin, and to carry on the business of potters and general millers, grinders and manufacturers of and dealers in bone, stone, flint, clay, marl, felspar, &c. Registered office, Foley Mill, Fenton, Staffs.

Wildblood & Taylor, Ltd., is the title of a company, registered with a capital of £2,000 in £1 shares to acquire

the business of a sanitary earthenware manufacturer, carried on by C. Taylor, at Park Hall-street, Longton, as the "Longton Sanitary Pottery Co.," and to carry on the same and the business of manufacturers and decorators of earthenware, china, bricks, tiles, pipes, glass, and potters' materials, &c. The subscribers are :—R. V. Wildblood, H. Coates, Mrs. E. Coates, R. T. Adderley, H. E. Wildblood, W. C. Candy and C. Taylor.

Fire in a Tile Factory.—A fire broke out on April 6 on the premises of Haddow, Forbes & Co., tile manufacturers, 25, North-street, Glasgow. A large portion of the roof, measuring about 50 ft. by 30 ft., was destroyed, while a similar area of the topmost floor was partially destroyed, and a sunk flat was badly damaged by the water used in the extinguishing operations. The premises were largely stocked with valuable tiles of various kinds. The damage, which is estimated at £1,500, is, it is believed, covered by insurance.

The Board of Trade Returns.—The President of the Board of Trade has appointed a committee, consisting of Sir Robert Giffen, K.C.B., F.R.S., (chairman), Mr. Henry Birchenough, C.M.G., Mr. Richard F. Crawford, Mr. Wynnard Hooper, and Mr. George J. Stanley, C.M.G., to consider and report how far any change is desirable in the form in which the trade accounts of the United Kingdom are published, as regards the countries from which imports are received and to which exports are sent. Mr. F. W. Perrett, of the Board of Trade, will act as secretary to the committee.

Presentation.—On April 11, Mr. J. E. Foxon, the secretary for the past ten years of the Bristol Glass Bottle Makers' Society, was presented with a handsome gold watch, subscribed for by the whole of the members. The presentation, which was formally made by Mr. E. Smart, took place at the Crown and Dove Hotel. The watch bore the following inscrpition : "Presented to M . J. E. Foxon as a mark of esteem for valued services to the Society of Glass Bottle Makers of Bristol, April 11, 1908." Mr. S. Farrar presented Mr. Foxon with a framed portrait of the Working Committee, as an expression of the respect entertained for him by the members of that body. Mr. Foxon suitably responded.

Carter & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £75,000 in £10 shares. Objects, to acquire the business of tile, mosaic, terra cotta, faience and pottery manufacturers and builders' supply merchants carried on by C. Carter and O. Carter at Poole, Dorset, and elsewhere ; to adopt an agreement with the said vendors, and to carry on the said business and that of manufacturers and suppliers of and dealers in plain and glazed floor, wall and hearth tiles and other coverings for floors, walls, and ceilings, manufacturers and workers of and dealers in earthenware, stoneware, china, porcelain, parien and other ceramic ware, bricks and builders' requisites of all kinds. Registered office, Poole Pottery, East Quay-rd., Poole, Dorset.

Death of a Former Manufacturer.—The death is announced of Mr. Jas Wright of Pensnett, Brierley Hill. The deceased was for many years proprietor of the Delph Glass Works, Bricrley Hill, and also of a small pottery at Moor-lane. These are "things of the past" now, and Mr. Wright has been for some years living away. He was an expert in his industry, and it is said he was one of the first glass manufacturers in this country to instal a "Siemens" plant. Mr. Wright made a study of glass manufacture, and for that purpose made journeys to the Continent, and on one occasion to the United States, to see the methods adopted there. He was a member of the old local Board, at Brierley Hill, and took an active part in other public duties. He was one of the promotors of the Delph Mission Church. He was churchwarden for several years, and took an active interest in the Church schools. The deceased was a widower of many years, but leaves four daughters, one of whom is in Rome. The funeral took place at St. Michael's Church, Pensnett, on April 4.

Lead Poisoning in March.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during March was 55 and 1 death. In addition to the above, 17 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during March among house painters and plumbers. During the three months ended March, 1908, the total number of cases of poisoning reported under the Acts was 150, as compared with 92 in 1907. The number of deaths during the same period was 4, as against 6 in 1907. In addition there were 49 cases of lead poisoning (including 9 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first three months of 1908, as compared with 37 cases (including 11 deaths) in the corresponding period of 1907. In the china and earthenware trades there were 8 reported cases, but no death in March, as compared with 10 reported cases and 1 death in February this year. In the first three months of this year there were in the china and earthenware trades 25 reported cases and 2 deaths, as compared with 12 reported cases and 5 deaths in the same period last year.

The China and Glass Dealers' Association.—A committee meeting was held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, on April 9. Mr. Hirst, of Leeds (President), was in the chair, and most of the committee were present. Letters were read by Mr. W. Neaver on, hon. secretary, from Mr. Baynes (Wakefield), and Mr. Ward (York), explaining their absence from the meeting. It was proposed that in future a p inted copy of each meeting be sent to all members of the Association, so that all could know what the committee were doing. It was reported by a member that a claim of his had been declined by the railway company, and that he then expressed his intention to hand it over for the Association to deal with. This had the desired effect, which shows the usefulness of the Association. Several matters of importance were brought forward, and a general discussion took place. If more members of our trade would join us, they would hear of cases which would have repaid the subscriptions of the members interested over and over again ; as one member of the committee remarked, "It is worth 10s. 6d. to exchange opinions." Several suggestions were left over to be dealt with at the annual meeting in London to be held in May. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought a successful meeting to a close.

Husband and Wife in Trade.—In the City of London Court, on March 26, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a claim was made by H. H. Le May & Co., glass merchants, 47, Mark-lane, E.C., against Mr. A. Gough-Cooper, china and glass dealer, the Langley Stores, 12, Exmouth-st., Farringdon-rd., to recover the sum of £7 1s. 5d. for china and glass supplied in the way of trade. The plaintiffs said that the goods were supplied on January 2. Defendant said that the wrong person had been sued. The business belonged to his wife, and the plaintiffs had been informed of it. He told them to put the goods in the name of Mrs. Cooper. The plaintiffs said that they had dealt only with the defendant, and not with his wife. Defendant : I am my wife's manager. Judge Lumley Smith : It is the old story. Defendant added that his wife did not dispute the debt. Judge Lumley Smith pointed out that the defendant had writen as recently as January on paper with his name at the head, his telephone too was in his own name as well as the Post Office Directory. The defendant said that the business was originally his, but that his wife took it over in November, 1905. The paper with his name on the heading had been used in January of this year by mistake. Judge Lumley Smith : The result is you have got to pay. You cannot carry on this game. Defendant : It is no game. I shall have to

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pay it out of my wages. Judge Lumley Smith : I am not so silly as all that. Your wife will pay. Defendant : But I have only got 10s. a week. Judge Lumley Smith : Pocket money. Judgment for the plaintiffs with costs.

The L.C.C. Glass Contracts.—(Special Report.)—The London County Council, on April 7, finally decided its policy in regard to tenders for the supply of glass. Last month the Council referred back the recommendation of the Stores Committee that in the case of horticultural, window, plate, &c., glass, supplies of British manufacture should be purchased, as only for nine items, representing £38, or 4 per cent. of the whole contract, were the foreign articles cheaper. The Committee, at the meeting on April 7, recommended that the lowest tenders, irrespective of the origin of the glass, be selected, and that the contracts be given to the following firms :—Chance Brothers & Co., Ltd., Birmingham ; Joseph Chater & Sons, James Clark & Son, Ltd., George Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., and Pilkington Brothers, Ltd. (London). Mr. E. Collins, a former chairman of the Stores Committee, moved the reference back of the Committee's recommendation. He argued that the British workman ought to be assisted, and also complained of the fiscal system of this country, which, he said, allowed foreign manufacturers to dump their surplus products here after they had made a profit out of their home markets. Mr. Leverton Harris, M.P., a member of the Tariff Commission, seconded, and drew attention to the conditions of labour in the glass-making industry in this country and in Germany. He said that in England glass-making was considered a skilled trade, and wages ranged considerably higher than in Germany, being often as much as 10s. per day. Lower wages were paid abroad, and so employment in the glass trade in this country had become, through competition, extremely precarious. Mr. Gosling (Labour) supported the purchase of English glass. He argued that until the foreigner paid fair wages and competed fairly with English manufacturers, he ought not to be given any orders. When the representatives of labour were satisfied that the conditions in Continental countries were fair, they would not object to foreign competition. Mr. Johnson attributed the ability of foreign firms to quote lower prices than English manufacturers to their possessing better equipment and machinery. The amendment to refer the report back was lost, only sixteen voting for it, and the tenders were then accepted.

Discovery of Kaolin near Ashburton.—A Devonshire correspondent writes :—Some excitement has been caused in Ashburton by the rumour that china clay had been "discovered" near that town. It is reported that the actual discovery was made several weeks ago, but that the matter had been kept so private that the secret has only now leaked out. Of course, in clay circles, the presence of kaolin near Ashburton, Buckland-in-the-Moor, and Hey Tor, has been known for several years. Clay on this side of the moor was referred to in the POTTERY GAZETTE, for December, 1907, and special reference made to Ashburton in the October number of the same year. Thirty-five years ago, samples were taken from these parts, and again some 17 years ago prospectors were in the district. In 1904 a "foreigner" came across, and soon after, moorland clay samples were being tested in Germany. Several Americans have "done" the district, bringing no small profit to the select few, who knew enough to direct inquirers to where the clay "shews itself." During the last two years, gentlemen well known in St. Austell, North and South Devon, Dorset Staffs, and London have scoured the moor for samples, making rough washing tests, with bottles filled from the springs. With so many shrewd heads at work for so long a time, and so much attempted, but nothing done, it would seem to indicate either that the clay is of small value, or that great obstacles must exist in the way to its profitable working. The latter seems to be the case, for several samples taken appear to be of fine quality, and quite equal, so it is said, to the best Lea moor and St. Austell grades. Sometimes the prohibitive prices demanded by freeholders have proved insurmountable bars to the development of clay lands, in many parts of the kingdom, but in Devonshire peculiar difficulties sometimes present themselves, as for example, wealthy landlords proving unwilling to have the beauty of their domains marred by unsightly workings, and trout streams contaminated by clay and mine water. Still, prejudices have been overcome before, and water, even in large quantities, can be filtered, if one sets about it the right way ; so it is still possible to hope that works, large and successful, may yet be established, providing an investment for capital, employing much labour, and all without spoiling in the slightest degree the charming scenery of Devon.

Company Liens Registered.—British Association of Glass bottle Manufacturers, Ltd. (Leeds). A mortgage to secure £2,000, charged on certain uncalled capital, has been registered. A charge to secure £8,000 has also been registered. The property charged is one-seventh part of uncalled capital and of any future capital.——Robert Candlish & Son, Ltd., Seaham Harbour. Particulars relating to a series of £10,000 debentures, and lien £3,000 debentures, part of £10,000 authorised secured on the undertaking and property, present and future, have been registered.——Robinson & Leadbeater, Ltd., Stoke-upon-Trent. A lien for £7,300 5 per cent. debentures, part of £7,500 authorised, has been registered. This is secured on the undertaking, goodwill, business, and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Memoranda of satisfaction in full (a) of a first debenture securing £1,000, and (b) of debentures securing £1,733, have been filed.——Priest, Marians & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. A lien for £12,000 4½ per cent. (minimum) debentures of £1,000 each has been registered, secured by a floating charge on the property, present and future, including uncalled capital, but excluding the real property.——Wardle & Co., Ltd. (Potters, Hanley). Issues of £800 5 per cent. debentures, part of series created March 22, 1905, to secure £2,000, charged on the company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Total amount previously issued of same series, £1,800.——Sinusoidal Wired Glass Co., Ltd. (London). A debenture to secure £1,739 11s. 7d. charged on the company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital, has been registered.——South Wales (Siemens Patent) Glass Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Issue of £700 5 per cent. second debentures, part of series created to secure £2,000, charged on the company's undertaking, and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No present issue of same series.——Frank Butcher, Ltd. (glass and china manufacturers, Burslem). A debenture to secure £500, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, if any, has been registered.——Thornaby Pottery Co., Ltd. A debenture to secure £400, charged on the company's property, present and future, has been registered.——Aylesford Pottery Co., Ltd. A trust deed to secure £7,500 debentures, has been registered. The property charged is certain leaseholds lands and premises at Ayesford and Boxley and the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital (if any).——Barrett & Son, Ltd. (glass merchants, Cambridge). Issue of £6,000 4 per cent. debentures, part of series created same date, to secure £7,000, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.——Marsden Tiles, Ltd. (Burslem), £5,000 5 per cent. debentures, and as collateral

security thereto an agreement, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, has been registered.——R. Orrock & Co., Ltd. (bottle manufacturers, Barking), a debenture to secure £6,000 charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, has been registered.——Burslem and Tunstall Fireclay Co., Ltd. Issue of £500 10 per cent. second debentures, part of series to secure £1,500, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital (if any). Total amount previously issude of same series, £250.——Weston-super-Mare Pottery Tile and Brick Co., Ltd. Issue of £200 6 per cent. "B" debentures, part of series to secure £2,400, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Total amout previously issued of same series, £1,900.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

XV.—STUDIES ON CLAY SLIP—I.*

By J. W. Mellor, S. A. Green, and T. Baugh.†

I.—*Introduction.*

CASTING slip should contain as little water as is consistent with the mobility necessary for the slip to readily adapt itself to the inner surface of the mould. Ordinary earthenware casting slip has from 55 to 60 per cent. of water, and weighs about 30 oz. to the pint. In drying, most of this water is removed by the mould. It has been known for many years that the addition of small quantities of sodium or potassium carbonate (usually about 0·25 per cent. of soda ash calculated to the dry weight of the body) greatly augments the fluidity of the slip, so that it is possible to work with slip containing about 30 per cent. of water, weighing about 36 oz. to the pint. This naturally has an important bearing on the manufacturing process, because a proportionately less amount of water is absorbed by the moulds.

It is claimed that this method of making slip renders the use of the large quantities of water hitherto employed in the preparation of slip unnecessary; the alkaline slip pours better; is more free from air bubbles; and more readily flows into the narrower and deeper parts of the mould. It allows pieces to be cast which formerly had to be pressed; and one mould is now sufficient where three were formerly required. For example, earthenware dishes, teapots, &c., can now be cast in one piece (K. Greiner, *Aus dem Betriebe der Steingutfabrikation*, Halle, 54, 1903). Three separate moulds were formerly required for the latter, one for the body, one for the handle, and one for the spout; the handle and spout were subsequently fixed to the body by means of slip. The same result can now be accomplished in one operation. Casting is thus more quickly performed at a less cost.

It is further claimed that pottery made by the new process is more uniform in composition and thickness, and also more solid and less liable to fracture than ware cast from slip without the addition of sodium carbonate. Whereas in ordinary casting the moulds can at most be used only three times before drying, with the new soda slip the moulds can be used ten or a dozen times, and even then they dry more quickly than the moulds formerly used three times. The fire contraction appears to be slightly reduced in the new process.

A priori, the addition of a soluble salt to casting slip may produce two bad effects—(1) the soluble salts may accumulate in the mould and so cause a disintegration of the plaster of Paris, thus curtailing the life of the mould; and (2) the drying of moist clays charged with soluble salts is a fertile source of scumming. It is therefore necessary to keep the amount of soluble salts in the casting slip as low as is consistent with the attaining of maximum fluidity, and the method employed for measuring the fluidity of clay slip described in this paper may be used for finding the proportion of soluble salts required to furnish the best results.

2.—*Historical.*

C. Goetz applied for a patent for the use of sodium carbonate with casting slip, in Germany, on Oct. 22, 1891. The (*Ger. Pat. No.* 76,247, 1891) specification reads:—

"Preparation of casting slip for porcelain, earthenware, and clay products by the addition of sodium carbonate or bicarbonate with or without cinnabar, whereby the slip will pour more readily.

"It is sufficient to mix 1,500 parts of porcelain body with one part of a concentrated solution of the sodium salt. The right proportions, however, depend upon the nature of the raw materials. It is also recommended, in order to hinder the development of a grey colour on the edges during firing, to add cinnabar (mercuric sulphide) until the slip has a faint pink colour. . . ."

The action of the alkali carbonates on clay slip appears to have been familiar to potters long before Goetz's patent (C. Goetz, *Sprech*, 25, 129, 685, 1892; *Monit. Cer. Ver.*, 23, 112, 1892), and several articles appeared in the journals questioning the validity of Goetz's patent on the ground that the process was not new (A. Schmidt, *Sprech.*, 27, 335, 510, 615, 710, 738, 927, 954, 1028, 1117, 1894; 25, 154, 175, 514, 1892; C. Goetz, *ib.*, 27, 637, 927, 1894). In spite of this, the German patent was granted on July 6, 1894. French (*Fr. Pat. No.* 216,912, 1891) and Austrian (*Aus. Pat. No.* 3,055, 1892) patents were also obtained. Even so far back as 1844, Brongniart stated that M. de Bettignies used 3 per cent. of potassium carbonate with his casting slip in order to give it the necessary "adherence" to the mould (A. Brongniart, *Traite des Arts Céramique*, Paris, 2, 469, 1844). A Schmidt (*Sprech.* 27, 664, 689, 1894) showed that 130 parts of pearl ash, 75 parts of caustic soda, and 400 to 600 parts of water glass (soda) produced the same results as 100 parts of soda ash; and that mixtures of soda and potash might be used with good results. In 1903, K. Greiner (K. Greiner, *Aus dem Betriebe der Steingutfabrikation*, Halle, 54, 1903) recommended the use of a mixture of sodium carbonate and water glass, substituting potash in place of soda if desired; and in 1905, A. Johnson patented a mixture of equal parts of sodium carbonate and water glass for the same purpose (*Brit. Pat. No.* 14,908, 1905).

It is also possible to cast successfully large sanitary pieces, glass pots for glass furnaces, saggars, and other articles made from fireclay mixed with grog (E. Weber, *Ger. Pat. Nos.* 158, 496, 159, 193, 1903; *Sprech.*, 38, 123, 1905; *Tonind. Ztg.*, 29, 147, 436, 1905; 31, 1421, 1907; *Zentr. Bauker.*, 23, 2331, 2392, 1908).

Several writers have discussed the theory of the action. This work will be reviewed in the next communication on this subject.

3.—*Method of Measurement.*

A number of methods are available for measuring the viscosity of slip. The ordinary efflux method; Ostwald's U-tube process; Coulomb's process, &c. There are some special difficulties involved owing to the tendency of the slip to settle in presence of certain substances. This prevented the use of Coulomb's method, of Ostwald's U-tube, and the ordinary efflux methods. We therefore tried to agitate the slip while the measurement was in progress, and finally adopted the modification of Mariotte's bottle shown in Fig. 1. The apparatus resembles that employed recently by M. Simonis (*Sprech.*, 38, 597, 881, 1625, 1905; 39, 1167, 1184, 1906). The apparatus consists of a piece of wide glass tubing like an ordinary lamp chimney closed at both ends by perforated rubber stoppers. The upper stopper is fitted with a straight piece of glass tubing extending to about three centimetres from the stopper at the opposite end. The other stopper is fitted with a nozzle of glass tubing 2 to 3 mm. bore. The bore giving the best results may have to be found by trial. The upper tube *B* was at the side not directly over *C* (Fig. 1).

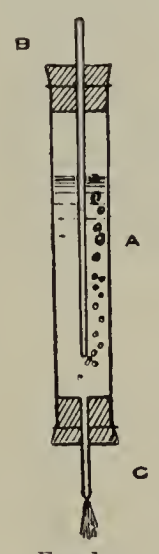


FIG. 1. Simple apparatus for the Determination of the Fluidity of Clay Slip.

For a reading, the upper stopper is removed; the thumb placed on the nozzle; the slip poured into the tube *A*; the apparatus clamped vertically; and the upper stopper then replaced. The thumb is removed from the nozzle, and when air bubbles are rising regularly from the bottom of the straight tube *B* (Fig. 1), and slip is running from the nozzle, a 250 cc. flask is brought under the jet and a stop watch simultaneously started. When the 250 cc. flask is full to the 250 cc. mark, the watch is stopped. In this way the time required for 250 cc. to flow from the apparatus can be rapidly determined.

If necessary, the apparatus can be standardised with water; or the bore of the jet measured, and the results expressed in terms of the well-known viscosity coefficient. The results recorded in this note have been obtained from one apparatus, so that the numbers are comparable one with another. There is a possible error of about 0·5 seconds in a reading. 200 cc. of distilled water required six seconds to flow through the apparatus. The prevailing temperature was 13°–14°. For each determination, 68 grms. of an ordinary earthenware body (ball clay, 16; china clay, 19; cornish stone, 13; flint, 20) were made up with 110 cc. of water and the substance added in gradually increasing amounts. The apparatus should be very carefully washed after each experiment, or traces of salt from one set of measurements will interfere with the slip used in the next measurement.

* From *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6. , 1908.

† The fluidity measurements were made in the Pottery Laboratory, Sutherland Institute, Longton, by Messrs. Green and Baugh, and these Honours Students of the Pottery Classes obtained Mr. Ashley Myott's prize for the work.—J. W. M.

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4.—*Experimental Data.*

According to Messrs. S. A. Green and T. Baugh's measurements, the "time" required for 200 cc. of slip to flow from the apparatus, while bubbles flowed through the tube *B* (Fig. 1), after the "addition" of definite quantities of salt to 68 grms. of the dry body per 110 cc. water, s indicated below.

1. Sodium Carbonate.—Na_2CO_3.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5, 4·5 grm
Time ..	11½,	10,	8½,	7½,	7,	7,	7½,	7½,	9,	16, * sec.

The asterisk denotes that the slip was too stiff to flow through the apparatus.

2. Potassium Carbonate.—K_2CO_3.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4, 0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	19,	18½,	13½,	12,	10½, 10½, 11½ sec.

3. Sodium Hydrogen Carbonate.—$NaHCO_3$.

Addition	..	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	16,	14,	12,	10,	10 sec.

4. Sodium Potassium Carbonate.—$NaKCO_3$ (Fusion mixture).

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4, 0·9 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	13,	11,	9,	9,	9, 11 sec.

5. Sodium Sulphate.—Na_2SO_4.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5,	5·5 grm.
Time ..	18½,	16½,	14½,	14¼,	14,	13,	12,	12,	11½,	11,	11 sec.

6. Potassium Sulphate.—K_2SO_4.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 0·6 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	12½,	14,	12,	12,	14½,	15½, 17½ sec.

7. Potassium Hydrogen Sulphate.—$KHSO_4$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5 grm.
Time ..	15½,	13,	12,	12½,	13,	14½,	20½,	37,	*	* sec.

8. Potassium Aluminium Sulphate.—$K_2SO_4\ Al_2(SO_4)_3.24\ H_2O$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5 grm.
Time ..	16,	24,	30,	32,	35,	*	*	23,	12,	12 sec.

9. Calcium Sulphate.—$CaSO_4$.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	12½,	14,	13½,	13½,	14,	14, 14½ sec.

10. Magnesium Sulphate.—$MgSO_4$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5,	4·5,	5·5 grm.
Time ..	13¼,	12,	12,	12,	12,	12,	11½,	11½,	11,	11 sec.

11 Copper Sulphate.—$CuSO_4$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·9,	1·4,	2·4,	3·4,	4·4,	5·4 grm.
Time ..	15½,	22,	33,	56,	38,	32,	27½,	21,	19,	16½,	15 sec.

12. Mercuric Sulphate.—$HgSO_4$.

Addition	..	..	..	..	0,	0·2,	0·4,	0·6,	0·8 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	15,	12,	13½,	13½,	14 sec.

13. Sodium Sulphite.—Na_2SO_3.

Addition	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0, 1·5 grm.
Time ..	..	..	14½,	12½,	11,	10,	10,	9½,	8½, 8½ sec.

14. Sodium Sulphide.—Na_2S.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	19½,	12½,	11½,	13,	16,	22, * sec.

15. Ammonium Chloride.—NH_4CL.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	17,	17,	20,	27½,	27½,	* sec.

16. Sodium Chloride.—NaCl.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	0·6 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	18½,	18½,	18,	17½,	17,	17,	16¾ sec.

17. Calcium Chloride.—$CaCl_2$.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	12½,	14,	14,	14½,	14½,	14½,	14½ sec.

18. Hydrochloric Acid (Sp.gr., 1·14). 28 per cent. (HCl.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5, 10 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	18,	21,	19,	16½,	14½,	13½, 10½ sec.

19. Hydrochloric Acid (Sp.gr., 1·03). 6 per cent. HCl.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5, 10 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	17,	19,	18,	16,	15½,	14, 11 sec

20. Potassium Nitrate.—KNO_3.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	17,	15½,	14½,	15½,	17,	21, * sec.

21. Sodium Silicate.—Na_2SiO_3.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	15,	10,	9,	8½,	8¼,	8¼, 8¼ sec.

22. Sodium Hydrogen Phosphate.—Na_2HPO_4.

Addition	..	..	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·5 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	..	12,	12,	12,	9 sec.

23. Sodium Biborate.—$Na_2B_4O_7$. $10\ H_2O$.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5, 1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	15,	15½,	16,	16,	16,	16½, 18 sec.

24. Sodium Acetate.—$CH_3.COO.Na$.

Addition	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0, 1·5 grm.
Time ..	..	..	17,	17,	16½,	16,	15½,	15½,	14½, 13½ sec.

25. Potassium Hydroxide.—KOH.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·7,	1·2,	1·7 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	15,	12½,	13,	*	*	* sec.

26. Aqueous Ammonia (Sp.gr. 0·898). 29 per cent. NH_3.

Addition	..	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3,	4 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	20,	26,	29,	32,	* sec

27. Aqueous Ammonia (Sp.gr., 0·975). 5 per cent. NH_3.

Addition	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	10,	15,	25,	35	cc.
Time ..	15,	15,	16,	18,	19,	20,	21,	18,	14,	11	sec.

28. Methylamine.—CH_3NH_2. 33 per cent. solution.

Addition	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0,	1 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16½,	* sec.

29. Ethylamine.—$C_2H_5NH_2$.

Addition	..	..	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	..	17½,	22,	24,	* sec.

30. Aniline.—$C_6H_5NH_2$.

Addition	..	..	..	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,	22,	* sec.

31. Gallic Acid.—$C_7H_6O_5.H_2O$.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	19½,	15½,	16¼,	17¼,	18,	18½,	19½ sec.

32. Aqueous Sol. Gallic Acid.—$C_7H_6O_5,H_2O$ (5 per cent.).

Addition	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5, 6 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	18,	13,	12,	12,	11,	10, 8½ sec.

33. Aqueous Sol. Ammonium Gallate.—$NH_4C_7H_5O_5$ (20 per cent.).

Addition	..	..	..	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	6 cc.
Time ..	..	..	..	18,	13,	11,	10½,	10,	10,	9 sec.

34. Tannin.—$C_{14}H_{10}O_9,H_2O$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	3·5	grm.
Time ..	15,	11¼,	9,	8½,	9,	9,	9½,	10¼,	15,	15½	sec.

35. Humic Acid.

Addition	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0 grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	17½,	18½,	20,	21½,	22,	23½,	28 sec.

36. Ammonium Urate.—$NH_4C_5H_3N_4O_3$.

Addition	..	..	..	..	..	..	0,	0·1,	0·2	grm.
Time ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13½,	14½,	*	sec.

37. Grape Sugar.—$C_6H_{12}O_6$.

Addition	0,	0·1,	0·2,	0·3,	0·4,	0·5,	1·0,	1·5,	2·5,	4·5	grm.
Time ..	14½,	14½,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	16,	16	sec.

38. Alcohol.—C_2H_5OH (Absolute alcohol).

Addition	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	10,	15,	25,	35	cc.
Time ..	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15	sec.

Some of the substances used in the above experiments were selected because they are employed in the clay industries, others because they are frequently associated with clays as accidental or normal impurities. For example, humic acids probably occur naturally in ball clays; ammonium compounds in many surface clays; tannin and gallic acid are employed in the Acheson process for increasing the plasticity of clays (E. G. Acheson, *U.S. Pat. No.* 722,791, 1903; *Trans. Amer. Cer Soc.*, 6, 31, 1904; L. H. Minton, *ib.*, 6, 231, 1904); calcium sulphate, calcium chloride, &c., are used as "anti-sets" for glazes, &c.

We have not yet tried the effect of mixtures of two substances, although the subject promises interesting results.

En passant, it may be noted that some pretty "lecture table" experiments can be adapted from these measurements. For example: (1) Slip which is too stiff to pour from a beaker may be transformed into a mobile liquid by the addition of a few drops of an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide. Conversely, the slip again becomes stiff and immobile when the alkali is neutralised by an acid; (2) Stiff slip which has been thinned with sodium hydroxide or sodium carbonate immediately becomes stiff and immobile when poured into a beaker wetted with a little acid. The effect is startling, because the trace of acid in the beaker is not noticed.

Some interesting applications to geological phenomena are also suggested.

(5) *Conclusions.*

The above experiments teach us that the different substances may be arranged in five groups:—

(1) Substances which first make the slip more fluid while further additions stiffen the slip. Examples: sodium and potass carbonates, fusion mixture, potassium sulphate; potassium bisulphate; potassium hydroxide; potassium nitrate; sodium sulphide; tannin, and gallic acid.

(2) Small amounts thicken the slip, increasing amounts made the slip more fluid. Examples: copper sulphate; dilute ammonia, and potassium aluminium sulphate.

(3 Substances which make the slip thinner. Magnesium, mer-

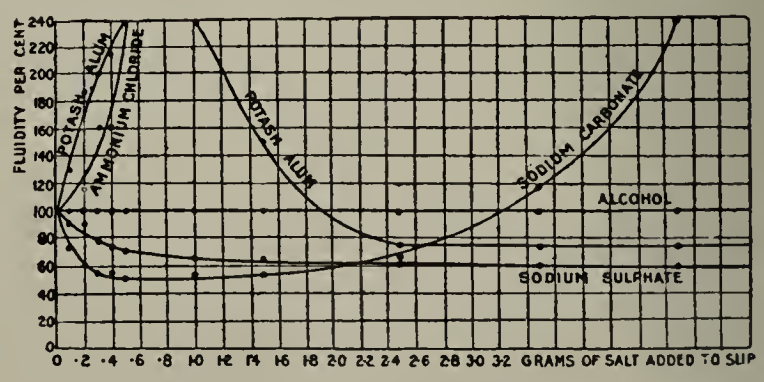


FIG. 2.—Effects of Different Substances on the Fluidity of Earthenware Slip.

cury and sodium sulphates; sodium sulphite; sodium acetate; sodium chloride; sodium phosphate; ammonium gallate; hydrochloric acid, water glass. It is just possible that some of these substances may have to be transferred to the first (or second) group if greater (or less) concentrations be tried than those employed.

(4) Substances which only stiffen the slip. Grape sugar, humie acid, borax, ammonium chloride, calcium chloride, calcium sulphate, ammonium urate, aniline, ethylamine, methylamine. Here again some of these substances may have to be transferred to the second (or first) group if greater (or less) amounts than those just indicated are used.

(5) Substances which have no appreciable effect on the slip. *E.g.*, alcohol.

For the sake of illustration the results with one member of each group are indicated in Fig. 2. In this diagram the fluidity of the original slip is taken 100; the other fluidity numbers are calculated from the experimental data. Amounts of alcohol are expressed in cubic centimetres, amounts of the other materials in grams.

It will be noticed that when 0·3 grm. of sodium carbonate is present, the slip has very nearly its maximum fluidity, and any further addition of sodium carbonate will cause harm by diminishing the fluidity, by increasing the tendency to scumming, and by acting on the moulds. The apparatus we have used is therefore a very convenient method for finding the right proportions of the soda or other matter for any particular body in order to get the most fluid slip.

The object of these experiments was to make a rapid preliminary exploration of the field in order to get an idea what substances are likely to throw light on the theory of the phenomena, and this subject is therefore reserved for another communication.

(7) *Simonis' Experiments.*

M. Simonis (*Sprech.*, 38, 597, 881, 1625, 1905; 39, 1167, 1184, 1906; M. Chatenet, *Rev. Métallurgie*, 4,936, 1907.) has investigated the influence of lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium, calcium, barium, and strontium hydroxides; and also measured the viscosity of slip made from native clays derived from various localities. For the sake of comparison, Simonis' data for the hydroxides may be here quoted. Simonis mixed 40 grms. of china clay with 100 cc. of water and measured the "fluidity" in terms of the weight (grms. per sq. cm.) required to remove a plate of glass from the surface of the slip. Water alone required 10·5 grms. per sq. cm.

1. Lithium Hydroxide.—LiOH.					
Addition	0·0036,	0·00462,	0·07210,	0·10300	grm.
Weight	0·4,	0·5,	1·8,	6·3	grm.
2. Sodium Hydroxide.—NaOH.					
Addition	0·0053,	0·0089,	0·1256,	0·1780	grm.
Weight	1·4,	1·0,	3·1,	6·5	grm.
3. Potassium Hydroxide.—KOH.					
Addition	0·01083,	0·03610,	0·09000,	0·18000	grm.
Weight	2·1,	1·0,	1·4,	12·5	grm.
4. Rubidium Hydroxide.—RbOH.					
Addition	0·00462,	0·00924,	0·02310,	0·09240	grm.
Weight	2·9,	2·5,	1·5,	0·9	grm.
5. Calcium Hydroxide.—$Ca(OH)_2$.					
Addition	0·0056,	0·0280,	0·0560,	0·1830	grm.
Weight	5·0,	3·0,	5·5,	17·5	grm.
6. Strontium Hydroxide.—$Sr(OH)_2$.					
Addition				0·316	grm.
Weight				17·5	grm.
7. Barium Hydroxide.—$Ba(OH)_2$.					
Addition				0·941	grm.
Weight				14·5	grm.

Simonis also proposes to use this process for measuring the plasticity of clays. He represents the plasticity of a clay by the amount of water required to impart to the clay a definite viscosity. The amount of water is then determined by drying the clay slip between 110° and 120°. This definition of plasticity is virtually that obtained by the use of Vicat's needle (L. J. Vicat, *A Practical and Scientific Treatise on Calcareous Mortars and Cements*, J. T. Smith's trans., London, 1837; K. Langenbeck, *The Chemistry of Pottery*, Easton Pa., 19, 1895).

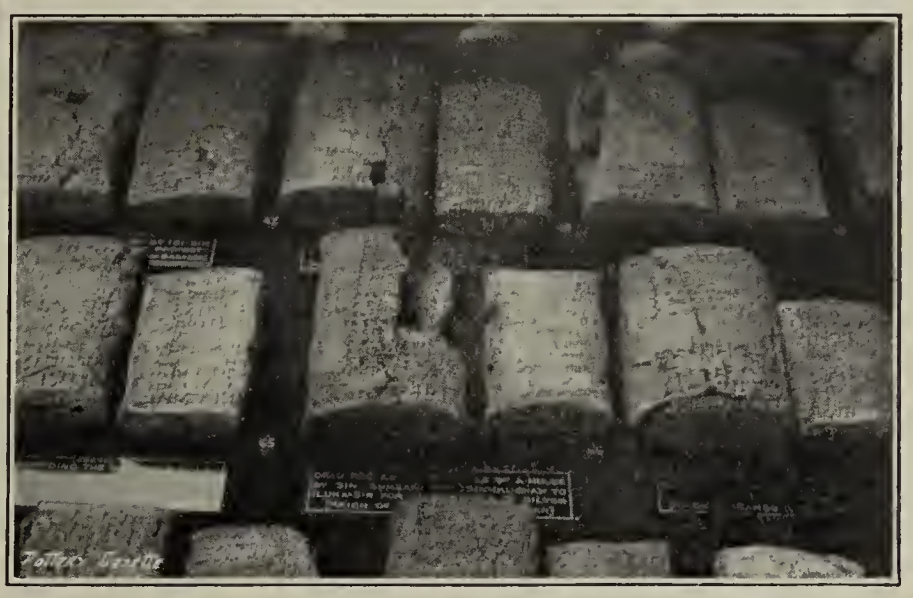
XVI.—THE SCUMMING OF MAZARINE BLUE.

By J. W. Mellor.

SOME examples of scummed mazarine blue which have recently been sent to me, have led to the view that the third type of scumming discussed in a paper on cobalt blues (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6, 88, 1907; *Pot. Gaz.*, 33, 205, 1908) is but a preliminary stage of devitrification, Type 2. I have been lucky enough to find a patch which showed the intermediate stages in the transition from the one type to the other, and the identity of the crystals was established by acid treatment. The "opacity" is doubtless due to the presence of very minute particles which, in thin slices, are transparent and almost indistinguishable from the rest of the glaze. These particles appear to be the "baby crystals" described in an earlier paper (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 4, 49, 1905; *Pot. Gaz.* 32, 334, 1907), and which ultimately grow into the acicular crystals described and diagrammed in the paper on cobalt blue. The opacity may thus be likened to Réaumur's porcelain (R. A. F. de Réaumur, *Mém. Acad. Roy. Science*, 185, 1727; 325, 1729; 379, 1739), which is nothing but devitrified glass.

CERAMIC ACCOUNT KEEPING.

DIVERSIFIED as are the uses to which the art of the potter is put, one at least, which flourished in ancient times, has now fallen into disuse. We refer to the practice of writing business and other records upon clay surfaces, the clay being subsequently baked, and the writing thus rendered permanent. So effectual, indeed, was this method, that at the present day the accounts of ordinary, everyday occurrences of some thousands of years ago are preserved in our museums, having lasted longer than we can hope the inscriptions on some of our most vaunted monuments will endure the ravages of time. Some of these clay documents, now in the British Museum, are shown in the accompanying illustration, the central one being a deed recording the sale of a house. It is interesting to notice how the document in question was enclosed in a clay envelope which could be broken open when the deed was wanted. Pillow-shaped letters of clay, with similar envelopes, are frequently found. One could



[*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

Clay Documents in the British Museum.

imagine two devoted Babylonian lovers, during a long engagement, accumulating a large part of the necessary material for their first home in the form of these brick-letters. The writing is that celebrated Babylonic cuneiform in which the "modern Major-General" of the "Pirates of Penzance" declared that he "could write a washing-bill." Many such bills, doubtless, were written, and many bills, though not for washing, may still be seen, as clear and distinct as they were when they left the careful hands of the worthy scribes of old. By the way, we wonder whether those good fellows were ever charged with "cooking their accounts." Joking apart, however, the enthusiastic ceramist should not fail to make a pious pilgrimage to the gallery at the British Museum where these objects are displayed—a worthy monument to the student who wore himself out and sacrificed his life in the labour of deciphering them. Elsewhere, too, in that storehouse of art treasures, may the clay-worker find suggestion and inspiration as he wanders among the rare productions of various ages and climes, from the quaint crudities of Peruvian and African workers to the masterpieces of Egypt and Greece and Rome.

China, earthenware and glass to the weight of 530 metric tons were exported last year from St. Nazaire (France) chiefly to Mexico, Columbia, Cuba, and Cayenne. In 1906 the export was 1523 metric tons and in 1904 it was 1,473 metric tons.

LIBRARY U. OF I., URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR MARCH, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended March 31.		Three Months ended March 31.		Month ended March 31.		Three Months ended March 31.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany	cwts.	3,898	9,882	14,259	19,066	£5,799	£5,194	£17,383	£15,543
,, France	,,	2,899	4,950	13,806	12,189	5,270	7,142	17,038	20,976
,, United States of America	,,	44,840	38,672	122,781	109,937	53,165	46,515	144,627	142,460
,, Brazil	,,	24,944	17,432	52,744	56,590	14,762	10,157	35,995	33,281
,, Argentine Republic	,,	32,548	23,966	93,018	81,283	17,626	16,380	50,169	52,294
,, British South Africa	,,	12,013	5,813	36,610	25,115	6,754	7,944	22,626	20,809
,, British East Indies	,,	32,980	24,561	95,754	98,581	15,137	14,594	44,092	50,059
,, Australia	,,	15,156	16,970	49,260	53,674	17,184	18,845	54,116	63,213
,, New Zealand	,,	4,912	11,733	20,172	27,572	6,676	8,653	26,968	28,498
,, Canada	,,	25,346	35,122	60,635	75,770	24,746	26,005	61,515	68,146
,, Other Countries	,,	78,657	71,387	213,459	192,372	51,021	48,251	138,939	139,489
Made up as follows:									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	,,	1,060	1,602	4,715	4,943	11,141	10,981	39,736	36,738
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	129,377	5,753	364,258	19,454	161,720	5,532	453,361	17,613
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		8,086		25,534		5,363		18,289
Sanitary Ware	,,		15,367		42,546		22,884		62,318
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		111,531		328,600		135,114		409,815
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	4	282	59	3,168	10	531	129	3,910
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	134,485	110,463	367,645	306,003	27,797	18,884	74,979	55,687
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	13,267	7,404	35,821	21,901	17,472	10,391	45,263	30,398
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	4,943	5,171	16,288	14,607
,, Other Countries	,,	—	—	—	—	95,070	105,200	294,526	303,956
Made up as follows:									
Plate Glass	cwts.	9,831	13,784	35,061	37,520	17,443	22,838	55,410	59,961
Flint Glass	,,	6,481	4,151	17,997	13,343	18,215	13,496	50,904	42,149
Glass Bottles	gross	60,184	64,085	197,675	198,909	38,967	42,356	126,073	133,481
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	31,652	39,623	97,284	100,110	25,388	31,681	78,427	82,972

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE AND GLASS FOR MARCH.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	4,118	4,329	312,000	13,032	21,157	20,862	60,306	58,605
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	31,708	1,003	75,831	1,049	60,728	174	142,898	269
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		3,058		11,398		1,590		5,515
Sanitary Ware	,,		50		60		103		131
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		25,806		65,695		52,809		135,741
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	9	12	26	32	43	64	59	168
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	2,230	12,211	9,658	23,304	448	3,613	2,107	9,730
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	1,757	1,815	6,056	6,775	2,735	2,861	8,422	9,721
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	105,174	100,485	338,395	321,179	59,708	54,862	189,666	175,069
Plate Glass	,,	39,567	25,970	112,021	84,762	49,982	32,548	140,621	104,868
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	62,838	56,866	188,896	171,023	90,959	84,710	275,871	252,815
Glass Bottles	gross	148,143	148,944	364,387	399,972	63,897	63,708	149,120	165,747
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	975	445	2,819	2,135	1,078	512	3,360	2,816

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR MARCH.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	1,035	862	4,962	3,592	4,435	4,129	22,294	17,295
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	1,261	5	3,514	14	2,526	12	6,085	43
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		—		—		—		—
Sanitary Ware	,,		—		5		—		4
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		536		2,102		1,204		5,016
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	—	—	8	—	—	—	25	—
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	97	22	97	1,204	21	102	1	830
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	15	2	15	2	15	12	15	12
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	1,303	500	2,017	1,529	561	296	973	798
Plate Glass	,,	491	20	1,466	535	717	27	1,520	571
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	443	342	1,717	1,311	1,055	1,283	3,755	4,168
Glass Bottles	gross	2,467	3,447	9,672	12,626	1,801	1,851	5,056	6,997
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	504	318	2,362	1,106	1,326	832	4,672	3,174

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, February 27 to March 28, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to March 28, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	576	453	1,485	1,569
,, New York	439	659	1,662	1,729
,, Baltimore	1,798	1,813	5,309	4,836
,, Philadelphia	616	100	1,128	531
,, New Orleans	560	824	1,648	2,017
,, Newport News	48	59	148	294
,, San Francisco	19	49	39	134
,, Portland, Me.	918	1,053	2,505	2,405
,, Galveston	30	150	300	310
,, Portland, Or.	—	—	—	20
,, Inland Points	—	12	36	117
Total	5,004	5,172	14,260	13,962

SOME GLASS AND CHINA SHOPS IN THE MIDLANDS.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

(*Continued from page* 450.)

WARWICK.

WARWICK, a fine old town with about 12,000 inhabitants, has always been a place of interest from the Roman period to the present time. It is of more historical than commercial importance. The principal object of interest to the casual visitor is the castle, which stands on a rock looking over the River Avon. A castle has stood there since the year 915, but the present structure dates only from about 1440. The history of the castle is to a great extent the history of the town. Both have experienced very varying fortunes. The town has about doubled its population in the last hundred years. The manufactures of cotton, woollen, lace, and hats have been carried on there, but they have disappeared. Amongst the present industries there are gelatine works, agricultural implements, furniture, and stained glass. Warwick is full of interest to the historian and antiquarian, and as one of the important towns in the Midlands it has its attractions to business men. It is situated in a beautiful country, and is about two miles from Leamington. The road between the two towns is perhaps one of the prettiest drives in the kingdom. Country seats are numerous within a few miles of the town, and a number of villages are scattered all round it, the residents in which are supplied by the shopkeepers of Warwick.

MR. FRED. BRADSHAW, 34, Market-place, has an old-established business in the best place in the town for a retail shop. The "Market-place" in Warwick is something more than the name of a thoroughfare as it is in some towns. It is really the place of the market, and on market days is a scene of considerable activity. Mr. Bradshaw is a dealer in all kinds of glass, china, and earthenware. He has a well-stocked shop and he is evidently prepared for customers of widely different types. It was not a market day when I called, so I saw the shop and the stock to advantage. I am told that on a busy market day the shop itself is barely visible by reason of the crowd that throngs the Market-place. The business was commenced many years ago by Mr. Bradshaw's father. I saw the old gentleman, who, however, does not take any part in the business now. He began in quite a small way, and for a long time he used to travel through the surrounding country with his van. He built up a connection in this way, and the second generation of some of his earlier customers, are customers at the shop to-day. Mr. Fred. Bradshaw, the present proprietor, is a hard-working, pushing man. He was busy in his shop when I called, and, I understand, practically runs the shop himself. He is a whole-hearted supporter of home industries, and says he does not, and will not, t uch foreign china. With glass it is different. His inclination is to sell only British glass, but he says the public will not pay the price for it, so he is obliged to stock foreign. Mr. Bradshaw makes a speciality of garden flower-pots, a large variety of which I found set out in front of his shop. He stocks seakale pots, hyacinth pots, orchid pots, and seed pans of all sizes, and in addition undertakes to get special sizes, specially made, to order.

MRS. R. HEPWORTH, 55, Smith-st., Warwick, has an old-established glass and china shop. She made the business herself, and it has always been under her own control. I remarked that it was a spirited undertaking on her part, to open out a business of that kind on her own account. She said it was perhaps a bold stroke on her part, but she has not regretted it. The conditions of retail trade were very different in Warwick twenty years ago from what they are to-day. Mrs. Hepworth, like so many others, complains of the competition met with to-day. She says when she commenced business the stores and the drapers' shops did not compete with the glass and china dealer, and, above all, there were no cheap tickets by rail to Birmingham, and no trams to Leamington. In her expressive language the people of Warwick used to do their shopping at home then, but now they make "shopping" an excuse for going to the larger towns. Mrs. Hepworth lets out pottery and glass on hire for festivities, and is one of those dealers who is willing to undertake matching for her customers. The stock she keeps shows that her customers belong to all classes.

COVENTRY.

Coventry, with nearly 70,000 inhabitants, is the largest town in Warwickshire with the exception of Birmingham. Like Warwick, it is pleasantly situated in the midst of a beautiful country. It is very clean for a busy manufacturing city, and according to statistics is remarkably healthy. This is accounted for by the fact that four-fifths of the power used in the manufacturing industries is furnished by gas engines, thus greatly reducing the smoke nuisance. Coventry, like Warwick, has an important historical record, which, if it does not extend quite so far back, is at any rate more varied. Amongst other historicl raecords there is one which, if not so important in a national sense, is far more popular than those of any other Warwickshire town. I refer to that of the gracious high-born lady who, to secure the relief of the inhabitants from oppres ive taxation, undertook to ride through the streets of the ancient city in a costume not exactly in harmony with our British climate. But Coventry has also taken an important part in manufac-

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tures. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the principal manufacture was that of woollen goods, in the eighteenth century the weaving of silk ribbons became an important industry. When that trade declined in consequence of the introduction of French silk goods, duty free, there was great distress in Coventry, and many of the inhabitants emigrated. Then watch-making became the staple trade, and was in turn followed by an extensive cycle industry, and the manufacture of motors and motor cars, engineering tools, coach trimming, and several other subsidiary trades. The very extraordinary growth of the cycle trade has been the chief feature in the progress of the city in the last thirty years. The manufacture of motor cars has given an additional impetus to local trade, and has caused an important increase in the number of residents. The last official census (1901), gave the population (as already stated) as 69 878, but an informal census taken in 1906 showed the number to be 83,790, an increase of 14,000 in five years. The retail trade in Coventry is fairly brisk, and tradesmen are feeling the benefit of the improvement in local industries.

Mr. T. R. Murphy, 15, Cross-cheaping, has an attractive double-fronted shop. The business was established thirty years ago by the late Mr. L. S. Booth, whose daughter is now Mrs. Murphy. The lady takes an active interest in the business (she was in the shop when I called), so that it has been practically in the same hands all the time. Mr. Murphy was just going out as I called, so that I had not the opportunity of speaking with him. Mrs. Murphy, however, is well acquainted with the pottery and glass trade generally, and, of course, with the trade of that shop particularly. They are importers as well as dealers, and the business-like appearance of their premises indicates a good trade. The stock of glass, china, stone and earthenware is a large one, and it includes the wares of most of the best makers. The shop is well arranged for showing samples of everything, but necessarily in small quantities only. Upstairs, however, they have a fine show-room for dinner-ware, tea and breakfast services, dessert sets, and toilet ware. In each of these there is a varied assortment of shapes and decorations well displayed. The latest productions are all on show, and, taking it altogether, the stock is well up to date. The selection of fancy goods is very complete, and Mr. Murphy is the sole local agent for Goss's porcelain. The coat of arms of Coventry is shown in enamelled colours on all the well-known Goss shapes, and on some new ones. Mr. Murphy does a good family trade amongst the residents in the suburbs and in the country round about. The shop is well situated for a passing trade, and visitors are attracted by some pieces of pottery specially suitable for presents. Places of historical interest attract many visitors to the ancient city, and Mr. Murphy provides a number of souvenirs for their benefit. I thought it rather hard upon a high-class business like this one to have a 6½d. bazaar next door. But it does not disturb Mr. Murphy. It is not nice, however, for a dealer in high-class pottery and glass to have next door a window-full of gaudy decorations at 6½d. each. These, of course, appeal to a different class of customer from those Mr. Murphy mostly supplies, but housewives study economy so closely nowadays that some are likely to be tempted to buy the cheap goods.

Mr. William Berry, 1, Fleet-st.—Although the trade name is retained, this business is now under the management of Mr. F. Hiorns, son of Mr. W. Hiorns, who is well known as a commercial traveller. The business is principally in better class goods, and the situation of it has evidently been chosen with the view to cultivate a high class trade. A stranger to Coventry would say the shop was rather out of the way for trade. It certainly is away rom the busy streets, but it is well situated for suburban residents. It is in the direction of a number of new residences, and no doubt Mr. Hiorns is aiming at extending his family connection. He keeps a good assortment of glass, china and earthenware, and the productions of most of the best manufactures are included in it. The shop has a neat, attractive appearance, and the goods are quite up to date, in shapes and decorations. Like the locality, the goods have been specially selected. Of course, all grades, except the very commonest, are kept, but prominence is given to the better grades, both useful and ornamental. A special feature is made of ornaments, a large variety being shown. With such a good stock to select from, the ladies of Coventry are under no necessity to visit other towns for their pottery and glass.

Mrs. R. Green, 11, Smithford-st. (late of Broadgate), has a good shop situated in one of the best business streets. She has a large stock of glass, china, and earthenware, and keeps practically all grades. Smithford-st. is in a busy thoroughfare, and probably a good passing trade accounts for the presence of the cheaper lines. Mrs. Green, however, shows some high class services in dinner ware, tea and breakfast ware, toilet and dessert ware Her business is an old established one, and she thoroughly understands it. She has been in the trade in Coventry all her life, and her father was in the business many years before her. She has thus the double advantage of a good knowledge of her trade, and a personal acquaintance with her customers. The latter is of great importance in a provincial town. When customers—especially ladies—have confidence in local tradesmen they are not likely to leave them without good reason. To maintain a connection founded on confidence, however, the tradesman must keep well up to date with his stock. Mrs. Green lets her customers see novelties as they come out. The public like courtesy and personal attention in business, but they want to be in the fashion when buying pottery and glass, as they do when buying clothing. Mrs. Green, however, knows better than to stock lines, solely because they are new. Her stock has been selected on its merits. Like all experienced dealers she knows that graceful forms and neat ornamentations live longer in public favour than erratic shapes, and too florid decorations. Mrs. Green has been long enough in the trade to know how to buy pottery, and that knowledge is not gained in a hurry. She has also been long enough in Coventry to know what suits the residents there. Another and quite different branch of her business is the lending out on hire of dinner, tea, and dessert services for festivities. She keeps a large stock of wares specially for this purpose, and to hire with them she supplies knives, plated forks, spoons, fish and dessert knives.

Mr. Thomas Tullett, wholesale and retail glass, china, and earthenware dealer, has his extensive premises for both branches of his business at 4 and 6, Hales-st., Coventry. This is probably one of the largest wholesale and retail businesses in the Midlands. Mr. Tullett founded it himself in 1885, when he commenced business in Coventry. It is to his credit that he began in a very small way; perhaps that is the reason why he controls such a large business to-day. If he had succeeded to an established and prosperous concern, he certainly would not have had the incentive to activity which his modest means gave him. Mr. Tullett is a worker, and is never so happy as when doing a busy trade. In his early days he went out and brought in his trade, and was not content to stay at his shop and wait for business to come to him. I am given to understand that he made his first connections by personal canvassing. The growth of this now large business was due entirely to his individual energy. He has experienced people about him now, but for many years he did the bulk of the work himself. It would be quite impossible for him to do such a share of it to-day,

but he still exercises control—really, and not nominally—over the whole concern. One of his managers is Mr. Dixie, son of the Mr. Dixie who was a well-known member of the trade at Paddington a few years ago. Mr. Dixie has had a lengthy experience with pottery and glass, and is quite in his right place in such a responsible position. Mr. Tullett keeps every grade of goods, for the wholesale trade, medium, and cheaper classes are stocked in large quantities. For his retail branch he has stocks of all kinds, from the cheapest to the most expensive. I noticed the goods of other high-class manufacturers as well, but he has an announcement that he is agent for "Josiah Wedgwood," "Royal Doultons," and "Mintons." These names show that though the bulk of the trade is in cheaper goods, customers who want high-class pottery can be supplied. Mr. Tullett calls his premises "Wedgwood House." He is at present enlarging his retail shop, and when completed it will be 70 ft. long by 22 ft. wide. For some time past he has wanted more room for his retail trade. There are large warehouses and stock rooms in the rear, where, besides keeping stock, he does his wholesale trade. Until recently, Mr. Tullett had a shop at Nuneaton, but he has disposed of it to Mr. Clarke, to whom I make reference elsewhere. A feature of Mr. Tullett's new premises, when completed, will be what he claims to be the "largest jug in the world." This has been in his possession for many years, and he has just removed it from his shop at Nuneaton. Before Mr. Tullett acquired it it stood for a long time over the door of the shop of Mr. Fox, china merchant, Atherstone. We gave an illustration of this unique piece of pottery about six years ago. The jug is salt-glazed stoneware ornamented in bold relief, and will hold 37½ gallons. A man of ordinary size can stand upright inside it. It was made at Church Gresley somewhere about 1830, and is still in good condition. It is to be hoped no accident will happen to it during the building operations.

NUNEATON.

Nuneaton is a market-town in Warwickshire, but close on the borders of Leicestershire. It is served by three lines of railway—not so much, however, to meet its own requirements, but because they necessarily run through it. The town consists practically of one long straggling street, crossed by one main street, leading to the market place, and several smaller ones. At one time the ribbon industry found employment for a large number of workers, but the principal industries now are ironworks, tanneries, glazed brick and heavy pottery works, cotton and worsted factories, &c. There are also extensive collieries in the neighbourhood. The population, now about 25,000, has trebled in the last quarter of a century. Like the other towns I have just visited, Nuneaton suffers in its retail trade by its proximity to larger centres. Birmingham is only little more than 20 miles distant, which is considered nothing in these days of rapid and cheap locomotion. But while many of the inhabitants of the town itself may take the trouble to go away to make some of their purchases, there is a large population in the villages round about that make Nuneaton their shopping centre.

J. W. Wilkinson & Son, 11 and 12, Abbey-st., have a fine block of new buildings and an excellent glass and china shop. They are the "Whiteleys" of Nuneaton, since they supply very nearly everything (but food stuffs) which is required about a house. They are complete house furnishers, and in that capacity I understand they have for some time supplied toilet ware along with their bedroom furniture, and then added to it dinner and tea and breakfast ware. They have recently been rebuilding their premises, and have now opened a fully equipped glass and china shop. It has an attractive appearance, and the stock is a large one, including all useful requisites in pottery and glass, in different grades. The good medium qualities predominate, and in these there is great variety. I did not see their premises before the rebuilding, but the range of shops now is an ornament to Abbey-st., and the glass and china contribute largely to this pleasing effect. Messrs. Wilkinson make a point of keeping the newest designs in all departments. I can say that their stock of pottery and glass is well up to date. The gentleman in charge of the department is going the right way to make, and to keep, a connection. At the time of my visit he was trying to match a particular cup for a customer who uses it in large quantities. Mr. Wilkinson had in stock a number of cups and saucers, exactly to pattern in every way, but a slight difference in size. "I could, no doubt, ell him these," said the representative, "but he wants his own size, and I mean to get it if possible." In our trades, neither manufacturers nor distributors pursue this course so persistently as they should. The time and trouble sometimes taken in trying to induce a customer to accept their stock line, would often be sufficient to supply just what was wanted, if it was utilised with that object.

Mr. Edward Clarke, 85, Abbey-st., Nuneaton, is comparatively new to our trades. He has lately acquired this business from Mr. Thomas Tullett, who conducted it for many years, concurrently with his larger wholesale and retail business in Coventry. Mr. Clarke is a good business man, and has some one with him who understands the trade, so that he will soon get a grip of it himself. He has a well arranged shop, and a good stock, and although I did not make inquiries on the point, I imagine he has a connection to keep and to extend, rather than to makes The stock, as I saw it, was no doubt for the greater part the selection of Mr. Tullett, and he knew exactly what would suit the requirements of the neighbourhood. Mr. Clarke has plenty of tact, and he seems just the man to do a trade in Abbey-st., if there is one to be done. We wish him success in his enterprise.

C. Baker & Son, glass and china dealers, have a compact and well stocked shop at Bond-gate. It is not a large shop, yet the firm contrive to show a good variety of household pottery and glass. For the most part medium quality goods are stocked. The shop is situated in a quiet spot, on the very outskirts of the town. It is some distance from the business streets, but there is all the appearance of a good, quiet trade. The shop is at the very end of the town, but this, Mr. Baker says, is its great advantage, as it must be passed by all who come into the town from that side. Mr. Baker happened to be in when I called. His acquaintance with our trades, and with the manufacturers in them, is extensive. He is full of energy, and seems specially fitted to exercise it in connection with our industries. It was when I discovered this trait in him, that I felt rather astonished that he should be carrying on a comparatively small business at this address. I must have given some indication of this thought, for Mr. Baker explained that his principal business was at 25, Long-lane, Atherstone, and that he controlled both shops, coming over to Nuneaton every day. He buys all at Atherstone and from there sends supplies for this second shop. He does all he can in British goods, and what little trade he does in foreign goods, is a matter of necessity, dictated by price. Mr. Baker has followed labour questions very closely; and says there should be no difficulty in settling all differences with employers amicably and speedily. [The Conciliation Board has been agreed upon since my interview with him.] He had much to say about the want of uniformity in charges for packages, and packing in the pottery trade, and about the unsatisfactory system of charging for goods. I have repeatedly recorded the views of dealers on these subjects, and there is remarkable unanimity in them.

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GLASS CAMEOS.

(BY A MEMBER OF OUR STAFF.)

IN our January issue we gave a full report of an interesting and instructive paper, by Mr. Owen Gibbons, of Wordsley, read before the Brierley Hill Literary Society. The subject of the paper was "The Portland Vase : its History and its Effects on Cameo Work in the District." One of the objects kept in view by Mr. Gibbons right through the paper was to stimulate



THE MUSES : EXECUTED BY MR. F. CARDER.

the production of the best types of artistic glass. The district in which the paper was read is the home of artistic glass ornamentation, and there is reason to believe that Mr. Gibbons' explicit description of cameo work in glass has encouraged the patient artists who make it their speciality. They need encouragement, their labour is a long-continued mental strain, but "the end crowns all," and the true artist feels amply repaid when success crowns his work. Mr. Gibbons said : "There are a number of artistic sides to glass manufacture and decoration, but cameo cutting undoubtedly is the art in which it is possible to reach the very highest artistic excellence in glass." Interest in the revived art of glass cameo cutting wants stimulating, and those who pursue the art deserve to be encouraged. Art-classes and art schools are doing much in this direction. Art education is advancing in all directions, and it is hoped that the public taste will soon be trained to a more just appreciation of the artistic merits of glass cameos.

WHAT IS A CAMEO ?

Strictly speaking a cameo is a precious stone cut in relief—more particularly a stone composed of different coloured layers. having a subject in relief cut upon one or more of the upper layers—the under layer forming the ground. Certain precious stones possess these natural characteristics for the purposes of the cutter. The onyx—particularly the banded onyx—the garnet, the opal, the turquoise and other well-known precious gems are all natural materials for cameos. Judged by this standard, some of the early cameos, the Græco-Roman and mediæval cameos,and even those of the Renaissance, must be reckoned as "imitations." But the word has a wider significance now, and the qualification of a "cameo" as a jewel, or as a precious object, is estimated quite as much by the skilful artistic work upon it, as by the value of the material itself. Mr. Gibbons very clearly explained what glass cameo work is, and how the labour and skill demanded in its production give it a value equal to that of cameos proper. For the purpose of this article, I paid an interesting visit to the British Museum. There are priceless specimens of these old gems, some looking as fresh as they must have looked when they first came from the hands of the cutter, and that is estimated at four thousand years ago. Among them are small, delicate, and beautiful profiles, apparently portraits. These are strictly cameos. But the British Museum sets quite as much store by a number of "glass cameos." They are ordinary crystals, coloured with metallic oxides. How these old pastes were made nobody knows. Onyx is imitated by layers of variously coloured glass, showing that in early Roman times there were skilful glass makers and glass cutters. Cameo cutting was at its perfection in Rome during the first two centuries of the Christian era. The examples of this period that have come down to us are portraits of the reigning families and allegorical illustrations of their achievements. But contemporaneously with the best productions in oriental precious stones, pastes or imitations in glass were made in incredible numbers, apparently to meet the requirements of those who could not afford the other, and more costly, luxuries. Both in perfection of material, and in the artistic merit of decorative manipulation, these imitations were, in the best period, of recognised extraordinary excellence. To-day their value is enhanced by the halo of centuries. There are many smaller examples of these ancient glass cameos but the Portland vase (also in the British Museum), remains one of the finest examples of the skill of both the glass worker and of the engraver on glass of ancient times.

MODERN GLASS CAMEOS.

In recent years, Stourbridge glass makers, particularly Stevens & Williams of Brierley Hill, and Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., of Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge, have revived the production of glass cameos, and they have a number of skilled workers. The names of Northwood and Woodall have long been known in connection with beautiful glass cameo engraving, examples of which have from

time to time been illustrated in THE POTTERY GAZETTE. Of course, there are other workers on the same lines and within the last few years the name of Carder has been in creditable evidence in this connection. In the paper I have referred to, Mr. Owen Gibbons mentioned Mr. Frederick Carder, who took high honours in the National



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competition at South Kensington, receiving first a silver medal for a small vase, and then a gold medal for a large vase, entitled "The Muses." Mr. Carder was formerly with Messrs. Stevens & Williams, Glass Works, Brierley Hill. He was for a time art instructor at the Wordsley School of Art, but is now associated with the Steuben Glass Works, Carning, U.S.A. Two views, one of the back and the other of the front, of this beautiful work of art accompany this notice. The vase is of oviform shape, 22 inches high, white figures and other ornamentation on deep, transparent blue ground, and the allegorical figures in the upper panel and the conventional ornamentation in the lower sections and the foot are beautifully executed. The vase itself was made in transparent blue, then it was coated with opal glass and the theme was disclosed by cutting away just as much of the opal as would leave the figure, &c., in bold relief. An interesting feature in this production is that it was executed by Mr. F. Carder under the tuition of Mr. Owen Gibbons.

Glass cameo cutting is now essentially an English art, indeed it seems to be an hereditary one. It is one that should be cultivated by expert glass-cutters more than it is. For a long time the art had not been pursued here, but now that it has been revived, means should be taken to popularise it. It is very beautiful and should appeal to every person of refined tastes. It is a little surprising that a cameo vase or a cameo plaque is not frequently chosen for presentation purposes. Kept from breakage, it would retain its beauty for generations and in the majority of cases would be far more acceptable than the "silver" (?) cup, which so soon tarnishes. If we cannot compete with the foreigner in tumblers and glass dishes, he cannot compete with us in the production of artistic glass cameos.

Pottery centres are among the best markets for sponges in the United States. More than $10,000 is spent each year in East Liverpool, U.S.A., for sponges. Formerly only the sponges procured in the Mediterranean Sea were used there, but in the last fifteen years the cost of these sponges has so advanced in price, chiefly because of their scarcity, that what is known as the "Sheepswool" sponge, procured on the Florida coast, is now used.

U.S. Pottery Imports.—During last year, earthen, stone and china ware to the value of £2,937,944 were imported into the United States. The total shows an increase of 4·8 per cent. over 1906 and 16·5 over 1905. The countries of origin, with percentage of increase or decrease, were as follows :—United Kingdom : £676,453——6·7 over 1906, and 22·8 over 1905 ; Austria-Hungary, £193,035 ; France : £447,912——10·1 over 1906, and 18·3 over 1905 ; Germany : £1,154,045——8·7 over 1906, and 10·7 over 1905 ; Japan : £362,880——42 over 1905, and 6·4 below 1906.

The Exportation of Kaolin from Austria is principally to Germany, which takes 95 per cent. of the total export of this article. Of the remaining 5 per cent. only a very small amount is exported to the United States, unless a portion of that exported to Germany is re-exported to the United States. According to the official statistics, the direct export of kaolin from Austria to the United States in recent years was as follows :—1903, 80 tons ; 1904, 122 tons ; 1905, 343 tons. Since 1905 there is no mention of an export of kaolin to the United States in the official statistics. New York is the port of entry in the United States to which shipments of kaolin have been made. The exports of kaolin from Austria during the years 1903 to 1906, inclusive, according to value and quantity, were as follows :—1903, 191,198 tons (value $800,000) ; 1904, 140,782 ($1,120,000) ; 1905, 150,837 ($1,200,000) ; 1906, 169,140 ($1,120,000). The average price of kaolin in recent years has been 3 crowns 50 heller (about 70 cents) per metric centner (220 pounds). Kaolin is found principally in Bohemia, though there is one kaolin works in Lower Austria at Aspang.

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Foreign Notes.

China Clay to the weight of 2,280 tons was imported at Ymuiden, Holland, last year, being all supplied by the United Kingdom.

Porcelain and Earthenware to the value of £721,600 were exported from Japan during last year. The figures are above these for 1905, but below those for 1906.

Sanitary Earthenware is mentioned in a Consular Report from Hungary as being among the articles of British production which find a good market in that country.

Earthenware is always in demand at Batoum, according to a report from a British merchant at Tiflis, whose business connections with the Caucasus extend over a period of 20 years.

Earthenware is mentioned by H. M. Consul at Patras, as being among the articles of British manufacture that might be introduced to the Greek market, if the requirements were carefully studied.

British Trade Marks in Japan.—With reference to statements which have recently appeared in the Press respecting the appropriation of British trade marks in Japan, the Board of Trade desire to remind British owners of marks used in the Far East of the risks they run by failing to register their marks in Japan, and of the necessity of taking all practicable steps to protect their interests after registration. They also desire to direct the attention of all firms whose products, bearing marks duly registered, are on sale in Japan to the precaution—as one means of securing their marks against infringement—of adding on their labels, in Japanese characters, the words "Registered Trade Mark" (Tōroku Shōhyō). This precaution has been suggested by his Majesty's Embassy in Tokyo with a view to preventing infringers of marks from setting up as a defence that they were ignorant of the fact that the trade mark in question was a registered one, which is understood to be a valid defence in a criminal action in Japan.

U.S. Tariff on Filled Bottles.—The following Customs decision has been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—The provision for "bottles . . . filled," in paragraph 99 of the tariff, does not include accessories to the bottles, such as corks, capsules, labels, wiring, and envelopes, and the cost of such items should not be included in the dutiable value of the bottles, but of their contents. Though "bottles . . . . filled" are enumerated in paragraph 99 of the tariff as articles dutiable at an ad valorem rate, separately from their contents, they are not within section 19 of the Customs Administrative Act of 1890, which prescribes that the dutiable value of imported merchandise shall include the cost of the coverings and of other expenses incident to preparing it for exportation, and charges for packing boxes and for filling and packing the bottle should not be distributed between the bottles and their contents, but should be assigned wholly to the contents. The charges on goods in bottles should be included in the dutiable value of the contents of the bottles, where such contents are subject to an ad valorem rate; but if the contents are subject to a specific duty, or are free of duty, such charges are not dutiable.

The Belgian Glass Trade.—On April 3, a meeting of glass workers was held to discuss the question of a reduction in wages. It was decided that only employers who had their factories working should be permitted to take part in the discussion. At the conclusion of the meeting it was announced that, in view of the severe competition and the bad state of trade, a reduction was necessary, and would come into operation from May 1. Glass-blowers' wages will be reduced 5 per cent. and other workers 10 per cent. The workmen assembled immediately on the announcement of the reductions and decided to send in notices of protest. Business in the industry remains exceedingly unsatisfactory, and exports have receded by some 40 per cent., while prices have touched a very low level. Some sheet glass makers are stated to have received good orders from India and Japan, but the situation of this section is also serious. These circumstances lend additional interest to the negotiations for the prolongation of the Belgian Plate Glass Combine, the success of which appears fairly well assured, although it is stated that it has been impossible to bring in Pilkington's Belgian works. The entry into the cartel of the Courcelles plate glass works, which are English property, is being negotiated. On April 25, a ballot among the glass workers having resulted in a majority expressing themselves in favour of the acceptance of the reduced scale of wages proposed by the masters, the latter announced that they consented to the resumption of work, and would relight a furnace at Courcelles and reopen one of the factories at Monnoyer.

Peking Cloisonne Ware.—Probably the finest quality of cloisonné ware now manufactured is that which comes from Peking, says the American Consul at Tsingtau, in a recent report. The Industrial Mission Depot, a branch of the Peking Industrial Institute, has recently been opened at Shanghai, where a large supply of cloisonné is always on hand, and where vases, bowls, jars, plates, boxes, incense-burners, waterpipes, umbrella-handles, cigar-boxes, napkin rings, &c., can be purchased at any time. The cloisonné exhibit at the Peking Industrial Institute was awarded a gold medal at the St. Louis Exhibition, of 1904. The following is a description of the methods adopted in the manufacture of this ware. The base, whether vase, bowl, or dish, is of copper, and is obtained ready-made from the coppersmiths. The design is then etched on the copper base, and delicate cotton ribbons are shaped by means of pincers to follow the lines of the design. These are fastened into position by means of a special glue, fortified by a metallic composition, which maintains the shape of the wire tracery while it is being annealed in a primitive oven surrounded by a wire cage, containing charcoal, which is kept at a red heat with fans. When cool the vase is scoured in an acid decoction and is then ready for colouring. An artist, supplied with a number of saucers containing all the colours he requires, takes the vase, and from memory and without reference to any illustration, fills in the interstices between the wires with the proper pigments. These consist of crystals with a base of saltpetre and a kind of calcareous sandstone found in the neighbouring hills. The different colours are obtained by composition with iron pyrites, oxides of iron, or salts of lead. The coloured crystals ground to a powder are mixed with rice water, and the resulting paste forms the base of the enamel. The colours are applied by means of a small trowel, and the operation calls for great skill and dexterity. When all the spaces are filled, the vase is again baked in the oven for a certain number of minutes, as decided by the expert in charge of this operation. When cool, the vase is smoothed off with a file and returned to the colouring room, where all defects are made good. In some cases several of the spaces must be done over again; the solid vitreous colour is chipped out and the cloison refilled with paste. The vase is again baked and polished this time with limestone, on a lathe. The retouching, rebaking and polishing are continued until the desired result is obtained. The final lathe polishing is done with charcoal. The vase is then ready for gilding, which is done by an ordinary galvanic process, and a final polishing renders the article ready for the market.

ROMAN POTTERY AT MONTROSE.

THE last lecture but one of the series which Mr. James Curle, W.S., F.S.A. Scot., is delivering on "The Excavation of the Roman Military Station at Newstead, Melrose," as the Rhind lectures in archæology, was given in the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, on April 8. The particular subject of the lecture was the finds of pottery and other ware. The most interesting of the fragments from Newstead were those of the red Samian ware. The great bulk of the ware came from Gaul, where potteries sprang up in the first century. Most of the vessels were without decoration. At Newstead the early ditch lying beneath the clay rampart of the later occupation made it possible clearly to distinguish the early pottery from the later. The Samian ware of the early ditch was of first century type. It was thin, hard baked, with a bright glaze.

Some twelve different types of vessels—cups, platters and bowls—were represented. In the later ditches and pits, the ware was coarser. Three types of decorated bowls were found in the early ditch—the carinated bowl, the bowl with more or less straight sides, and the hemispherical bowl. The patterns employed on these bowls, so far as they could be identified, indicated that the first occupation drew its supplies from the potteries of La Graufesenque, Bannassac, or Montans. The output of these potteries was believed to belong almost entirely to the first century. They were supposed to have disappeared early in the second century.

Specimens of decorated ware of both periods from Newstead were illustrated. A piece of typical Rheinzabern ware, probably dating from the end of the occupation, was also shown. Many potters' names were met with stamped on the bottom of dishes, and a number of names and other marks of possession scratched in the glaze. The study of pottery in Scotland appeared to be distinctly advanced by the Newstead results, as two distinct groups—one early, the other late—could be noted. Such early pottery as was found at Newstead did not appear to occur at Birrens, suggesting that the early advance which passed through Newstead had no parallel there. On the other hand, both early and later types occurred at Camelon. Further north it was interesting to note that the small quantity of pottery found at Inchtuthill belonged entirely to the early period.

The vessels of coarser ware found were also illustrated. It was more difficult in dealing with them to distinguish early from later types, though on the whole the pottery of the early period was the finer. Vessels of castor ware decorated with scenes from the chase came from the ditches of the later period; they were known to have been manufactured in Britain, but it was probable that the earliest types came from the Rhine. Of larger vessels many fragments were found, such as Mortaria, which were used no doubt for culinary purposes. That these were sometimes imported from abroad was shown by the stamp "FLVGVDV," also found in London, indicating that the vessel bearing the mark was made in Lyons. Great amphoræ were also common. That such vessels were carried from one part of the empire to another was illustrated from the occurrence of the same makers' stamps in Southern Gaul, in Rome, and on the Rhine. The occupants of the fort possessed glass vessels and window glass throughout the whole period of its occupation. No vessel was found entire, though a number of well-known types could be identified from the fragments.

U.S. Pottery Imports.—During last year, earthen, stone and china ware to the value of $14,220,000 were imported into the United States. The figures show a steady increase.

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TO gauge accurately the state of the earthenware trade in this district at the present time is by no means an easy task. In moving about among the manufacturers one hears so many different accounts of the condition of affairs that it becomes really impossible to found any reliable general conclusion upon them, and perhaps the remark of one manufacturer, that "trade is a good deal mixed just now," most aptly expresses the position. A considerable number of those engaged in the leading local industry do not hesitate to affirm that business is insufferably bad, and this, in many individual cases, is undoubtedly the case; otherwise the manufacturers who met in conference just before Easter would certainly never have passed the resolution they did, recommending firms to close their works for ten days during the holiday season. But, upon the whole, it appears that things are not so bad as they might at first seem, and that, while trade is in a very unsatisfactory condition, it has not yet realised the worst fears which were expressed in many quarters a couple of months ago. The home trade is very slow indeed; this is admitted on all hands, but there was so much buying during February and March, by dealers who feared a long strike, that some re-action was naturally to be expected, and this has obviously come. The shipbuilding strike in the North has affected our trade in that district considerably, but it is not so easy to account for the slackness which representatives of local firms are finding in London and Scotland. It seems to be the general experience, too, that money is far from plentiful in the country, and credits are having to be extended, a circumstance which is reported to be causing not a little difficulty to several highly respected and old established firms in this neighbourhood, who have been feeling the strain of competition severely for some time past, and with whom much sympathy is being expressed on all hands. The greatest uncertainty prevails as to which way the home trade will now turn. It is generally realised that a crisis has been reached, and nobody can say what is going to happen. A good deal depends upon whether the engineering and railway disputes are finally settled. Should this prove to be the case, then, with general industrial peace prevailing and a returning confidence in financial circles, we may look forward to a better "fall" trade. But if not, the outlook will indeed be obscured by a cloud, and a spell of great depression must be expected.

Abroad, the prospects for the potting trade are also uncertain. The Australian and New Zealand markets show a healthiness which is encouraging, and the Continental trade is somewhat brisker. The better feeling which was noted in the South African market two months ago is evidenced, at last, by a noticeable increase in the exports, but since then trade at the Cape has relapsed again, and now we hear nothing but ill of this market. In America, trade has experienced a general set back, both in the North and in the South, and orders coming into North Staffordshire at the present time from "the other side" are decidedly smaller than they have been. Still, for all that, things are not so bad there as one might reasonably have expected to find them after the recent financial panic. The china trade, which has to rely almost entirely upon the United Kingdom for its market, finds itself in a very unsatisfactory position just now, and at Longton the complaint of bad trade is general, business in London being particularly lifeless. Manufacturers of sanitary ware and of porcelain electrical fittings report business to be quiet. The Board of Trade returns for the month of March show that the exports for the month declined from £218,140 in 1907, to £209,680 this year. France, Australia South Africa, New Zealand, and Canada were the only countries which took increased values, and, in each case, the increase was comparatively small. Against this there were declines of nearly £7,000 in the exports to the United States, and of £4,600 to Brazil, besides smaller declines in the values of ware sent to Germany, the Argentine, the East Indies, and minor countries. Notwithstanding these decreases, however, the exports for the first three months of the present year are appreciably in front of those for last year, the figures being £634,768 for 1908, against £613,468 for 1907, and only £558,564 for 1906. The foreign ware placed on the markets of the United Kingdom during the three months has amounted in value (after allowing for the re-exports) to £196,680.

Since our last notes were written, gratifying progress has been made with the formation of the Board of Conciliation, which, in

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future, is to settle questions relating to wages and labour in the potting trade. A joint conference of masters and men was held on April 1, at Stoke, under the chairmanship of the Rev. H. V. Stuart (Rector of Stoke), when the draft rules already published, with certain amendments, suggested by both sides, were agreed to, after harmonious discussion. These rules will probably be published within the next few days, together with a list of the members of the Board, and it is hoped that, before the end of May, a commencement will have been made towards the settlement of the many important questions which still remain outstanding. What is now wanted is reasonable common sense and restraint on both sides. The men are rightly proud of the growing strength of their union, and are naturally eager to achieve the reform of many of the anomalies which are admitted to exist in the trade. But they ought not to permit their zeal to outrun their discretion. Evils which have taken a quarter of a century, or more, to grow up, cannot be abolished all in five minutes. The process of reform must be steady and gradual, and if the operatives do not get all they want straight away, they will be well advised not to grow impatient. The foundation stone of reform has been laid, and if there is a steady process of building up on that foundation, a worthy result will be secured. On the other hand, operatives may look to the manufacturers for considerate treatment, a desire to meet all just claims and to rectify grievances which press harshly upon the employers. Such treatment will not be withheld by the masters, and if both sides meet at the round table in a spirit of give-and-take and mutual conciliation, under a capable chairman, we may look for great results, such as will produce a lasting impression upon the trade for good.

Mr. J. H. Knight, the Secretary of the North Staffordshire Colliery Owners' Association, has, perhaps, without intending it, done manufacturers a real service by a letter he has written commenting on a statement made by Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P. (President of the Miners' Federation), at the Chamber of Commerce meeting last month as to the selling prices of coal. Mr. Edwards, in denying that the operation of the Miners' Eight Hours Bill would lead to any appreciable increase in the price of coal, remarked that selling prices had, in some parts of the district, been 15s. or 16s. per ton, while the cost of production was only about half that amount. Mr. Knight, writing to correct the suggestion that 15s. or 16s. was the average price of coal in the Potteries, lets the caf out of the bag by saying, "I believe I am quite safe in saying that the selling price, at the present time, averaged over the output ot North Staffordshire Collieries, does not exceed 8s. to 9s. per ton"! It is not surprising to find that such an admission as this has drawn forth an expression of amazement from Mr. R. Jamieson, Secretary of the English China Manufacturers' Association. Mr. Jamieson says that the members of his Association are all paying prices far in excess of anything that could result in such an average as Mr. Knight quotes, except on the assumption that the cheaper classes of coal are being almost given away outside the Potteries. Twelve shillings to twelve and sixpence a ton is the general price which is being paid for manufacturers' coal here, and householders in the Potteries, although the collieries are almost at their doors, think nothing of paying 19s. and 20s. for house fuel. The difference between these rates and the average given by Mr. Knight is so considerable that inquiry as to the reason for it ought to be set on foot at once. It is a matter which the Chamber of Commerce might very well take up. As Mr. Jamieson says, "If Mr. Knight's statement is correct, and there is no reason to suppose otherwise, it surely points to the fact that much North Staffordshire coal is being sold, outside the district, at prices far below those being charged for coals sold locally, and as, in good times and bad, the chief industry of this district is dependent upon our local supplies, and is, therefore, to be relied upon as a regular consumer, it appears to us to be a great hardship that our trade, hamperd as it is by ever-increasing and expensive Government restrictions, by excessive and grossly unfair carriage rates, and by the unrestricted (nay, even encouraged) foreign competition of our Free Trade system, should be further penalised by the partiality shown by coal-owners for all classes of consumers over those of their own district. One would have expected the reverse to be the case, and that it would be natural for the collieries to foster and encourage the local potting industry, and thus promote the general welfare of their own district. Mr. Jamieson suggests, in concluding, that manufacturers and coalowners should meet together to discuss the present unfair condition of things. This idea should certainly be acted upon. Why should not the Coal Owners' Association and the Chamber of Commerce hold a joint meeting?

E. Brain & Co., china manufacturers, of Fenton, have just completed considerable alterations and extensions at their pottery, and, incidentally, have installed two of the new china-scouring machines with excellent results. Mr. E. Brain, the head of the firm (who is also President of the English China Manufacturers' Association), has during the past month been re-elected a member of the Fenton Urban District Council, after twelve months' retirement from that body. Mr. Brain has been actively associated with the administration of the town ever since 1885. He was a member of the old Local Board, and was the first Chairman of the present Urban District Council, now shortly to be merged in the Council of the Federated borough. Mr. Brain was returned at the head of the poll in the South Ward.——The wide circle of friends which Mr. Alfred Capper left in the Potteries when he went out to Australia, a few years ago, to found a potting business in the Commonwealth, will hear with interest the news of the marriage of his daughter, Miss Grace Capper, which took place a few weeks ago. Her husband, Mr. Seecombe, is a Sydney gentleman. Miss Capper is held in grateful remembrance by the workers of the Ragged School and the Hill Top Sunday School, Burslem, where she laboured actively before going to Australia. The fact that she has named her residence "Hill Top" shows that she does not forget the associations of the past.

Federation is still one of the chief topics in the Potteries. Probably the final Order has already been made by the Local Government Board. It was anticipated that it would be received on April 27—too late to be dealt with in our present issue, so that we cannot say in what respects the draft order will have been amended. Whatever opposition may be offered to the Order, the general opinion is that Federation will have become an accomplished fact by November next. The Local Government Board is said to be determined to bring Federation about, even though several of the towns may combine to fight the Order.

At the County Court, Burslem, on April 16, before his Honour Judge Ruegg, K.C., Millicent Maria Sproston, of 42, Bakewell-street, Derby, widow, applied for an arbitration under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1907, the respondents being C. Simpson & Co., of the Crown Works, Market-place, Burslem, earthenware manufacturers. Mr. B. W. Moore, of Derby, appeared for the applicant, and, in outlining the case, stated that in January of this year the husband of the applicant visited the N. S. Infirmary, and subsequently he became on February 1 an inmate of that infirmary. On Feb. 5, however, he died from kidney disease, which he (Mr. Moore) contended was set up by lead poisoning. The only point his Honour would have to decide was to as how far the mother of the deceased man, and his widow and daughter, were dependent upon him. As far as this was concerned, it appeared that the wife and husband separated about 15 years ago, and an order was made upon him under which he contributed 6s. per week to her maintenance for a number of years. Millicent Maria Sproston stated that for some years past her husband had not contributed to her maintenance, and although she had not seen him for some years she had never released him from his liability. Mr. John H. Board, M.R.C.S., House Physician at the North Stafford Infirmary, and Dr. King Alcock, gave evidence that death was in their opinion due to lead poisoning. Margaret Sproston, mother of the deceased, of 2, Davenport-square, stated deceased had lived with her for some years up to the time of his death. His Honour said he was going to treat all three people concerned as being partially dependent, and the best thing he could do was to divide the sum of £150, which he had to apportion, equally between them. Therefore, he awarded £50 to the mother, £50 to the wife, and £50 to the child.

On April 14 Mr. H. W. Adams, Coroner, held an inquest at the Town Hall, Burslem, as to the deaths of two potters' dippers, Samuel Pointon, aged 39, who lived at 64, Forster-st., Burslem, and who was employed until March 28 at T. F. Wood & Son's pottery, Newport-lane, and Daniel Bloor, aged 47, who lived at 54, Wharf-st., and who, until March, 1906, was employed at Dunn & Bennett's, Victoria Pottery, Liverpool-rd. In the course of the inquiry it was elicited that Pointon had concealed important symptoms from the certifying surgeon. The coroner commented strongly on this, saying it was of no use to examine workers, unless the workers fully disclosed their condition to the examining surgeon. Unless they told everything to the doctor, examination was a farce. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from chronic kidney disease, set up by working in the lead" in each case.

At the Burslem Police Court, on April 14, before Mr. Harold Wright, the Stipendiary, the Burslem Pottery Co., Burslem, were summoned for three breaches of the Truck Act, 1896: (1) By making on Feb. 29 a deduction of 1s. 2d. from the sum contracted to be paid to a workman named George F. Webb, and failing to supply him with particulars in writing showing the acts or omissions in respect of which the deduction was made; (2) a similar offence in respect of 8d. stopped from the same workman's wages on March 10; and (3) a similar offence in respect of 10d. stopped from the wages of a workman named George Bosson, on March 10. Mr. S. Shuter (H.M. Inspector of Factories) prosecuted, and Mr. B. C. Brough defended. Mr. Shuter said the Stipendiary would be aware that under the Truck Act, if deductions were made from the wages of an employee, written particulars should be given him

at the time of the deduction, so that he might know for what the deduction was made. In the first case, George Frederick Webb was formerly employed at the Burslem Pottery Company, and on Feb. 29, the day on which the wages were paid, he did not receive the full wages he thought he was entitled to. The man Webb was what was known as an apprentice presser. He was 24 years of age, and at the date in question was on piece work. According to his own computation he earned altogether 16s. 6d., but he only received 9s. 4d. The difference between 16s. 6d. and 9s. 4d. was more than 1s. 2d., but that was made up by other deductions which were not the subject of this charge. The 1s. 2d. which was charged was an inclusive sum to include deductions for pugging, clay carrying, &c., and the offence was for failing to give particulars in writing of this 1s. 2d. deduction. The Stipendiary: Do you mean they make make a round deduction of 1s. 2d. or a percentage? Mr. Shuter: In this case it is 1s. 2d. These facts were brought to the knowledge of the Home Office, and they instructed me to bring this case before your worship. Mr. Brough said the deduction was a percentage, and not just a deduction of 1s. 2d. George F. Webb stated he had been stopped 1s. 2d. per week although his wages had varied. No written particulars were given him at the time his wages were paid him as to why that 1s. 2d. was stopped. Mr, Brough said the deductions were made as follows:—33 1-3 per cent. off a journeyman's wages constituted the apprentice's wage, then there was a second deduction of 5 per cent. for good-from-hand, and then there was a third deduction of 10 per cent. up to 12s. for pugging, &c. When the wages were less than 12s. the sum of 1s. 2d. was not stopped. Mr. Brough submitted that the case had not been made out. The suggestion here was that a certain sum had been contracted to be paid, namely the sum that existed prior to the deduction being taken off. His point was that no such sum was contracted to be paid at all, because the man Webb had admitted he made no terms at all as to what wages should be paid to him, and he went in under the common impression that he was going to work as an apprentice hollow-ware presser at the same rate, or on the same terms, as the rest of the hollow-ware pressers. Therefore the sum he was to receive was such a sum as was paid to the rest of the hollow-ware pressers, and that sum he received, and from that sum no deduction at all was made. The Stipendiary said, as he had said before, where there was an infinite number of stoppages it was better for both masters and men that a percentage should be taken off the men's wages, instead of petty deductions of 1d. and 2d. The only point was whether this was technically brought under the Truck Act. Supposing a firm made a contract for a particular wage first, and then a contract for deductions that came within the Truck Act. Mr. Shuter maintained the firm ought to have given particulars, and have said: "This is for pugging, carrying, and so on." The Stipendiary said it was on his suggestion, in order to stop irritation between employers and employed, that manufacturers had struck off a percentage to cover the small charges that used to be made for pugging, &c. Mr. Shuter could only be right technically, because morally he thought it was the best thing that could happen. In this case, as he understood it, a percentage had been taken off to include every stoppage that could be made in the way of pennies and twopences for pugging, &c. The point he had to decide was: Did that come within the Truck Act, or did it not? If it were the case that the wages were contracted for before any deduction was made, then it would be absurd to say that the deduction of one-third to arrive at the wage of an apprentice would not come within the Truck Act, or a 5 per cent. deduction for taking good-from-hand instead of good-from-oven again would not come under the Truck Act. But no one said that either of those two deductions came under the Truck Act In this case he thought Mr. Brough was right in contending that it did not come within the Truck Act, and he thought the defendants were not only technically right, but, to his mind, if it was an agreement made between the master and the servant, it was not only good in law but it was good in morals, and it was the very best thing that a percentage should be agreed upon in respect of these petty deductions, which caused so much irritation between employer and employee. The case, therefore, would be dismissed. Mr. Shuter withdrew the other two cases.

At the Tunstall Police Court, on April 23, W. H. Grindley & Co., Tunstall, were summoned for failing to take adequate measures to maintain a reasonable temperature in a room in which certain persons were employed. Miss H. M. Vines, Inspector of Factories, prosecuted, and Mr. R. A. Llewellyn defended. Miss Vines gave evidence of the excessive temperature in the dipping room, and called Dr. Legge, who supported her. Dr. Legge said several reported cases of lead poisoning at these works caused him to regard the conditions under which work was carried on here in a more serious light. Mr. Llewellyn said defendants had always been willing to carry out any reasonable requirements, and during the last six years they had spent £2.000 in improving the dipping houses. Expert evidence was given, and the magistrate then visited the premises. It was stated that certain alterations were suggested, and with a view to them being carried out the case was adjourned sine die.

The borough electrical engineer of Burslem has issued a pamphlet which gives a practical account of the benefits to be derived from the installation of electricity in the potting factory for power purposes. Accompanying photographs show the motors now working at various Burslem factories, including the Malkin Tile Co., Ltd., S. Ford & Sons, S. Gibson & Sons, Ltd., Wilkinson's, Ltd., Mr. Alfred Swan's, and also Alfred Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall. The pamphlet will be dealt with more fully in a future issue of this GAZETTE.——Keeling & Co.'s Dalehall Pottery, Burslem, was the scene, a week or two ago, of a serious outbreak of fire. The packing house was the portion of the building involved, and, before the local brigade could arrive, it was so well alight that part of the roof had already fallen in. The fire engine kept two powerful jets supplied from the canal, and a hydrant was used for a further supply of water, the result being that, in the course of three hours, the fire was under control. It was eight or nine hours later, however, before all the firemen were able to leave, as a large quantity of smouldering straw had to be removed. The building was insured.

Lord Cromer, writing to "The Times" recently on the subject of British trade in India, enclosed a letter he had received from an Indian gentleman, in the course of which the writer declared that "the remedy against German encroachments in India is in the hands of the British trader, who must adapt himself more to the requirements, tastes, and prejudices of the millions in India." The writer elaborated this statement by quoting a number of instances in which British manufacturers were sending goods to India which were unsuitable; and, inter alia, he instanced the fact that the egg cups which the British potters send to our great Eastern dependency are too large for the eggs of the Indian hen. The German manufacturer, however, measures the egg first and then makes the egg cup.

Everyone in the trade has been glad to hear of the improvement in health of Mr. Alfred Meakin, of Tunstall. Hopes are now entertained of his ultimate restoration to health, though the process of convalescence will be slow. Mr. T. W. Twyford, J.P., of Hanley, has also completed his cure, and is now back again at business. We regret to hear, however, of the serious illness of Mrs. Twyford.——The death took place last week, at Fenton, of Mr. Charles Moon, who had been manager for Hines Bros., earthenware manufacturers, for upwards of 20 years. Mr. Moon was greatly respected by his fellow townsmen. The funeral was largely attended and a number of beautiful wreaths were sent. ——We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas Parker Ratcliffe, manufacturer, Church-street, Longton. Mr. Ratcliffe died at his residence, Fenton, on the 24th April, in his fifty-eighth year after an illness of several months. He was an active member of the English China Manufacturers' Association. Mr. Ratcliffe was highly esteemed both in business and private circles. The funeral took place on Monday last, April 27, at Fenton Cemetery.

Two gentlemen are on a visit to the Staffordshire Potteries in connection with what they claim to be a revolutionising discovery in connection with the decoration of china and earthenware. They are Mr. Louis Crabtree, secretary and general manager of the Crabtree Ceramic Art Co., of Syracuse, New York, U.S.A., and Mr. Ralph Stuart, formerly of Longton, nephew of a well-known artist employed by a Stoke firm. Mr. Crabtree is the inventor of a process which he calls "vitrified photography in colours," in other words, a method of decorating china and earthenware by photography instead of by brush work, or by lithos or prints. Mr. Crabtree states that he first succeeded in applying photography to decoration of ware on a commercial basis about twelve months ago, and that he has now come to North Staffordshire with a view to introducing his system to manufacturers here. Of course the idea of decorating ware by photographic processes is not, by any means, new, but previously existing methods are tedious and expensive, and involve too much work to be practicable. But Mr. Crabtree asserts that his process is simplicity itself, and that he can produce, by its agency, effects which are not easily to be achieved by any other process. Mr. Crabtree said his process involves no sensitisation of the ware, in the commonly understood meaning of the term, and that no chemicals were used in the process. "We put the picture on the ware," he says "practically as it comes from the glost oven, and then it simply passes into an enamel kiln. It requires no skilled labour, and can be handled by any potter as simply as the lithographic process. We can decorate in colours or in monochrome from the same negative. Most elaborate pieces can be decorated easily at the rate of 150 per day by 'vitrified photography,' and if this process were adopted on as extensive a scale as litho work is now carried out at many factories it would probably be as cheap as lithos." Of course, time and experience alone can prove or disprove these claims, and Mr. Crabtree is making a stay for some little time at Longton, pending arrangements for the development of his system.

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A meeting under the auspices of the English Ceramic Society was held at Hanley on April 25, when several short communications were read by members of the society. A paper by Mr. Beeby Thompson, F.C.S., F.G.S., of Northampton, on "The Formation of Selenite in Clays." was read by Mr. J. G. Roberts, of Longton. The writer said that it seemed fairly obvious that the pretty transparent crystals of gypsum observable in clays had grown in the clays since its deposition. In nature the construction of crystals of selenite was almost certainly connected with the degradation of iron pyrites, but since iron pyrites as such was not soluble in water, and moreover could not have been carried and deposited with the clay as sediment in the form in which it was found in clay, it followed that iron pyrites aggregated in masses was the result of growth in situ from constituents. Now if selenite and iron pyrites were both growths from constituents and one directly or indirectly yielded the other, it was reasonable to believe that conditions, as much as ultimate composition of the water or mud in which the reaction took place, determined the result.——The second communication was made by Mr. A. Heath, and dealt with "The mechanical bedding of vitreous ware." Mr. Heath described by the aid of the lantern three diagrams illustrating the machine and method in question, which he said had been patented in the United States of America by a member of the Ceramic Society, residing at New Brighton, Pa. The operation of the machine was as follows:—A bung of ware (such as plates) of the required height, including the setter, to fill a saggar, was placed upon the table. The bung was enclosed by a thin galvanised iron cylinder, and sand, flint, or fired china clay was run from a hopper above the table into the space around the ware, and the vibrator beneath and in contact with the table was set in motion for a few seconds. The vibrations caused the bedding material to flow until solidly packed between each article from the foot of the plates to the rim in a homogeneous mass that no hand manipulation could imitate, the bearing at every point being absolutely equal, thereby removing the cause of crooked ware. The cylinder was then raised, allowing the excess sand to fall to and through the table into a hopper, whence it was carried by elevator buckets to the hopper above the table to be used again. As all china bodies were extremely fragile, where, on account of colour, the use of ball clay was prohibited, except to a very limited extent, this process of placing or bedding would show its value in a very remarkable degree, as it practically eliminated the breakage inseparable from the old process of hand manipulation, the ware not being touched after being placed on the setter. To avoid sinking in the manufacture of ware classed as thin china, it had been found expedient to place a small ball of china clay made plastic by the addition of a weak solution of gum tragacanth or other suitable adhesive material under the centre of each plate. The object of adhesive material was to stop the ball moving during the vibrating process. The method which was in successful operation in the United States, was the result of a series of experiments made to reduce the loss arising from crooked ware in the biscuit warehouse, and at the same time reduce the cost of placing, as it had already demonstrated the fact that felspar china, an absolutely vitreous and translucent body, could be brought out of the biscuit oven at a minimum of loss and cost. Mr. Heath concluded by saying that a machine was in use locally, and he would be pleased to practically demonstrate its utility to any interested member of the society.——The third matter brought forward was the question of the sifting and magneting of dry materials and slip by the use of an improved type of electro-magnetic separator, and was explained by Mr. Thompson, the designer. After the paper had been read, the members proceeded to the motor-room, and there witnessed the machine in actual working.

THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE past two months have witnessed a further shrinkage in certain departments of the flint glass trade, and the probabilities are that it will go on for some time. In Stourbridge and Wordsley, business is somewhat unsettled, but things are mending a little. There is a fair amount doing by manufacturers of the highest class of crystal and coloured articles, chiefly in the former and including cut goods for the table and sideboard. Cutters, however, are not fully employed at all the works, and in the glass houses more could be done if orders came in. The leading firms are the busiest, there always being a market—chiefly in London—for the goods they manufacture in epergnes, oval and other dishes, wines and champagnes, as well as spirit bottles, and decanters. In the larger size of scent bottles, on which the art of the cutter is well displayed, there has been rather more done of late, but this branch suffers beyond all others from Continental competition, cheap imitations of the best Stourbridge makes being exported to this country by French and Belgian manufacturers in large quantities. In cut tumblers there has been a falling off, owing to the same cause. Engravers at some of the local manufactories have had a moderately busy time since spring set in, but, generally speaking, this branch cannot be reported as brisk. Besides the rivalry from abroad that has to be met, the trade, especially in coloured goods, has suffered much from the backwardness of the season. Flower vases, in the various shades of colour, so well beat out by the metal mixer, have not gone off well, owing to this cause, and it is not expected that stocks will be much reduced until the weather becomes summerlike. In pressed glass, there is rather less doing than is usual at this period of the year, which is partly attributable to the coldness of the weather. The Licensing Bill seems to check the flow of orders from tradesmen, who appear to be of opinion that innkeepers and beer-sellers will refrain from ordering more glass than is absolutely necessary. Another circumstance may be mentioned that has, for the last few years brought about a reduction in the value of orders from publicans; this is the increasing love of sport among young men, especially in the football season, when they spend the afternoons in the playing fields instead of assembling in the inn parlour. Stourbridge, however, does not suffer as much from this as some districts. The relations between manufacturers and their workpeople are fairly good, in spite of what appears to be an increasing growth of Socialism. We are glad to note that the School of Art is progressing. Would that many more of the youths employed in the glass works of this town and district made use of its classes! The apathy and indifference of their parents is largely to be blamed for their absence from the place of instruction, so needful for them if they mean to get on in life.

The Birmingham School of Art continues to be indirectly a good help to the glass trade. An example of its usefulness was shown in a lecture delivered under the auspices of the institution by Mr. H. A. Payne, his subject being "Stained Glass." He traced the history of glass making from the earliest time, and stated that the Romans were the first to suggest the use of glass for windows. They pierced slabs of marble and filled the orifices with coloured glass. Such a beginning had the beautiful art of staining glass which culminated in the great mediæval windows, objects of almost unearthly splendour. In such glass we had most enduring material, full of beauty, solemn, serious, gay and bright. He regretted to say that the vast majority of our modern stained glass windows were inane productions, that future eyes would regard as rubbish. When the great Gothic movement of 70 or 80 years ago occurred there was a great revival in stained glass; but unfortunately, it drifted into the hands of the trade which supplied sham-mediæval windows, lacking in life and in all things which made the old work interesting and valuable. In this revival, while the drawing and design were imitated there was no attempt to reproduce the quality of the ancient glass. Brilliant, discordant, unbroken, transparent tints were used, so different to the richness and splendour of colour, characteristic of the old work. Of late years, however, a vital stimulus had been given to the art, by the work of William Morris, Rossetti, Burne-Jones, and others, and there was hope for the future. Of examples of beautiful work by the last-named great artist there are few fitter than those in Birmingham Cathedral. Proceeding, the lecturer said there were other buildings than places of worship in which stained glass could be used more than at present—in town halls and other public insti-

tutions, and above all, dwelling houses. In the old days, colour was used everywhere; the ancients could not resist putting in the ordinary windows, little jewels of colour, little pieces of heraldry, and subjects that gave point to the work of the house. At the present day, there was a lavish use in many dwellings of colour, too often garish, without delicacy of form, and sometimes vulgar. The lecturer, whose instructive address was well received, urged the use of stained glass for the house in designs of flowers, nicely drawn birds, and the thousand and one things in the life around us.

The ordinary glass trade of the city has been somewhat depressed, and is far from active at the present time. It is difficult to ascertain correctly which branches are busy, there being a natural reticence on the part of those concerned to give particulars, reticence more marked as the trade has got into fewer hands. There is much competition for orders, and at almost every turn manufacturers are confronted with lower quotations than previously offered by agents of foreign firms. Still, leading manufacturers are holding their own; but it is only by the exercise of great business capacity, and a keen sense of what will be the requirements of the market, as each season is coming on. Those in the fancy branches have long ago found out that the only possible chance of retaining the home market is by constantly bringing out novelties in design and colour; and then they find their efforts in part neutralised by the quick copying of the Continental maker, apt at bringing out showy though inferior imitations at a lower price than the original article. Coming to the lower grades, there appears to be less activity at some of the Birmingham cribs, where cheap ink and sauce bottles are turned out in great quantities. Probably this accounts for the great waste of common glass which goes on in the city, where the present writer on two recent occasions saw loads of broken beer and other bottles being carted to a neighbouring tip, presumably for want of a customer. Deck lights and other ships' glass have been less in request, but there is about an average output of Flemish sheet glass, and lighthouse lenses. Cutters doing silversmiths' work are a little busier. Plate glass bevellers and flower-tube makers are slack, and have been so for more than a month.

In Lancashire the flint glass trade shows little, if any, improvement. The stoppage of a glass house in Manchester does not seem to have been a benefit to the others remaining. Now there are only two large firms in the city where a quarter of a century ago there were seven or eight; some with two to five furnaces going at table work. This state of things is not attributed to any deterioration either in purity of colour of the flint glass, or excellence of workmanship, but mainly to the competition of foreigners. In Warrington there is only one works going in place of three as formerly. In St Helens a large firm that kept three furnaces with flint work for many years has had to leave the table trade, and take to a less artistic branch—the making of tubes, &c. In the bottle trade of the county, business is moderately good, but not so much so as last year. The cause of this is in part the long continued wintry weather. In the machinery glass trade of Manchester there is a fair amount of activity, a state of things that has lasted some time, and it is likely to continue, for the machine makers who require the goods have orders in hand that will take a few months to execute for new "domestic" mills and the foreign trade. The general condition of the cotton industry of Lancashire is however giving cause for some anxiety, and if there is not an early improvement, less machinery-glass will be required. The fancy glass trade, both for electrical fittings and the display of flowers, has quietened down. Bottle glass makers at the time of writing find business improving a little, especially at St Helens, where, as in Warrington and Manchester, some slackness has beenexperienced. The window glass trade in the former town has been moderate.

In South and West Yorkshire, where the manufacture of glass bottles is a great industry, there has been a falling off, partly in the export department. Medicals have, however, been in good demand, but aerated water bottles have slackened off to some extent, owing to cold weather prevailing so long. Cordial, beer, and sauce bottles are in better favour, and there is an increasing demand for machine-made jars and wide-mouth bottles, though not as pronounced as manufacturers had hoped for. Leading firms of bottle manufacturers are doing a better business, and additional "holes" are being established in Thornhill and Castleford, as well as at one of the works in the Barnsley district. There has been about an average output of carboys in Castleford. Leeds manufacturers of medicals are doing fairly well, and in York there is some activity also in the high class tubing and cane trade. On April 23, about one hundred and fifty workpeople, men and boys, were thrown out of work at Savile Town, Dewsbury, as the British Machine Bottle Co., Ltd., have closed their extensive establishment owing to the dulness of business. The hope is entertained that the stoppage is only a temporary measure, necessitated by the exceedingly inclement season this year having greatly lessened the flow of orders, and that when warm weather is vouchsafed to the country, and the articles the company manufactured in great demand again, the works will be restarted. The company have had possession of them for about two years, and bottle and jar making has kept the hands well employed until quite lately.

In the Newcastle and Sunderland districts, most branches of the glass trade have suffered, chiefly through the great strikes and lockouts in the shipbuilding yards. Ordinary flint goods have been very dull, and there has been little demand for pressed glass in tumblers, sugars, or dishes. When there will be a satisfactory recovery, it is extremely difficult to predict. Cutters have had a slack time, and so have bottle makers. There is, however, an improvement showing itself in this branch, and which it is hoped by both masters and men may develop into briskness.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WITH regard to the recently threatened rupture in the relations of the Scottish stoneware potters, with some of their employees, no time has been lost in following up the partial understanding provisionally arrived at, and announced a month ago in this column. The appointed Board of Trade Arbitrator, Mr. Walter B. Yates, K.C., held sittings for evidence early in April, and at these sittings testimony was taken on both sides. So much commendable despatch was observed all through that by the 16th of the month, the arbitrator was in a position to announce the findings to which the evidence had led him. These findings deal with the piece-work rates. With regard to the turning (jam jars) he decrees that over all the Scottish potteries the net rate of 2s. 3d. per score shall be paid to the male workers, and 1s. 6d. to the female workers. This involves no change from the rates for the same class of work obtaining hitherto. In the fluted work (where there had been a certain variation of rates, as between one pottery and another) he struck an average as between the highest and lowest rates paid, finding that for male workers in the future 1s. 1½d. per score was to be paid, and for the female workers 11d. per score, these rates apply to all the stone-

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ware work, without any distinction of individual pottery. Hitherto, for example, the rates at the various works, were graded from about 1s. as the lowest to 1s. 2d. as the highest; so that the award of the arbitrator gives a fractional advantage to the workers all round. Now that the whole of the works have been thus ranged into one line, it is to be hoped that this will make for an extended pacification, although no doubt it is possible that individual workers may find themselves at a disadvantage as compared with the former irregular state of affairs. For the works are not all equipped alike for piecework. During the month of April, production at the Scottish potteries has been going on smoothly and uninterruptedly, but not one of the works can really be called busy. The experience of the wholesale merchants on the look out for retailers' orders, has not been encouraging. It seems as if there was to be no briskness of demand this year yet in any of the lines, whether stoneware, china, glass, or otherwise. The inclination to order ahead is sluggish, and many of the retail merchants are rather hard pushed, owing to the scarcity of money. Once more the season is very backward as to weather, more so even (as judging in the last days of April) than 1907, whose bad record was at one time deemed as unbreakable.

Owing to the severity of the weather, things begin to look very dubious for the retail dealers at the watering places. And this is all the worse because some of them had ordered prospective supplies (during March), with a fair liberality, on the off chance of last year's deficiencies being made up by this year's sales. But with the advent of April, as the days became colder and colder instead of the reverse, the disposition to lay in stocks received a check. Thus it has come about that the orders booked during April this year for the summer resorts are distinctly less in number and in importance than were those of April of last year, though those, indeed, made no great show. The prices, which were advanced some time ago are reported as being adhered to by the makers and merchants, and not contested against by the retailers, though probably, in the case of the latter, these higher prices lead to the curtailment of orders.

AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, March 17.

THE new federal tariff as it left the House of Representatives is now before the Senate for final revision. Division VIII., "earthenware, cement, china, glass and stone," has been disposed of. The items including "Portland cement, plaster of Paris, and other like preparations having magnesia or sulphate of lime as a basis, also gypsum," "china, parian, and porcelain ware," "scientific apparatus, porcelain, viz., crucibles, tiles, pressure filters, and evaporating dishes for laboratory use," and "earthenware, brown ware, and stoneware, n.e.i.," were all passed without discussion, at the duties already fixed, which I reported to you in a former letter. On item "Roofing tiles, flooring tiles, and tiles n.e.i., of all materials and mosaic flooring, including slabs and tiles of fibro-cement, asbestos cement, and other substances," it was proposed to raise the general duty from 30 to 35 per cent. It was suggested by the Government that the object of the increase was to give a larger proportion of protection to Great Britain, as most of our imports now come from France. The Free Traders ridiculed this view, and accused the Government of seeking greater protection under the guise of preference to Great Britain. However, the increase of duty was carried, the preference duty to Great Britain remaining as before, viz., 25 per cent. Asphalt mastic, spurs, stilts, and thimbles were passed without discussion. On "fire and glazed bricks, fire lumps, fire-clay manufactures, n.e.i., and asphalt tiles," it was moved that the duty be increased from 15 to 20 per cent., on the grounds of greater protection to Australian bricks of this class. The Free Traders objected, pointing out that the freight alone on these articles gave a protection of 200 per cent. The increase was rejected. Item 248 comprised roasting dishes, assay furnaces, crucibles, scorifiers, and muffles, all free. The last three were omitted and made dutiable at 25 per cent. the rest being left as they were.

With the avowed object of enabling Australian pottery firms and glass workers to supply material to the Post Office, the Federal Post-Master General has just decided to invite tenders to be submitted for 100,000 porcelain insulators, pattern B, or 100,000 glass insulators, pattern A, and also for 10,000 glass insulators, pattern B.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, April 16.

NEW towns are springing up like mushrooms in the great Canadian North-West. The Canadian Pacific Railway is continuing its magnificent work of national development, the Canadian Northern Railway is supplementing it, and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway promises to be a greater figure than either or both, in the building up of important commercial centres, north and west of the Ontario boundary line. A recent interview with Mr. F. T. Griffin, Canadian Pacific Railway land commissioner for the North-West, elicited the information that there is a constant and great demand for sites for homes adjacent to towns which are springing up along the lines of the railway, north, south and west. "The building of new towns on what is now open prairie," said Mr. Griffin, "will constitute a picturesque feature of Canadian western life during the coming summer. Railway stations, grain elevators, banks, hotels, business houses and places of private residence will be required, and will be constructed as rapidly as the conditions of the country will permit. Large quantities of building material of all kinds will be required, as, in addition to homes for farmers, fifty new town sites will be placed on the market by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company alone." Prince Rupert, the Pacific terminus of the new transcontinental line, the Grand Trunk Pacific, seems destined to be one of the greatest Canadian ocean ports, and this probability, in conjunction with the climatic and agricultural and mineral attractions of the region through which the road is projected, is attracting the attention of thousands who are feverishly anxious to "get in on the ground floor," as the real estate men express it.

Mr. Ashley Myott, of Cobridge, Staffordshire, returned to England early in April after completing the reorganisation of the firm of Myott, Son & Co., Ltd., here. The changes effected involved the retirement of Mr. H. C. Bedlington from the position of managing director and his withdrawal from the company, the appointment of H. Bedlington, senior, to be sales manager, and the appointment of Mr. E. R. Bealey, as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Bealey accompanied Mr. Myott from Cobridge, and although he is entirely unfamiliar with the pottery trade, appears to be a shrewd business man. Mr. F. Chambaud, who has been manager of the foreign lines controlled by Myott, Son & Co., has also withdrawn from the Company and with him will go the control of the Pouyat line for Canada. It is extremely probable that Messrs. H. C. Bedlington & Chambaud will form a new company with headquarters in Toronto.——The reorganisation of the old firm of

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Continuous Brick, Fire-brick, Terra Cotta, Lime, Cement, Magnesite, Dolomite Kilns, &c.

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McMahon, Broadfield & Co., Ltd., has been aeeomplished quietly, and the interests of the Broadfield estate have been aequired by new eapital. An important addition to the eompany is Mr. H. A. Couse, lately of Sarnia, Ontario, who sold out a good business in the western town and invested the proeeeds in the MeMahon, Broadfield Co. The Company has deeided to retain the old firm name for the present, at any rate.

Competition is keener in the pottery and glassware trades in Canada this season than it ever was. Some houses report extraordinary orders for import. Others are turning off some of their travellers. It is evident that the Canadian retail merehant is buying more wisely than he used to. Foreign travellers express their surprise at the diserimination shown by the average Canadian retail merehant in the matter of table ware, and the sueeessful importer or wholesaler is he who can show the best goods for the least money. The best reports, it is gratifying to say, that I have heard this spring, eome from two firms which earry lines of English pottery exelusively. Up to the end of Mareh, one of these houses had done $19,000 more business than it did all last season, and with no more travellers and no more effort. The wheat appears to have eome through the winter all right and everything betokens a prosperous year all around for Canada. Seeding is well advaneed in some parts of the North-West, and navigation on the Great Lakes will be fully opened by the time this letter reaehes you. The lower freight rates eontingent upon the running of the boats will assist in loosening up the remainder of the eorps of last year, and putting into eireulation a little more of the mueh-needed ready money.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announeements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

BATES H. & SON (Hy. Bates and Hy. Albt. Bates), 59, Shoelane, E.C., Limoges china manufacturers and decorators. March 28. Debts by H. Bates. (April 10.)

HARRISON B. & F. (Benj. Harrison and Fred Harrison), Markethall, Burnley, china and earthenware dealers. April 1. (April 7.)

RATCLIFFE & Co. (Thos. Parker Ratcliffe and Jno. Siddall), Clarence Works, Church-st., Longton, earthenware manufacturers. March 30. Debts by T. P. Ratcliffe, who continues. (April 3.)

WALLERSTEIN & LEWIS (Hermann Wallerstein and Saml. Lewis), 76, Finsbury-pavement, china and glass merchants and manufacturers' agents. April 1. Debts by H. Wallerstein. (April 3.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

BARHAM BRICK, KILN, and DRYER CO., LTD. Resolved March 13, confirmed March 30 :—That the company be wound up. A. F. Dickin, 9 and 10, Pancras-lane, E.C., liqr.

PRESTWICK BRICK AND TILE CO., LTD. Resolved March 21, confirmed April 10 :—That the company be wound up. F. Rump, Blyth, liqr.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

SAVAGE WM. F., 166, Boundary-rd., St. Helens, glass dealer. Claims to F. Gittins, L'pool, O.R.

SOLLY HY. C., 7, High-st. and 1, Island-wall, Whitstable, barge owner and china dealer. Claims to E. M. Worsfold, Market-square, Dover.

Order Made on Application for Discharge.

STUBBS WM. and ROBT. STUBBS, Clyde-villa, Blythe Bridge, and Rothesay-rd., Normacott, Longton, late china manufacturers. March 11. Discharge suspended two years.

Applications for Debtors' Discharge.

BARKER THOS., trading as Thos. Barker & Co., 2, Dudley-rd., and 29, Portland-rd., Osterley-park-rd., Southall, glass merchant. At Townhall, Windsor, May 5 at 12.

BEDFORD EDWD. T., 692, Fulham-rd., glass dealer. At Bankruptcy Court, May 6 at 11.

Notices of Dividends.

ENGLAND THOS. H., 92, High-st., Merthyr Tydfil, china dealer. First and final. 1s. 4¼d., at O.R.'s, Pontypridd.

HOLT GEO. F., late trading as Geo. Morton & Co., 19 and 21, Wilson-st., glass merchants' agents. First and final, 1s., at A. Wright, Vincent, & Goodrich's, 34–36, Gresham-st., E.C.

WILSON CHAS. W., trading as Chas. W. Wilson & Co., 121, St. James-st., Liverpool, glass bottle merchant. First and final, 8s. 9d., at 19, Castle-st., Liverpool.

Private Meetings.

These Lists in some instanees refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all eases refer to failures.

ELLMAN SARAH, china dealer, Strangeways, Manchester. The creditors of the above were called togcther a few days ago, when it was reported that no proper statement of accounts had been prepared. It was understood, however, that the liabilities amounted to about £1,000, and the assets consisted of book debts totalling £318, and expected to produce £200, household furniture £10, and cash in hand £40. It was stated that the business had been managed by the debtor's husband (Louis Ellman), and that the wife was merely a figurehead. A large quantity of goods were said to have been obtained this year, and very many of them had been sent to various auction rooms for sale. According to the bank pass book, a substantial sum of money had recently been withdrawn by the husband, who was said to have left the country, and his present whereabouts were unknown. Mr. Goldberg, a cash creditor for £100, and a relative of the wife, said that the latter was left practically unprovided for. He made an offer to the creditors of a composition of 2s. in the £, but subsequently increased it to 2s. 6d. in the £, which seemed to meet with general acceptance.

MILLER GEORGE, 3, Upper James-st., Golden-square, London, W.C., china and glass dealer. A meeting of the creditors of the above was held on April 13, when a statement of affairs was submitted showing liabilities amounting to £1,980. Of that amount £1,563 1s. 7d. was due to unsecured trade creditors, the balance of £416 18s. 5d. being in respect of cash claims. The assets, after allowing £101 for preferential claims, were expected to produce £879, and were made up as follows :—Book debts, £541, expected to produce £450, and stock-in-trade £730, estimated to realise £530. It was stated that in addition to the liabilities shown on the statement there were cash creditors to the extent of £642. These creditors were friends and relatives of the debtor, who had advanced him sums of money during the past two years, and they were prepared to stand aside if the matter did not go into bankruptcy. For thirty years the debtor was in the employ of a Mr. Turner, of Paddington, but in March, 1905, he started in business for himself. He then had a capital of £400. Subsequently he borrowed £300 from an insurance company, the advance being secured by two friends of the debtor. He also borrowed £150 from a loan office. This amount was still owing, but was also guaranteed by friends. The present position was said to have been brought about by keen competition. On behalf of the debtor an offer was made of a composition of 7s. 6d. in the £, payable at four, eight, and twelve months. No security was offered, and the opinion was expressed that this was not sufficient. After some discussion, the offer was increased to one of 9s. in the £, payable by four instalments of 2s. each at three, six, nine, and twelve months, and the remaining instalment of 1s. at fifteen months. It was stated that the composition would be guaranteed by Mr. Turner, and as additional security a deed of assignment would be executed to Messrs. De Grelle & Co., the largest creditors. A committee of inspection was also appointed. The principal creditors are :—De Grelle & Co., £500 ; Gilbert & Co., £300 ; Johnson & Co., £96 ; J. Round & Sons, £83.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is neeessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first exeeution by the debtor or any ereditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some eases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(*The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the ereditors.*—EDS. P. G.)

JOHNSON ROBT., 11, Rutland-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees, glass and china dealer. Dated March 20. Filed March 24. Liabilities unsecured, £79. Property, after deducting secured claims, £37. Trustee, G. E. Barnes, Literary Institute, Stockton-on-Tees. The following are creditors :—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, £11 ; W. Brain & Co., Longton, £12. Secured creditors, £28.

MCLAINE ARTHUR, 19, Essex-st., Dublin, glass and china merchant. Assignment in trust for benefit of creditors. Dated March

POULENC'S LIQUID GOLD.

2 GRANDS PRIX—PARIS, 1900. | 2 GRANDS PRIX—ST. LOUIS, 1904.

BROWN GOLD. LUSTRE COLOURS.

FABRIQUE DE PRODUITS CHIMIQUES P DE FOSSIL PARIS

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45, Warren Street.

Australian Agent,
Neal Harrison,
Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Paris Agent,
M. Mitaine,
39, Rue Paradis.

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24. Filed March 27. Liabilities unsecured, £710 3s. 2d. Property, after deducting secured claims, £740. Trustee, J. A. Kinnear, 8, Westmoreland-st., Dublin. The following are creditors:—Robert Johnston & Co., London, £28 1s. 2d.; Miss Maud McLaine, Clontarf, £10; J. G. Macintyre, Dublin, £19 2s. 3d.; C. Ashenhurst, Dublin, £64; J. McIntyre, Dublin, £100; Standard Loan Bank, Dublin, £12; Corporation of Dublin, Dublin, £53 14s. 6d.; Meldon & Co., Dublin, £19; Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Etruria, £13 9s. 8d.; John P. Griffith, Rathmines, £200. Bankers' claims, £30 9s. 1d.; secured creditors, £489.

Middleton Benj., Station-rd., Taunton, glass and china merchant. Dated April 8. Filed April 10. Liabilities unsecured, £415. Property, after deducting secured claims, £175. Trustee, W. J. Villar, Taunton. The following are creditors:—John Brock, London, £28; Charles Osborn, Birmingham, £16; Davison & Son, Burslem, £10; Charles Allerton & Sons, Longton, £17; Thomas Cone, Longton, £14; Cartwright & Edwards, Ltd., Longton, £10; Portland Pottery Co. (c.o., &c.), Longton, £10; James Henry Middleton, Newton Abbot, £81; W. H. S. Whitney (c.o., &c.), Taunton, £15; Charles Henry Middleton, Torquay, £50.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

Dash William and Jane Clark (trading as Clark & Dash) china and glass dealers, 66, Cheltenham-st., Swindon, Wilts. The adjourned public examination of these debtors took place last month at County Court Buildings, Clarence-st., Swindon, before Mr. Registrar Kinneir. The last-named debtor was questioned at the previous hearing, and her partner was now asked a few questions. After this had been done, the case was again adjourned.

Griffith Thomas, Vernelnewydd, Loughor, and David Thomas, Brynffynon, Loughor, trading as the Bynea Silica Brick Co., Bynea, brick manufacturers. R.O. March 23. Adj. March 23.

Hewitt William, of Hampton Grange, and Victoria Tile Works, Hereford, came up at Hereford Bankruptcy Court on April 3 for his first public examination. His gross liabilities are put at £17,595 of which £13,140 14s. are expected to rank for dividend, £8,726 8s. 8d. being represented by twenty-two unsecured creditors, and £4,414 5s. 10d. by one creditor partly secured. The assets are estimated to produce £8,583 8s. 9d., including £4,952 in shares, leaving a deficiency of £4,557 5s. 9d. The debtor, who is now forty-eight years of age, said he commenced business as a tile manufacturer in 1884 in partnership with Mr. Henry Godwin, under the style of Godwin & Hewitt. The premises were purchased for £2,800, of which £1,800 was raised on mortgage. The debtor had no previous knowledge of this kind of business, and his contribution to the capital was £1,400, as against Mr. Godwin's £400 and long experience. Each partner was entitled to a half-share. The debtor's £1,400 was provided by his mother, who was now a creditor for a much larger amount. After the first two or three years the business became very prosperous; the profits grew from about £600 to £3,000 a year, and the partners were content with small drawings. In 1894 Mr. Godwin retired, and an agreed valuation was fixed at £29,000. Mr. Godwin was paid £4,500 in cash, and the balance in the course of a few years. From 1894 to 1901 the debtor carried on business alone, and the profits fluctuated. In 1899 he raised more capital for extensions, and in 1901 converted the business into a limited liability company with a capital of £25,000. Debentures amounting to £12,000 were taken up, and with this sum the debtor was enabled to pay off £10,000 due on his bank overdraft. He acted as managing director of the company at a salary of £350. The dividend subsequently fell from 7 to 1 per cent., and the depression continued.

Mills Henry Hunt, china and glass dealer, 138, 140, and 142, Holland Park-avenue, W. This case came before Mr. Justice Bigham, sitting as Bankruptcy Judge, on March 30, in connection with an application by Mr. William Mills to have the rejection of his proof of debt set aside. The failure occurred last year, the debtor returning his liabilities at £47,353 3s., of which £7,329 2s. 3d. were expected to rank, and his estimated net assets at £7,203 14s. 7d. Mr. Rankin represented Mr. William Mills, who is a brother of the bankrupt, while Mr. F. Mellor appeared for Mr. Spence, the trustee in bankruptcy. It was stated by Mr. Rankin that he confined his client's proof of debt to items relating to (*a*) £1,800, money lent to the bankrupt, who invested it in certain real property; (*b*) £98, representing arrears of salary; and (*c*) a balance of £190 for interest. The trustee rejected the proof on the grounds that the applicant's right to prove in respect of the money advances and interest was barred by the statute of limitations, and that no arrears of salary were due, there having never been any contract to pay such salary. Continuing, Mr. Rankin stated that the £1,800 came to the applicant in 1887 and 1888 from the estates of his mother and father; he advanced that money to the bankrupt in sums of £200, £400, £400, and £800 respectively, and until 1899 interest was paid on the loans more or less regularly In that year, however, the applicant became tenant of a house at Southsea which belonged to the bankrupt, the rental being £25 a year, and an agreement was then entered into under which, instead of the applicant paying the rent, rates, and taxes in respect of the house, the annual amount of £36 6s. 6d. was to be set off the interest due to him on the loans. Further, the bankrupt agreed to pay an annual sum of £31 17s. 8d. in respect of the mortgage interest, rates, and insurance relating to some houses at Portsmouth which belonged to the applicant; and after allowing for that sum and the other sum of £36 6s. 6d. there was left a balance of £21 15s. 10d. a year, which was allowed to run on from January, 1899, until Oct. 11 last, when the failure occurred. The applicant then went into the witness box, and gave evidence bearing out his counsel's statements, and the bankrupt gave evidence to the same effect. In giving judgment, his lordship said that he was compelled to accept the evidence that money was owing to the applicant; he had, however, to admit that he did not like it, and he should reduce the proof by the first loan of £200 on the ground that the money was lent for partnership purposes. The claims for the interest balance and arrears of salary would also be disallowed, and the proof would accordingly be reduced to £1,730. No costs would be allowed to the applicant; the trustee would, however, take his out of the estate. Order was entered accordingly.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

Bottle Blowing Machines, No. 6,367.—A. Schiller. Improvements in or relating to bottle blowing machines. March 21, 1908.

Bottle Necks, No. 6,779.—H. W. Dawson. Improvements in and relating to bottle necks. March 26, 1908.

Ceramic Material Feeding Apparatus, No. 6,668.—R. R. Maschinenfabrik Gaublitz G.m.B.H. Feeding apparatus for ceramic materials. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, March 25, 1907.)

Chimney Pots, No. 6360.—S. Pyean. Improvements in or connected with chimney pots. March 21, 1908.

China Ornamentation, No. 5,866.—H. L. Sulman and H. F. K. Picard. Improvements in or relating to the ornamentation of articles of china, porcelain, earthenware and the like. March 16, 1908.

Cooking Vessel Handles, No. 7,336.—H. Shankland. Improvements in securing handles to cooking vessels and other vessels of earthenware, china, glass and the like. April 2, 1908.

Glass Bottles, No. 6,225.—T. W. Simpson. Improved machine for manufacturing glass bottles. March 20, 1908.

Glass Jars, No. 5,364.—The Nes Anchor and Cross Bottle Works Syndicate, Ltd., and W. M. Lamont. Improvements in the method of and means for making glass jars and the like. March 10, 1908.

Glass Manufacture, No. 6,560.—A. W. Onslow. Improvements in the manufacture of glass and apparatus therefor. March 24, 1908.

Glass Shelf Clips, No. 5,710.—C. Southall. Improvements in metal clips for glass shelves and in the manufacture of the same. March 13, 1908.

Indicating Bottle, No. 5,978.—W. C. Schmidt. Indicating bottle. March 17, 1908.

Lavatory Basins, No. 7,137.—W. Hassall. Improvements in or connected with lavatory basins. March 31, 1908.

Metallic Coatings to China Articles, No. 7,230.—H. L. Sulman and H. F. Kirkpatrick Picard. Improvements in or relating to the application of metallic coatings to articles of china, porcelain, earthenware, glass and the like. April 1, 1908.

Sanitary Utensils, No. 5,838.—J. W. Fearnley. Improvements in sanitary utensils for bedrooms, &c. March 16, 1908.

Scent Bottles, No. 5,407.—M. W. Carmichael and E. H. Wild. Improvements in and relating to scent bottles. March 10, 1908.

Screw Sanitary Pipe Machines, No. 7,244.—T. C. Fawcett, Ltd., and J. D. Fawcett. Improvements in or relating to screw sanitary pipe machines. April 1, 1908.

Scrimp Rail, No. 7,446.—S. Uren. White porcelain scrimp rail. April 3, 1908.

Specifications Published

1907.

12,465.—Neumann. Grinding or polishing machines for facetting hollow glass ware and the like.

5,123.—Bloxam (Risler & Co.). Manufacture of an improved ceramic mass and of ware therefrom.

6,012.—Koenig. Apparatus for producing hollow glass ware.

5,879.—Pilkington. Apparatus for the manufacture of glass sheets or plates.

20,222.—Marks (Colburn). Machines for drawing sheet glass.

23,402.—Higginbotham. Bottles.

20,505.—Owens European Bottle Machine Co. & Schwenzefcier. Glass melting tanks or furnaces.

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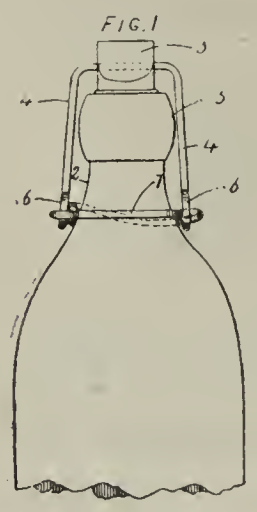
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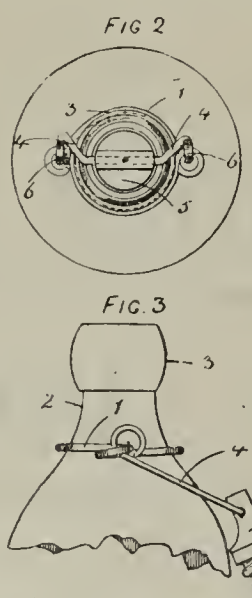
Designs.

519,973.—W. Poulton, Hillington, Reading.
520,225.—J. W. Walsh, Lodge-rd., Birmingham.
520,368-9.—W. Vale & Sons, 83, Unett-st., Hockley.
520,424-6.—C. Davis, 147, New Bond-st., London.
520,519.—Southall Bros. & Barelay, Ltd., Birmingham.
520,526.—Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C.
520,546.—C. Twigg & Co., 72, Potters'-hill, Aston, Birmingham.
520,548.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
520,549.—G. Polkey, Ltd., Pitsford-st., Birmingham.
520,673.—A. D. Brogan and A. M. Malloch, 99, Murano-st., Firhill, Glasgow.
520,794.—Burtles Tate & Co. Poland-st., Manchester.
520,227.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
520,598.—Jules Lang & Son, 16, Bury-st., E.C.
520,674.—George Davidson & Co., Teams Glass Works, Gateshead.
520,677.—C. T. Maling & Sons, Ford Potteries, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
520,710.—Wiltshaw Robinson & Son, Copeland-st., Stoke on-Trent.
520,712.—Bevington & Bell, 5, Cromford-c^{t}., Manchester.
520,713.—Furnivals, Ltd., Cobridge.
520,736.—Rheinische Glashutten-A.G. Ferns-prech-Ausschluss, 102, Amt Ehrenfeld, Germany.
520,803.—Featherstone & Gray, 9, Farringdon-avenue, E.C.
520,878.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E C.
520,954 —Empire Poreelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent.
521,091.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.
519,697.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
520,973.—Worcester Royal Poreelain Co., Ltd., Woreester.
520,092-4.—A. W. Redding, 7, Tennis Court-terrace, Cambridge.
521,228.—J. Shanks, Tubal Works. Barrhead, Renfrewshire.
521,270.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
521,284.—C T. Maling & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
520,509.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
520,714.—John Tams & Sons, Stafford-st., Longton.
521,145.—S. Reich & Co., 23, Aldermanbury, E.C.
521,147.—R. H. & S. L. Plant, Tuscan Works, Longton.
521,217.—Jules Lang & Son, 16, Bury-st., E.C.
521,285-6.—M. W. Carmichael, 1B, Montague Mansions, Baker-st., and E. H. Wild, 70, Bank-st., Clayton, Manchester.
521,595.—C. T. Maling & Sons, Ford Potteries, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
521,700.—E. C. Pembrey, 6, Trafalgar-rd., Old Kent-rd., S.E.
521,702.—The Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.

Latest Complete Specifications.

Improvements in Screw Stoppers for Bottles.—P. Barrie, of the firm of G. & P. Barrie, 164, Maxwell-road, Glasgow, declares the invention to be as follows :—This invention has reference to and comprises improvements in and relating to screw stoppers for bottles, more particularly such as are used for ærated waters, and has for its object





to prevent the loss or mislaying of the stopper when removed from the bottle, by a permanent attachment which will not interfere with the turning of the stopper. In carrying into effect or practice the improvements of this invention under one modification, a ring, which may be of wire connected at its ends by loops, is placed on the neck of the bottle. The ring is made of a diameter to allow of easy movement on the neck, but not great enough to allow it to pass over the enlarged part at the mouth of the bottle. A wire of arched shape is passed through the upper part of the stopper and is connected to the wire ring by loops at opposite sides of same. Fitted in this way, the stopper may be turned along with the wire ring until released from the bottle-mouth, but cannot be lost while connected to the wire ring. Instead of a wire ring, a ring of any suitable material may be employed, such as chain, cord, or the like, and instead of an arch-shaped wire, a single connection of wire or chain may be connected to the ring and stopper and may be fitted with a swivel joint if required. The stopper may also be made with a groove near the top in which a ring may be fitted ; this ring may be made of wire or any other suitable material, and may have two projections or loops opposite each other to which two looped pieces of wire are attached, the other end of said wires being attached to the loops of the ring fitted to the bottle. This invention, though more especially applicable to aerated water-bottles, is also applicable to other bottles fitted with screw stoppers, the essential feature of the invention being the connection of the stopper to the bottle in such a manner as not to interfere with its ordinary use.

New Foreign Patents

United States Patents.

880,961.—F. C. Blanchard, Bridgeport, Conn. Lavatory basin.
881,096.—J. H. Crosskey, Pittsburg, Pa. Glass-gathering apparatus.
881,333.—G. W. Palmer and F. E. Pieree, Lancaster, Mass. Closet bowl.
881,889.—A. G. Baker, Stockton, Cal. Paste-bottle.
881,913.—F. G. Farnham, Homesdale, Pa. Deviees for manipulating glass artieles.
881,914.—F. G. Farnham, Homesdale, Pa. Deviees for manipulating glass articles.
882,115.—V. Kinon, Aix-la-Chapelle, Germany. Maehine for grinding and polishing the edges of plates of glass, marble and the like.
881,899.—C. F. Chapman, Philadelphia, Pa. Implement for cutting shaped sections from glass sheets.
882.190.—J. T. Fagan, Cleveland, Ohio. Machine for heating glass tubes.
881,906.—J. Cullen, McGirk, Mo. Poultry fountain.
883,039.—E. Morenus, Cleveland, N.Y. Method of producing glass.

EMPIRE NOTES.

The Imports of Newfoundland during the last fiscal year, included $28,701 worth of china and earthenware from the United Kingdom, $5,039 worth from Canada and $544 worth from the Unied States. Of glassware, the United Kingdom supplied $16,710 worth, Canada $7,182 worth, and the United States $13,114 worth.

Earthenware, China and Graniteware to the following values were imported into Canada during the nine months ending December, 1907 :—Great Britain, $1,032,304 ; United States, $184,333 ; Germany, $242,336 ; other countries, $276,965 ; total, $1,735,938. All these figures show a steady growth except the share of the U.S.A., which is declining.

Bauxite in British India.—Considerable attention was aroused two or three years ago by the bauxite deposits of the central provinces of British India, and several firms were considering the possibility of floating companies to exploit them ; but, for various reasons, principally the financial depression in Europe, the matter has dropped out of sight to some extent recently, though there is every hope that, with the improvement of the London money market, this will be one of the earliest schemes to excite the interest of those who wish to find an Indian market for their investments. The deposits are found both in the Jubbulpore and Balaghat districts of the Central Provinces. In the latter district they are exceedingly extensive and of very high quality ; and analyses have been made by the Geological Survey Department, with, it is believed, the result of disclosing the presence of unusually large percentages of alumina.

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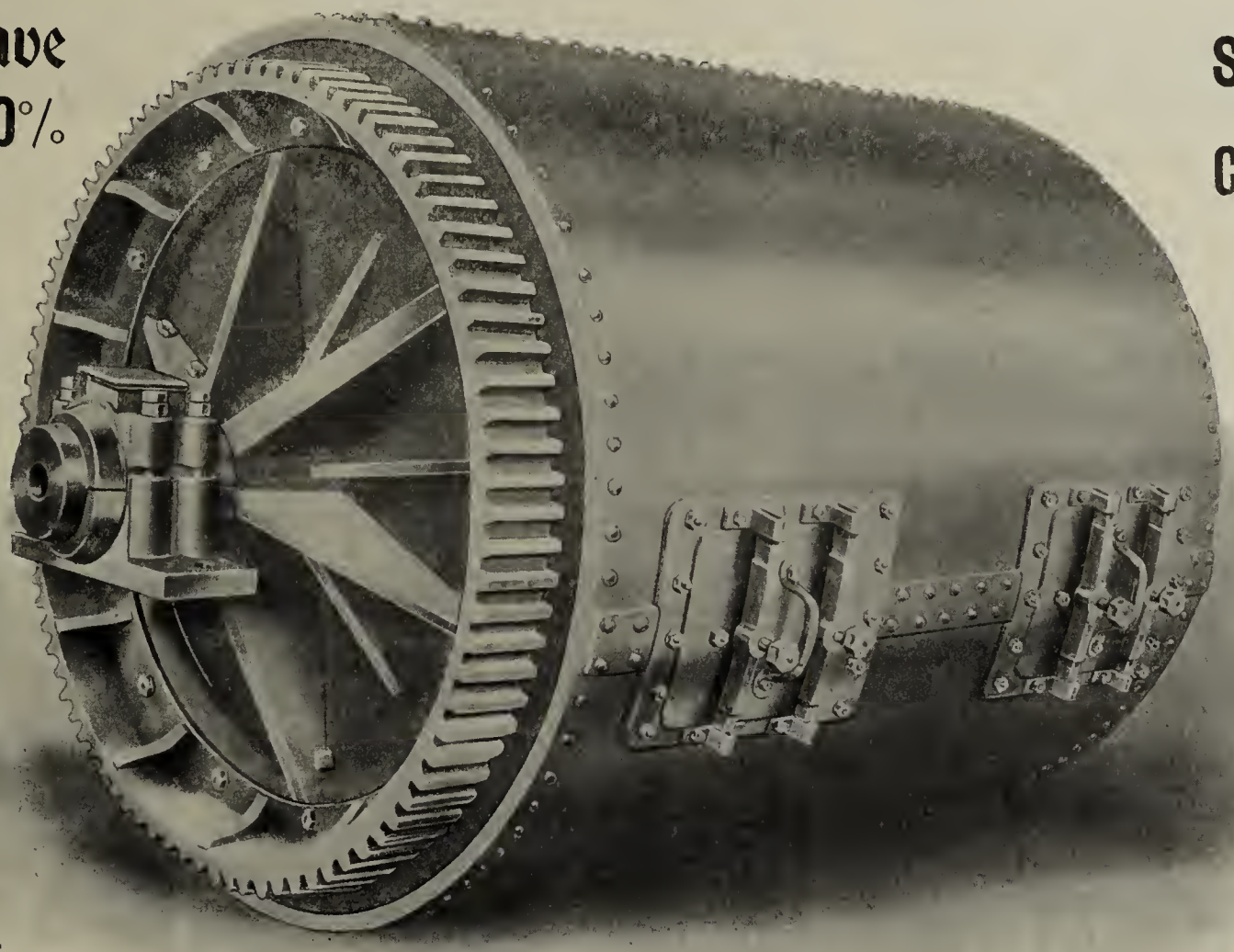
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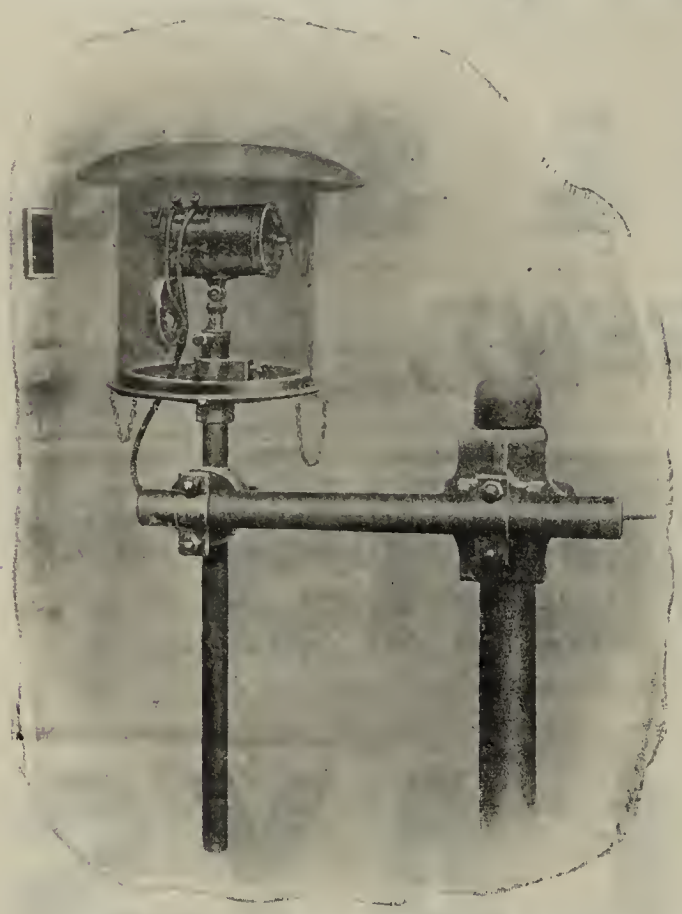
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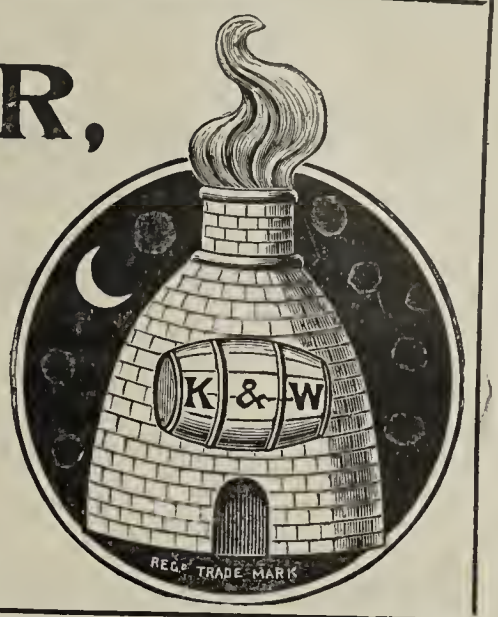
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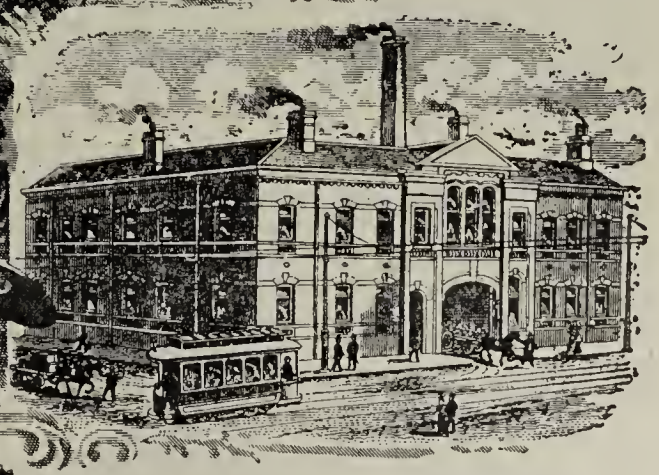


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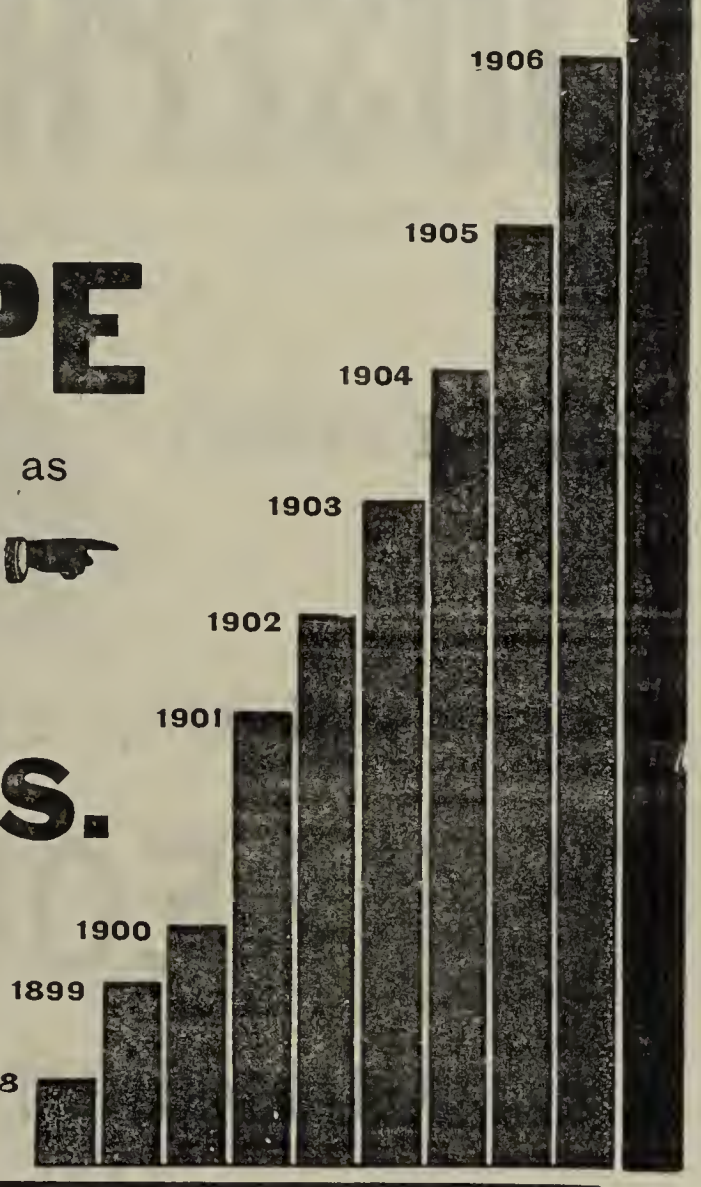
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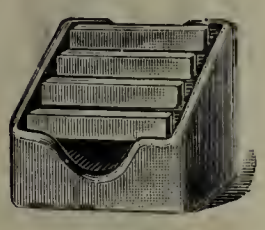
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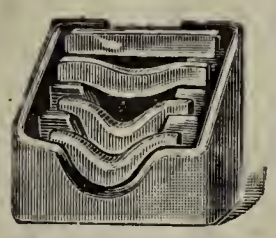
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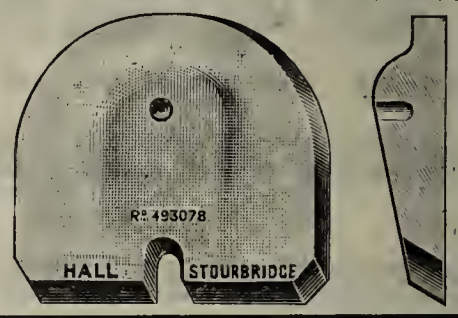
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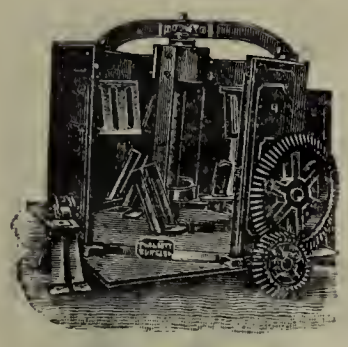
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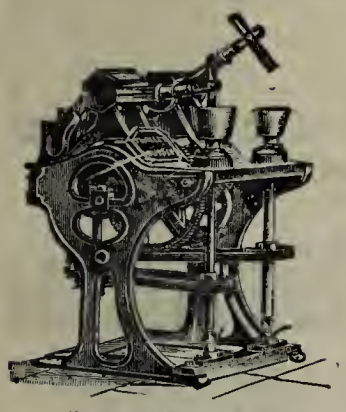
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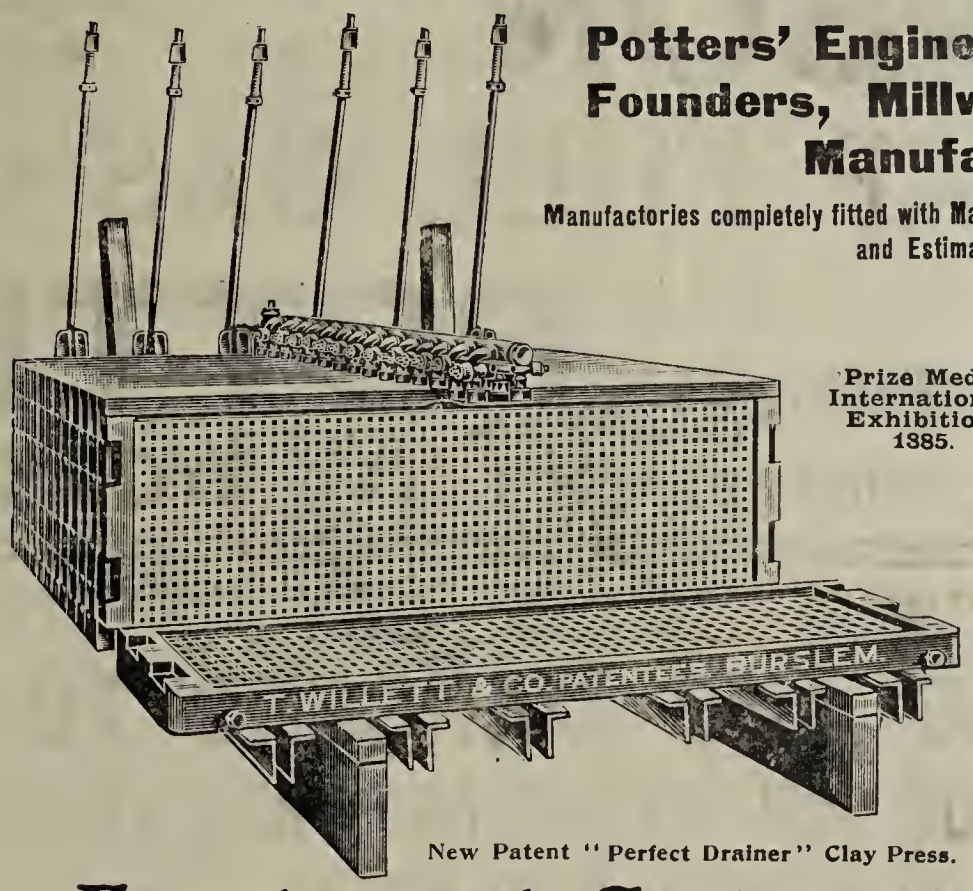
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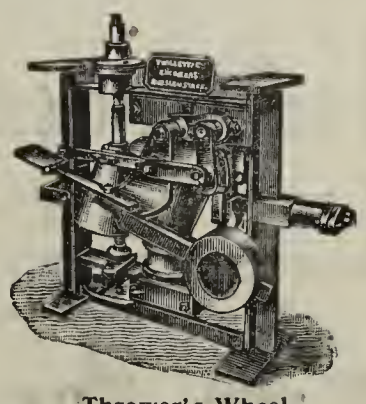


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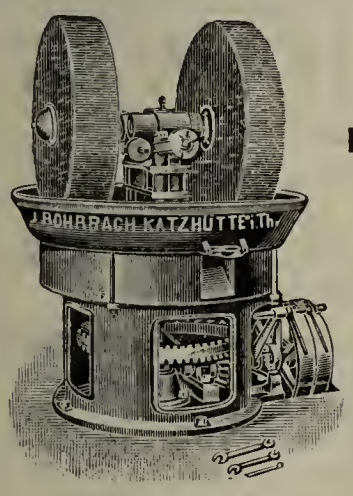
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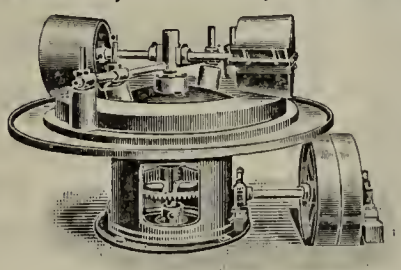
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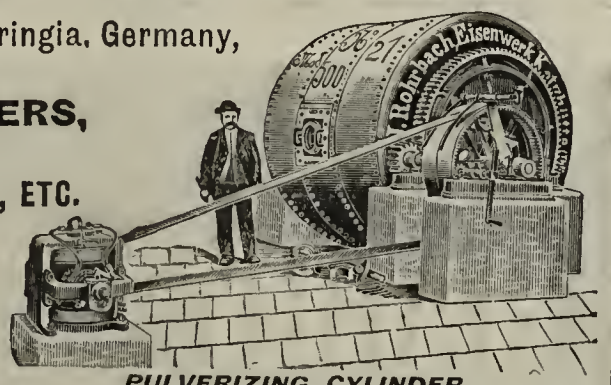
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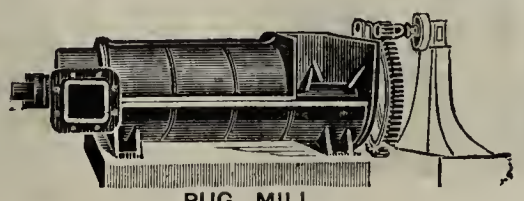
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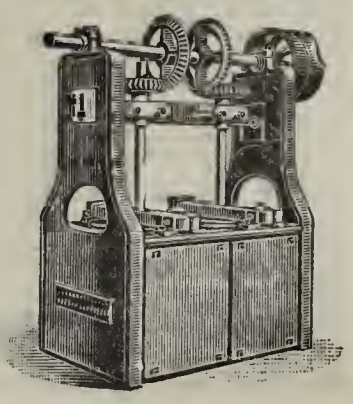
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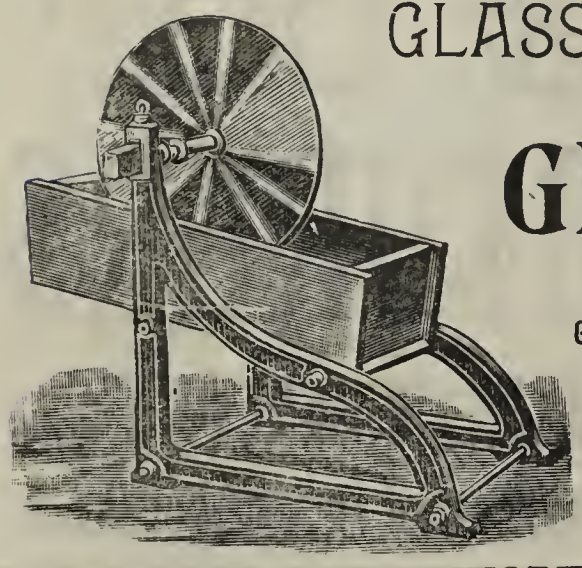
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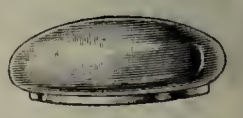
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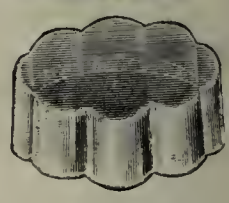
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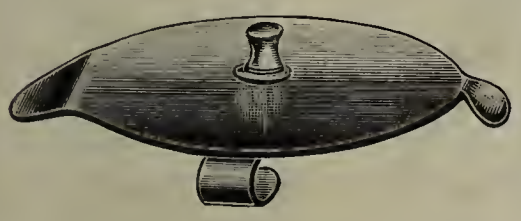
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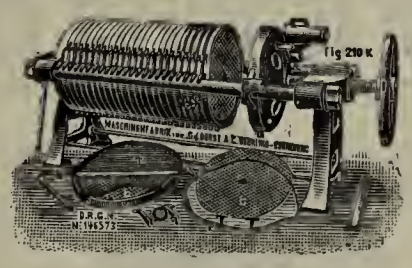
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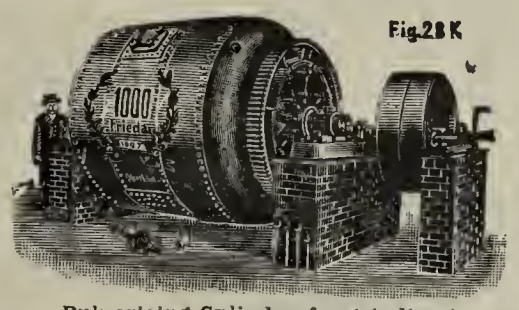
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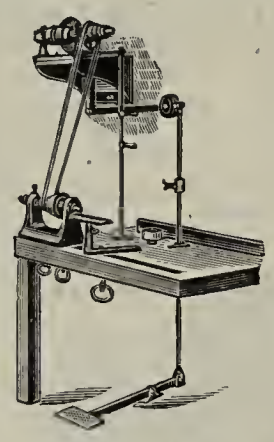
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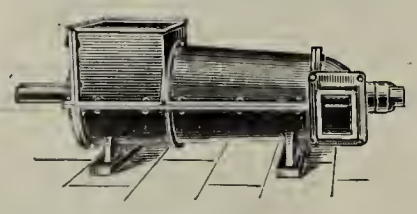


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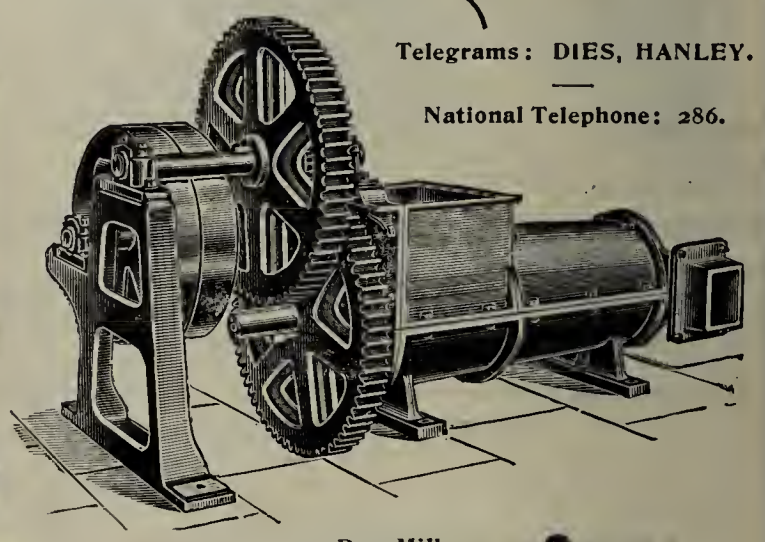
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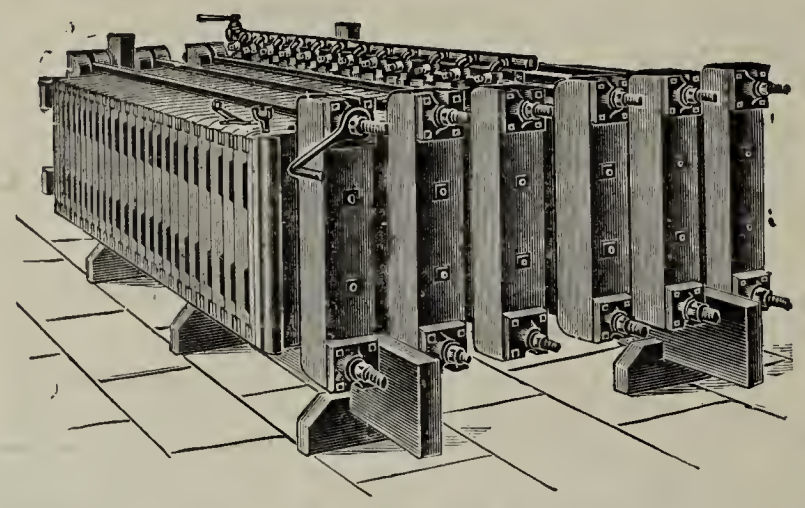
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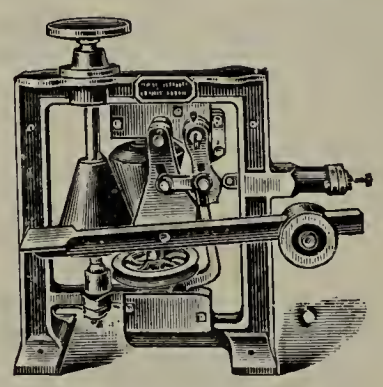


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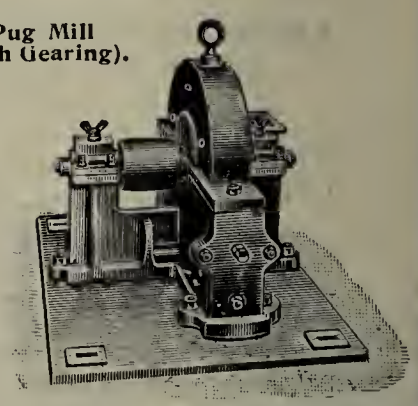


Filter Press.

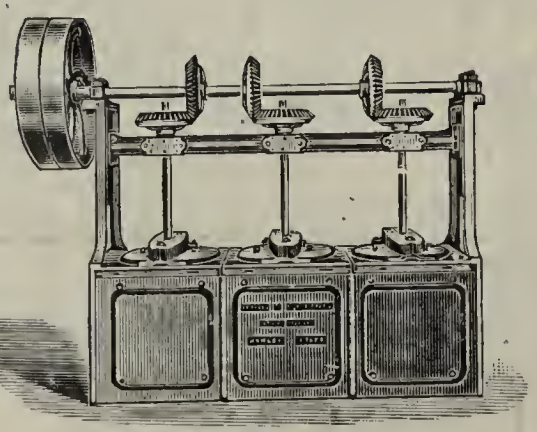


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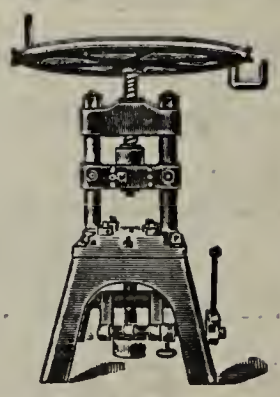
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



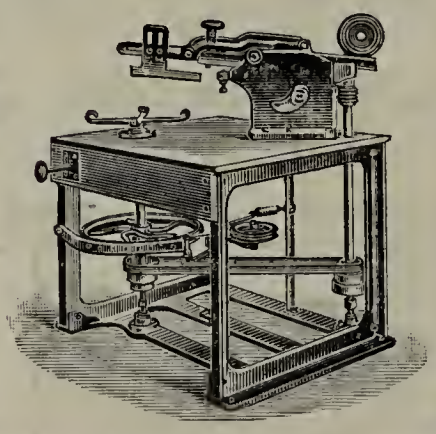
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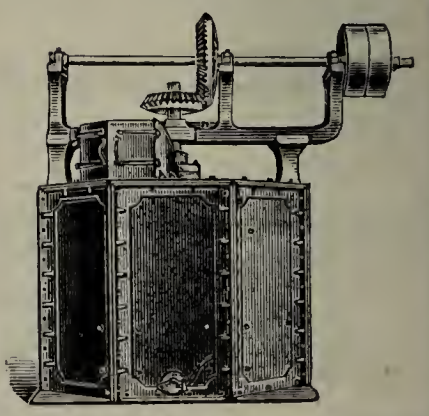
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Continued on page 620.

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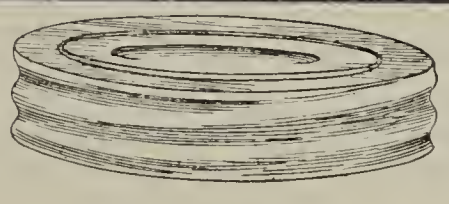
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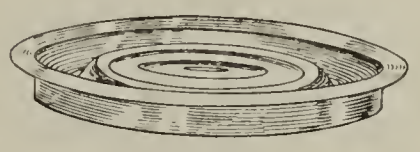
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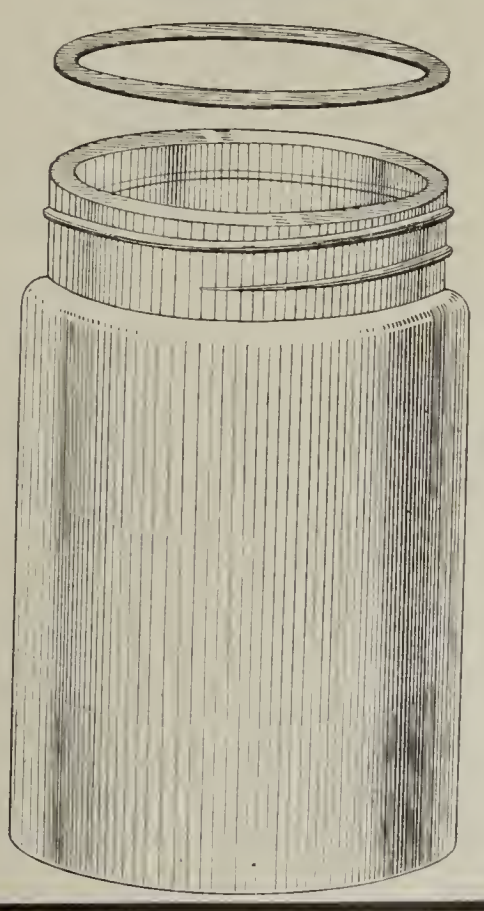
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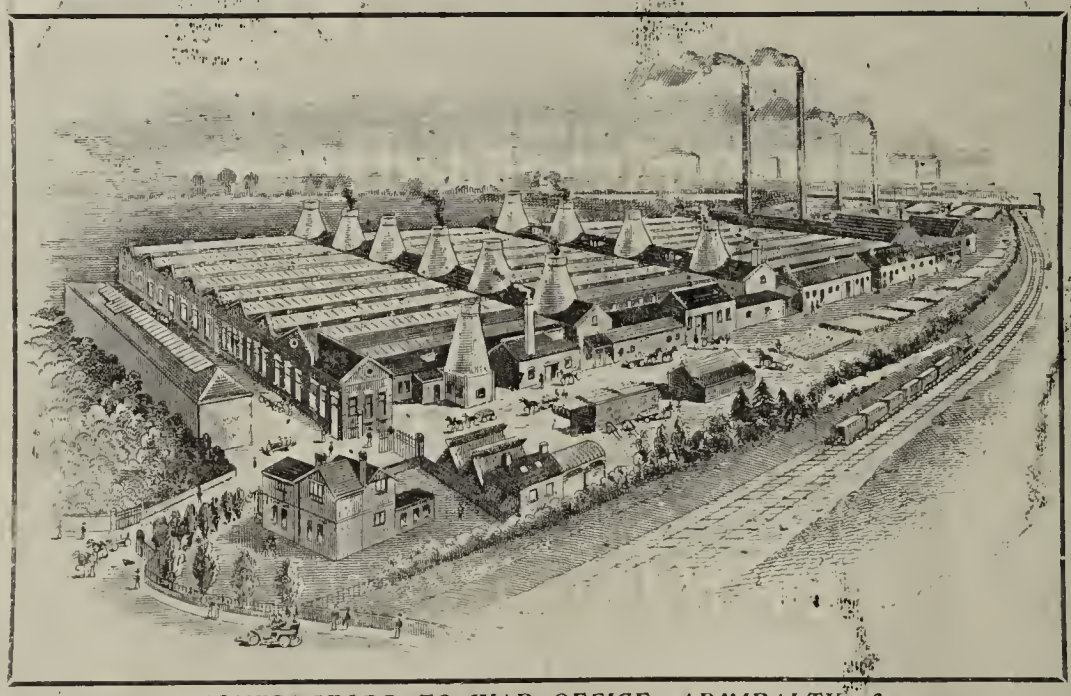
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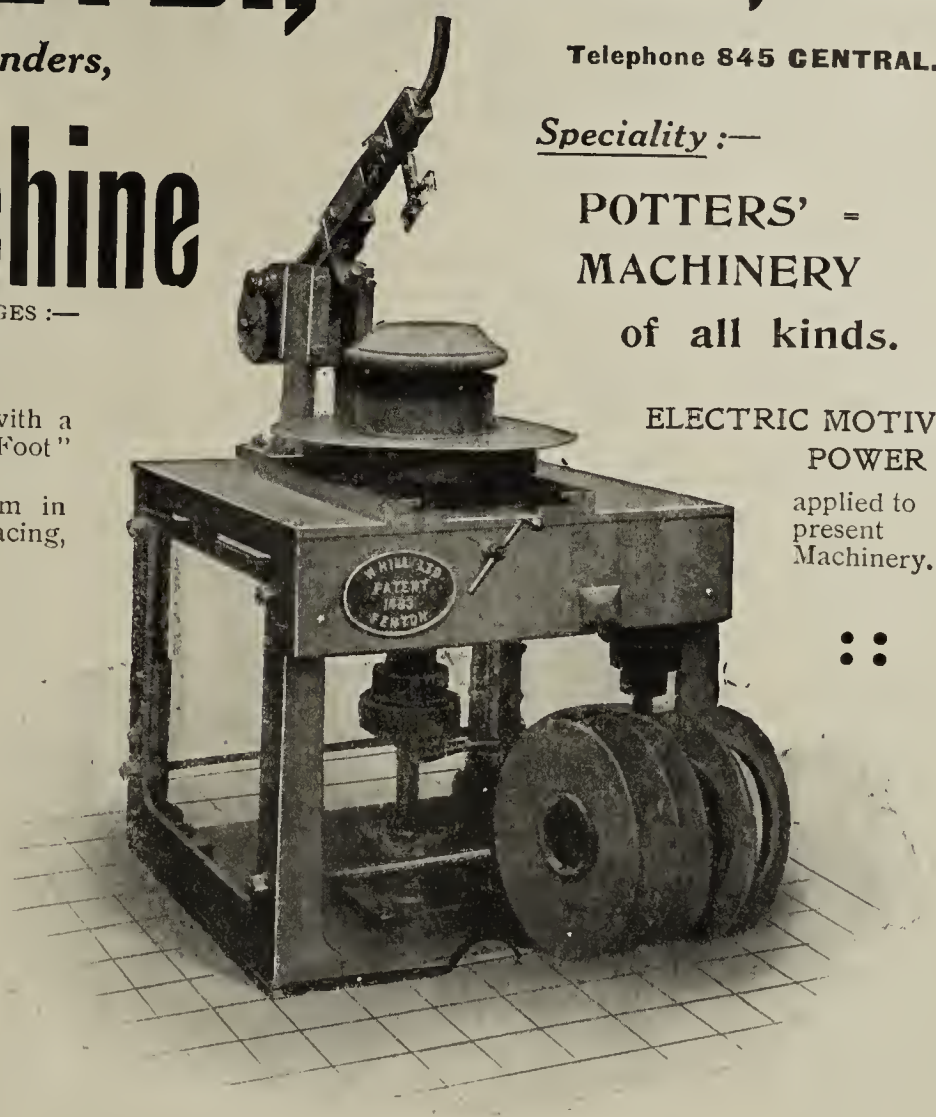
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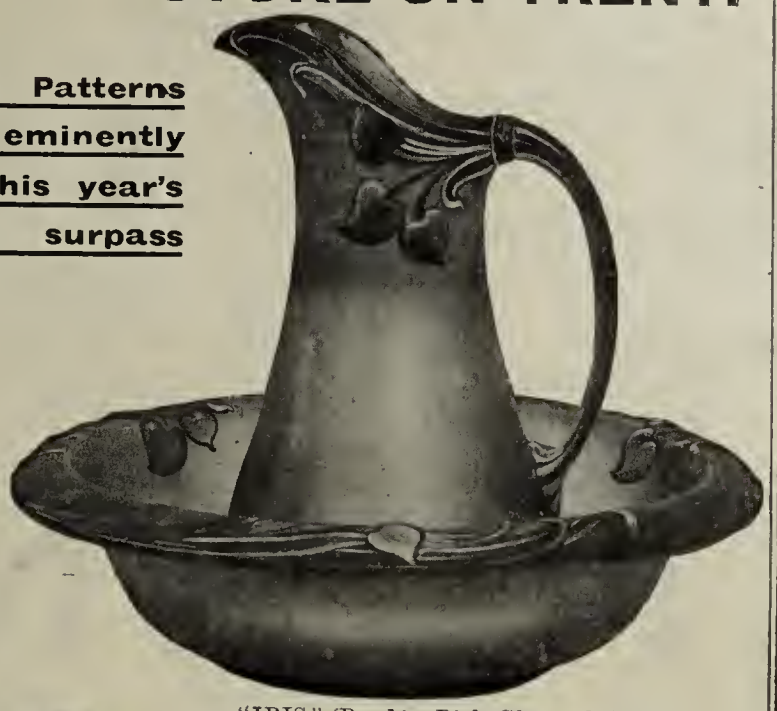
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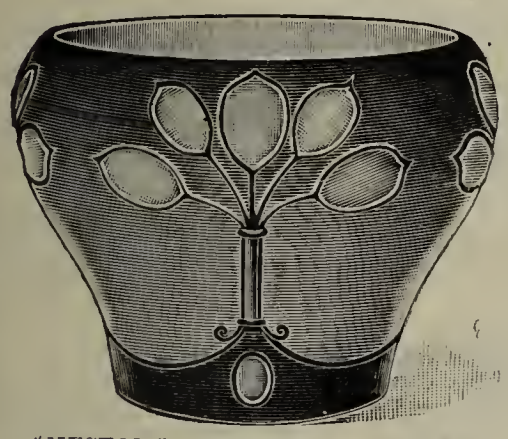
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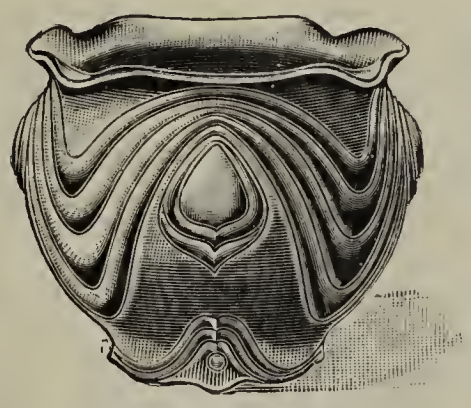
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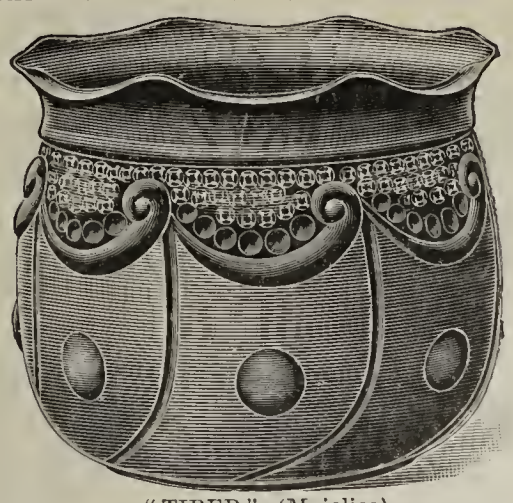
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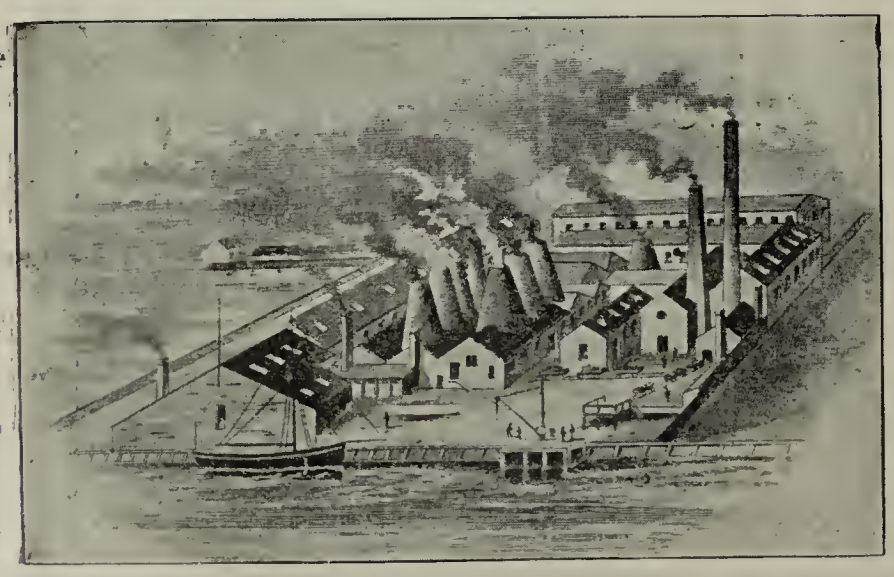
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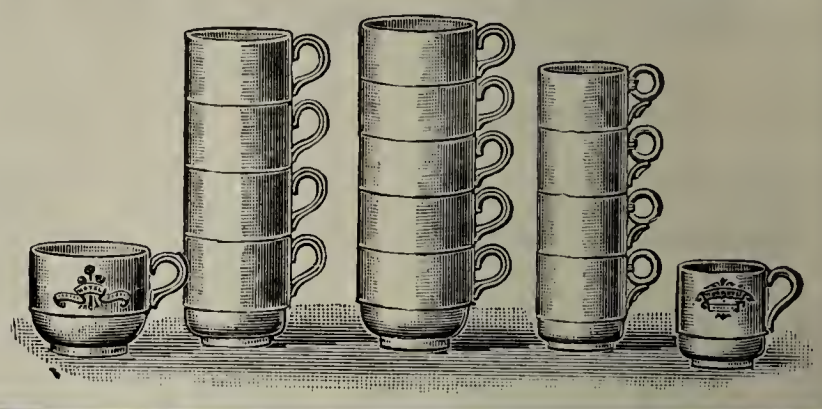
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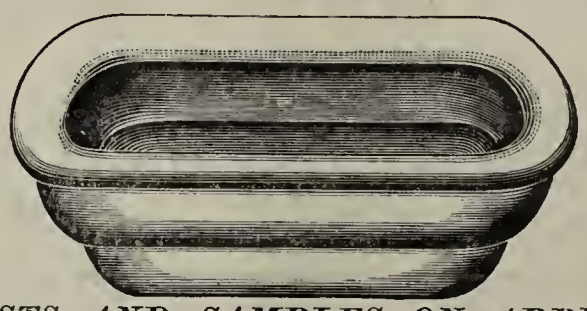
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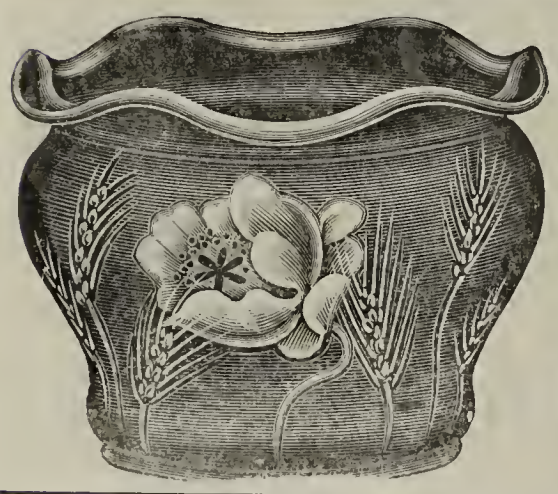
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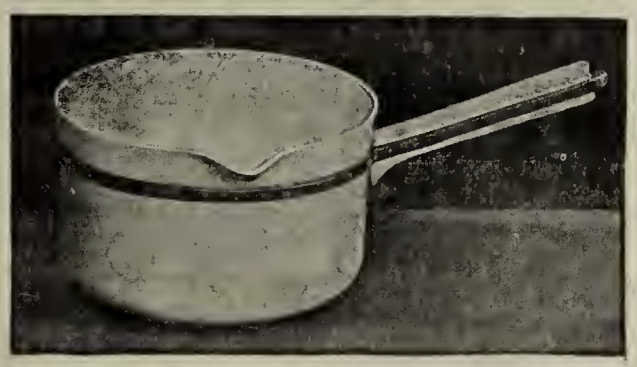
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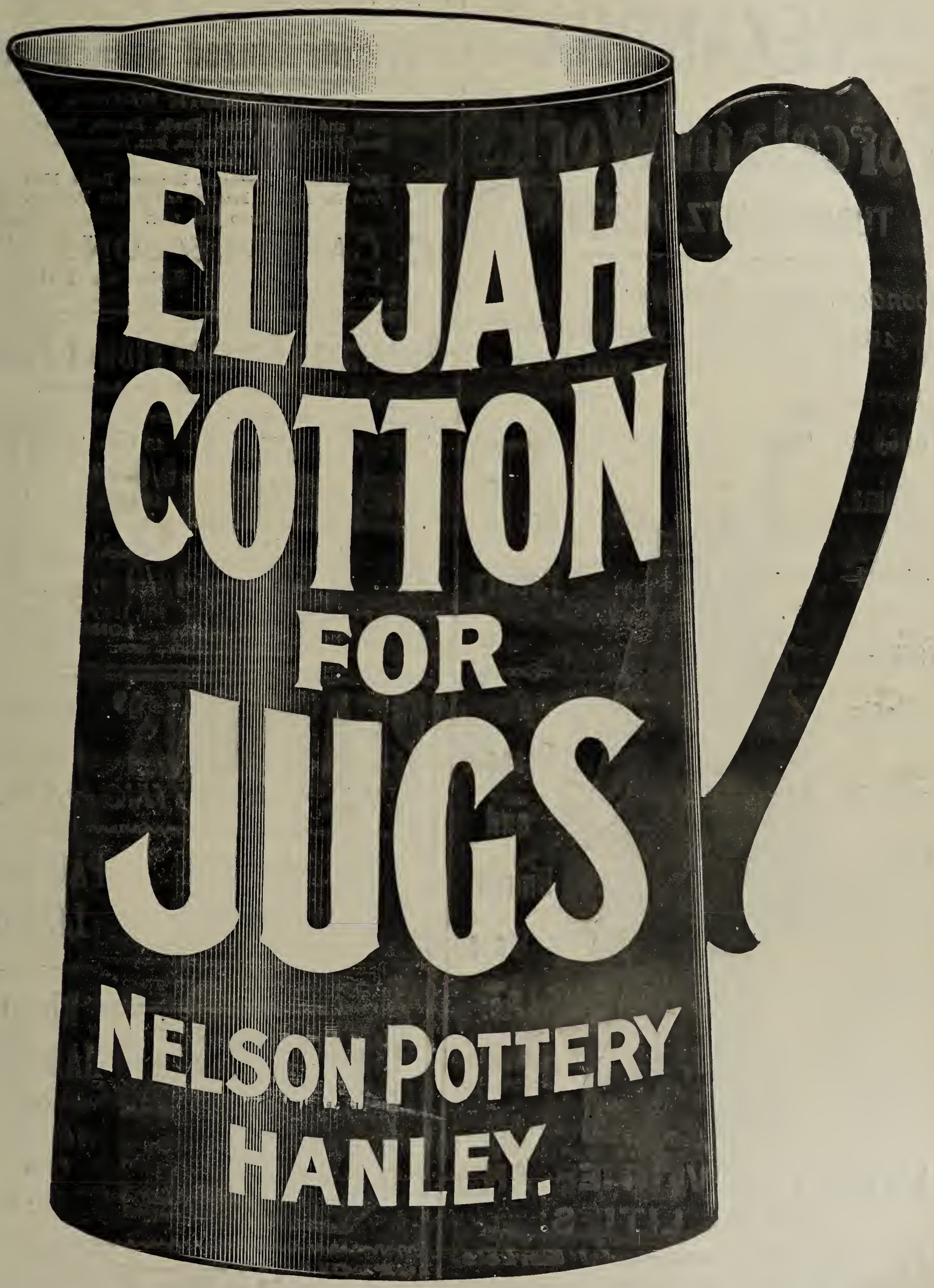
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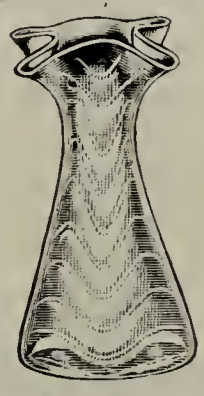
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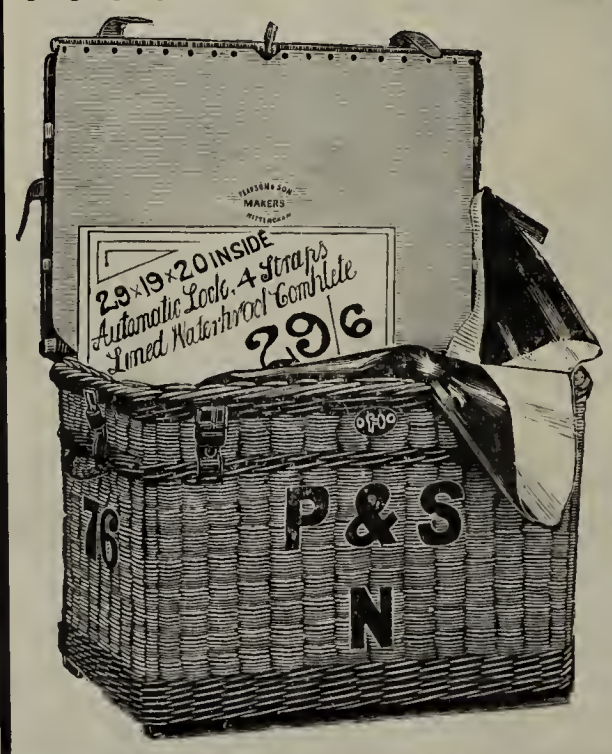
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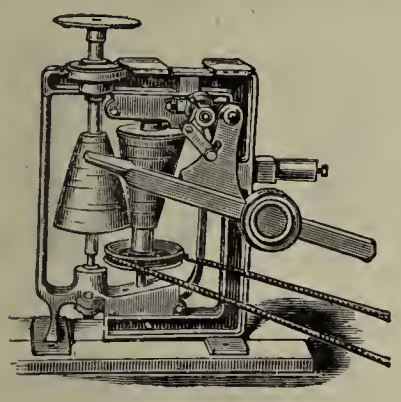
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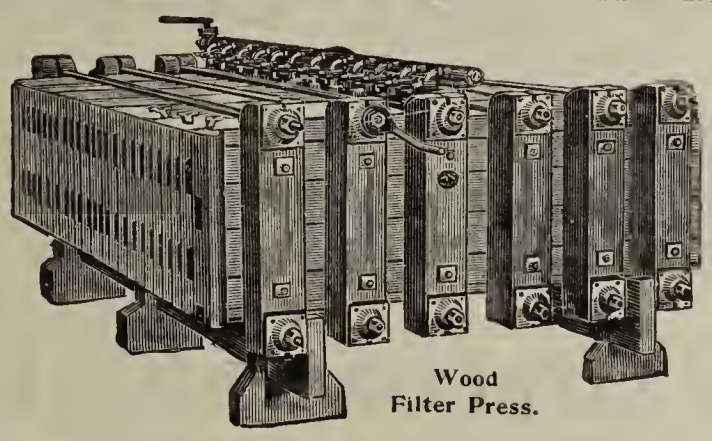
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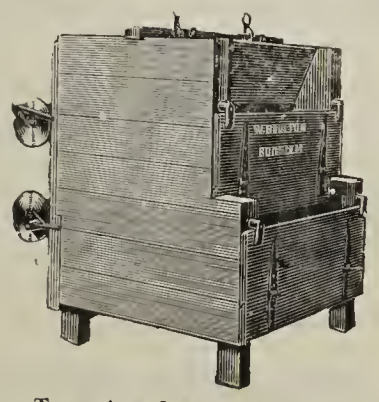
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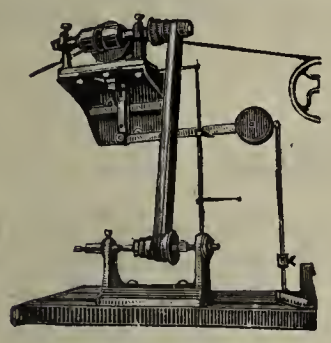
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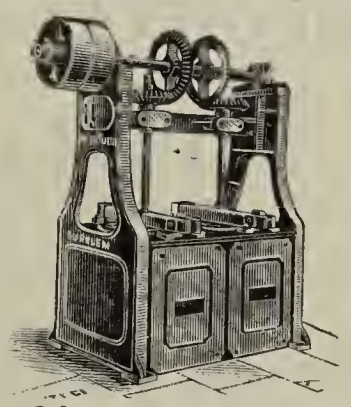
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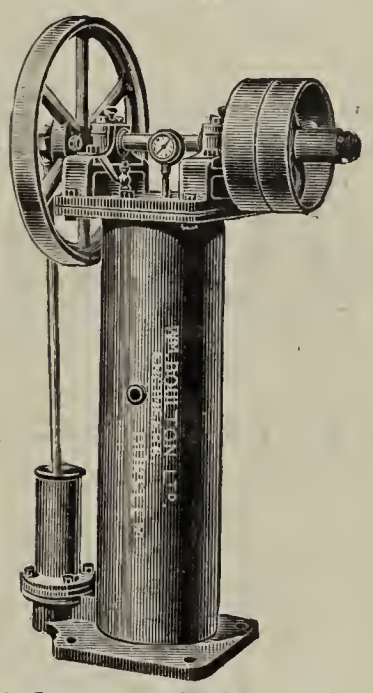
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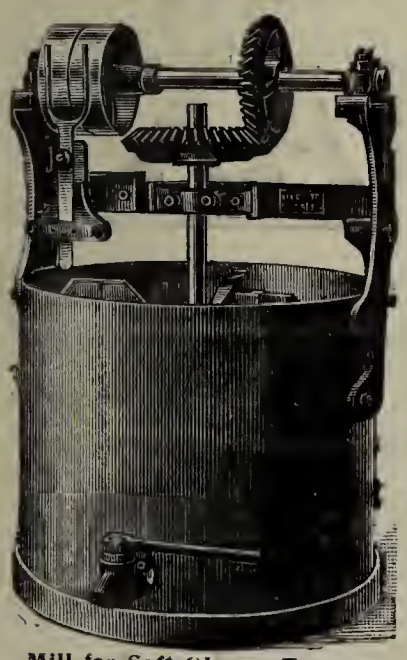
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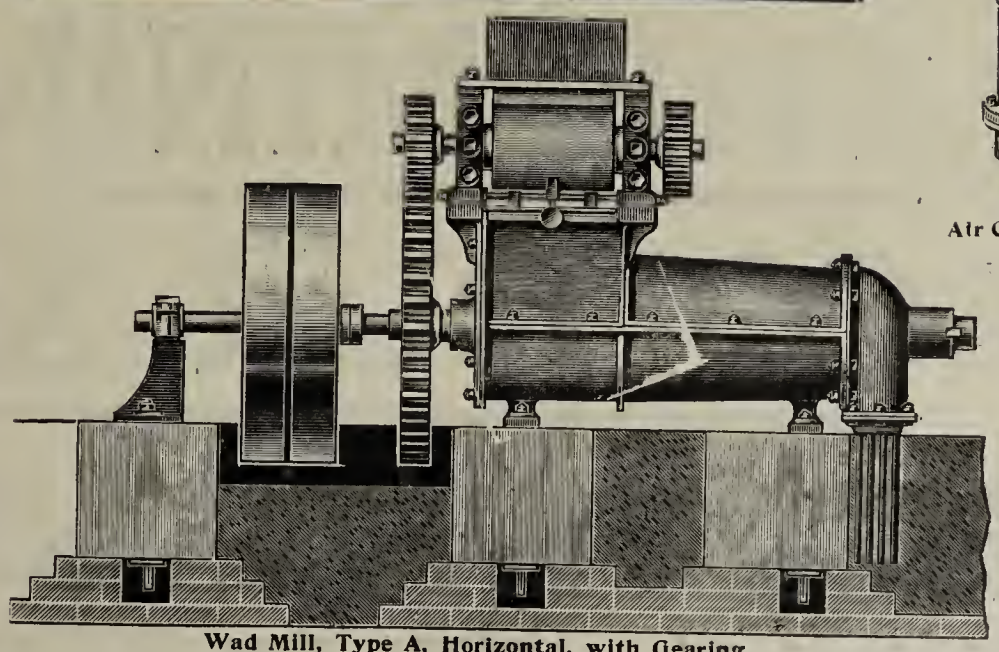
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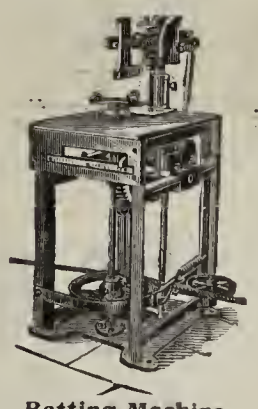
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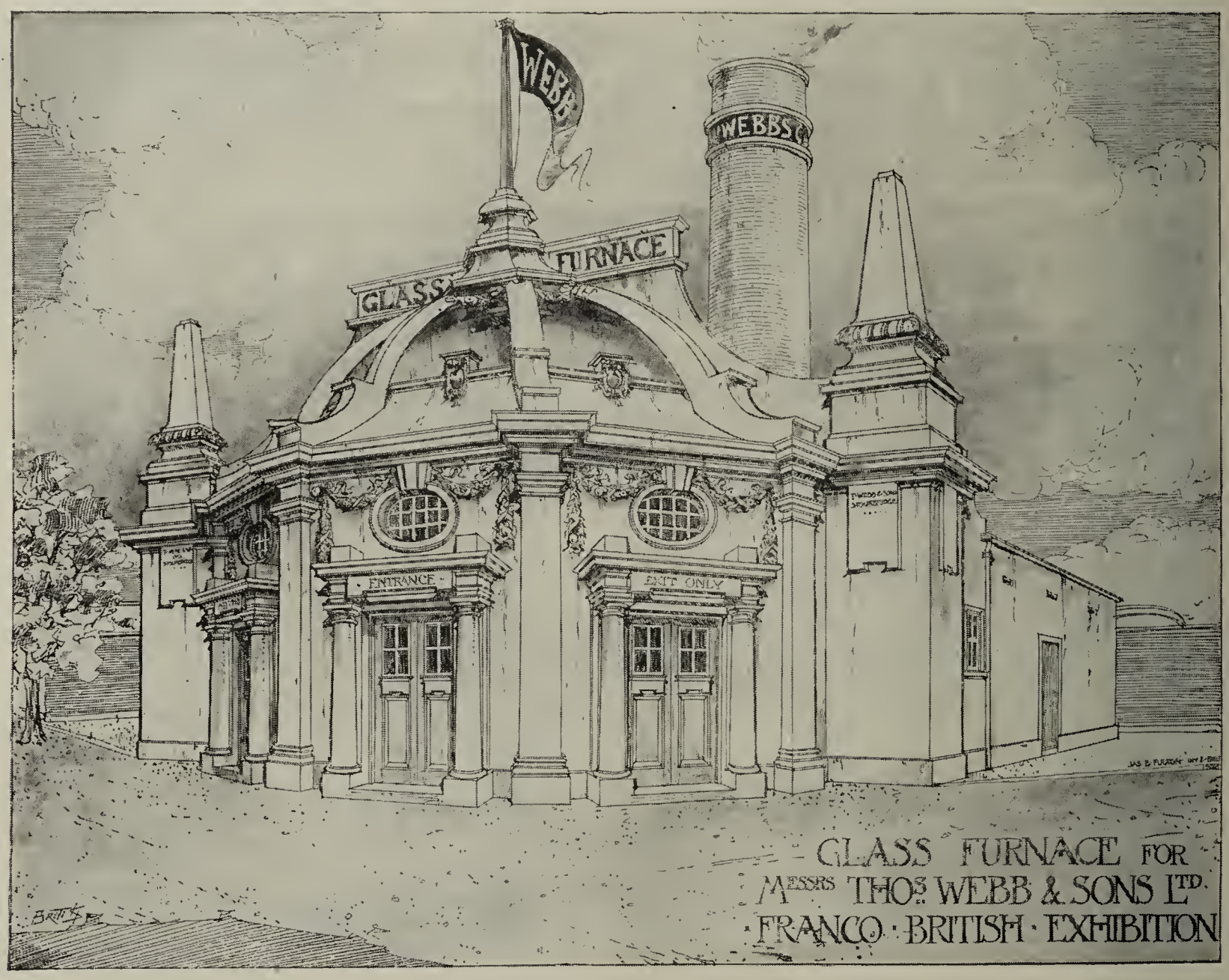
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Editorial Notes.

BANKRUPTCY LAW REFORM.

MATTER of considerable interest to the commercial and trading community will be found in the report just issued of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to inquire into the workings of the Bankruptcy laws. The committee was instructed to inquire "into the effect of the provisions of the laws at present in force in England in relation to bankruptcy, deeds of arrangement, and compositions by insolvent debtors with their creditors, the prevention and punishment of frauds by debtors on their creditors, and the points in which those laws and the procedure under them require amendment. The committee are of opinion that when facts are disclosed which show that a debtor has committed an offence for which he ought to be prosecuted, the prosecution (and on conviction the punishment) should follow speedily and decisively. They recommend that all acts or defaults of a debtor, which are now, or which may be made, offences, shall be punishable on summary conviction before a magistrate; that the prosecution be conducted by the Official Receiver, and that the burden of proving absence of intention to defraud should be cast upon the debtor. Another important recommendation of the committee is that the failure or omission of a debtor who becomes bankrupt to have kept any books of account, or proper books of account, if without excuse should be made by law an offence punishable on summary conviction by imprisonment. But they recommend that a debtor shall not be punished if he can show that his failure to keep books was honest and did not contribute to his bankruptcy. The committee also recommend that the existing penal provisions for dealing with undischarged bankrupts who carry on business under assumed names without disclosing their identity shall be strengthened. Other subjects dealt with in the report are voluntary deeds of arrangement, hire purchase agreements, and the administration of the estates of small debtors.

THE COMMITTEE ON LEAD POISONING.

WE feel sure that everyone connected with pottery manufacture will be glad that the Home Secretary has appointed a committee to make further inquiry as to the use of lead in the course of it. That further inquiry is desirable is generally admitted, though the reasons for the admission are not always the same. For our own part, we think that a further authoritative investigation is better than the constant unreasonable demands of faddists, who support their claims by misquoting statistics. The composition of the committee is another reason for satisfaction. Some may think manufacturers are not sufficiently represented, and that in a committee of nine, there should be more than two—especially as one of these two is not usually classed as a practical manufacturer. Mr. Wm. Burton has the confidence of the whole body of manufacturers, and has been their accredited representative in negotiations with the Government, for many years past. He is a scientific, as well as a practical potter, and knows as much as any man living of the possibilities of pottery, with, and

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without, the use of lead. Furthermore he has been unceasing in his efforts to minimise the danger attending the use of lead glazes. Mr. Bernard Moore has a wide reputation for his scientific attainments as a practical chemist-potter, and for the success he has achieved by his investigations. It has been shown to the satisfaction of every unbiassed person that pottery cannot be satisfactorily glazed without lead, and it is to chemistry we look for the elimination of the danger at present inherent in the use of it. Manufacturers know this, and will be satisfied that they are represented on the committee by two such eminent chemists and potters. The workmen are well represented by Mr. John Ward, M.P., and Mr. Noah Parkes, while the women will surely have confidence in Miss Grace Tuckwell. The scope of the inquiry is wide, and we hope it will include a very thorough investigation as to compliance by employees with the regulations framed for their safety. We feel sure, and we are not alone in the opinion, that if employers were to make examples of all guilty of "contributory negligence" in the breach of rules, by prosecuting them—men or women—with the utmost rigour of the law, there would be many fewer "reported cases" than at present.

PROPOSED SCHOOL OF POTTERY AT STOKE.

EARLY in May, a circular to the following effect was issued by Messrs. W. Burton, Bernard Moore, and H. M. Robinson. "Some time ago you were good enough to promise a sum of £—— towards the above. For various reasons. the scheme could not then be proceeded with. It is now proposed to erect a temporary building on the land given by the late Mr. Bolton, by the side of, and similar to, the existing Mining Laboratory. At the present time it would be impossible to carry out the original scheme, involving an expenditure of some £12,000, but under the new proposal the County Council would find £200, which is the cost of the building, and the apparatus and fittings for the laboratory, costing about £250 to £300, would have to be provided by voluntary contributions; these fittings would all be suitable for the furnishing of a permanent school whenever the time arrives for its erection. As Dr. Mellor's service as pottery instructor are now assured to us, it seems most important that he and his advanced students should be provided with a sufficiently equipped school. The apparatus will be much more complete than any now in existence at Tunstall and Longton. Further, Dr. Mellor, by having these students at one place, will be able to give them about twice as much attention as he is now able to give, owing to the work being carried on at two centres. When we made our appeal last year we obtained promises amounting to about £1,500; are you now willing to give a sum not exceeding 5s. in the £ of what you then promised? Although there will not be any fine building at present, there will be, without any doubt, greatly increased efficiency in the means of instruction which is much needed in this industry. It is hoped to have this temporary building ready for occupation by the beginning of next session, *i.e.*, about October 1, and as we have to meet the Committee of the County Council again on May 28, we shall be very much obliged if you will let us know before then whether or not you are willing to do as we ask." It is to be hoped that this appeal will meet with a prompt and hearty response from all those to whom it is made. At no time in the history of the British potting was technical education of more vital importance than at present, and it will be to the best interests of all those engaged in the industry that the above-mentioned scheme should receive adequate support.

THE CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS ASSOCIATION.

WE commend to glass and china dealers generally, and to those in London and the South of England particularly, the report of the annual meeting of this association, which we give in another column. At its first meeting, the association bid fair to render valuable assistance to the retail glass and china trade of the United Kingdom. Its prospects of doing so are now stronger and brighter than ever. It has already done some useful work, in spite of the immense disadvantages under which it has laboured. The most serious disadvantage has been the absolute indifference of glass and china dealers generally, and of those in London especially, to all the efforts made by a few energetic and self-denying members of the association to protect the interests of legitimate dealers in our trades. The association is going to become a power in the trade. All that is wanted to make it so, is the co-operation of about one-fourth of the retail dealers of the country. We believe that co-operation will eventually be secured, and the whole trade benefited. We attended the annual meeting on the 20th ult., at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Snow-hill, in the centre of London. The meeting had been advertised in our columns, and it had been announced by circular. Not a person from London or the neighbourhood was present, excepting two—who represented the POTTERY GAZETTE (Mr. Decimus Marsh, the president of the association was unavoidably absent.) The association owes its continued existence to the untiring labours of Mr. A. E. Watson, of Reading, the central secretary, Mr. W. T. Church, of Northampton, Mr. Neaverson, of Huddersfield, and a few others. With the exception of the president, Mr. Decimus Marsh, who has recently retired from business, no London dealer has taken any active interest in it. Small wonder then that at the annual meeting it was decided to leave London alone and to transfer the central branch of the association to Leeds. Mr. Neaverson will make a capable and energetic secretary. We wish the association success under its new conditions, and we have not the least doubt that it will attain it.

A Scarcity of Plates.—During the hearing of a case at Clerkenwell County-Court, a few days ago, it was stated that there was such a shortage of china at dinner in a boarding-establishment in Bloomsbury, that the boarders had to wait between each course for the plates to be washed up. No wonder the potting trade is slack, when such a niggardly spirit prevails in the land.

The Vanishing Pitcher.—A correspondent of a provincial paper asks where he can see a pitcher in daily use? At one time each cottager had a pitcher, which often went to the well before it was broken. Anyway, the pitcher kept its contents limpid and cool. But now tins and galvanised buckets, as being more unbreakable, have filled the place of the pitcher beneath the cottage dresser or in the pantry cool.

Polish Glass Works in 1907.—Trade stagnation has had a bad effect upon glass works in Poland, which annually produce goods to the total value of £300,000. The glass factories worked with little profit on account of the high wages of the workmen and high price of coal. Factories chiefly engaged in making bottles did a comparatively better business, although the export to Central Russian markets, which in former years was about 60 per cent. of the total output, dropped to 20 per cent. This is due to the fact that latterly the Russian glass works are covering the demand themselves. It is intended to start a new glass factory at Ozarow, on the Kalish railway line.

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Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

TRACING CUSTOMERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Tradesmen are sometimes put to much trouble by customers who leave their neighbourhood without the little formality of settling their account. Of course, this may be mere forgetfulness on the part of some, but it is to be feared it is deliberate intention on the part of others. It may interest your readers to hear of the "A.R." system. If a customer leaves your town without paying his bill and without leaving you his address, write him a letter, register it, and fill up an "A.R." form at the post office, for which the fee is 2d. That form will most likely come back to the sender in a few days with the present address of the customer. This system is not generally known.—Yours truly,

May 5, 1908. G. M.

RAILWAY CHARGES AND BREAKAGES.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—In claiming against the railway company for breakages I get no allowance from them on account of carriage. To show the unfairness of this, assume as an extreme case that all goods in a package were received damaged, owing to the negligence of the railway company; the consignee would have to pay the full carriage for stuff that was absolutely no value. Is this attitude on the part of the railway company a fair one, or in accordance with the Acts of Parliament?—Yours truly,

W. R.

[It is unreasonable that railway companies, who pay compensation for damage to goods, should demand carriage on the goods damaged. The question is often raised, but we have not seen a case decided in the law courts. One trader tells us he has contested several claims for carriage on goods damaged, and has always been met by some allowance, though the railway companies will not admit liability to refund it. There should be a recognised rule on the question, but at present it seems that each case must be fought out on its merits—EDS. P.G.]

ELECTRIC FURNACES FOR GLASS MAKING.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—My attention having been called to the article on the above subject in your issue of May 1, I should like to point out that I successfully carried out the electric smelting of glass metal at Deutsch-Matrei, by my patent process. On account of the present high cost of electricity, however, the electric furnace is still too expensive for ordinary glass, though not so for special kinds. For more than eight years I have been working at the construction of an electric furnace for special glasses, and have now at work in Beuel (near Cologne) an electric plant for smelting "quartz glass" (SiO_2) for the production of plates, glass blocks, capsules and tubes capable of resisting acids and high temperatures. My electric furnace has also been tested scientifically at the Aachen Technical High School (by the Rector, Professor Dr. Borchen), and by Professor Dr. Melsner, of the Royal Mining Academy, Berlin. Electric furnaces, though not for glass making—have been tested by your esteemed compatriot, Professor Dr. Sylv. Thompson, of Finsbury College, London. Hoping this short account may prove of interest.—Yours, &c.,

DR. AUGUST VOELKER.

77A, Siegburgerstrasse, Beuel, May 19, 1908.

TRAVELLERS AND BUYERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I have read with interest the letters which have appeared under the above heading, and am not surprised to find from the opinion therein expressed, that my own experiences are not unique. I recently called upon a buyer of one of our large drapery establishments, and after overcoming the obstacles to seeing him, which many houses seem to fancy it is to their benefit to put in the way of a traveller, I was informed by the gentleman who was paid to buy for the department, that "he had neither time nor curiosity to look at new goods." He was not aware of the nature of the goods offered, and did not feel any interest in any make he was not already fully cognisant of.

Presumably a buyer holds his position that he may purchase in the best market, for the benefit of his employer, and if he does not make it his business to know what is being offered he is, in the opinion of most people, utterly lacking in his duty and quite unfit for his post. The fact is, many London buyers go to the show rooms of their particular friends only, and know little or nothing about the rest. Not only in the licensing trade, but in the pottery trade also, there are tied houses, and tied buyers, who disgrace themselves, and act unfairly, if not dishonestly, to the houses they are alleged to buy for.—Yours, &c.,

ANOTHER AGENT.

London, May 15.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. R. D.—Your question should be addressed to your local daily paper.

Dealer.—We send you the names of several manufacturers of the goods you require. Either of them will serve you well.

James H. & Co.—There is no uniform practice. If you make the stipulation when ordering goods, and the manufacturers accept the order subject to that stipulation, you will have no trouble about it.

M. K.—We have not heard of propagating glasses specially for leeks. The ordinary propagating glasses for cucumbers must be what you refer to. These can be obtained from Pilkington Bros., Glass Works, St. Helens.

M. J., Derbyshire.—The question raised is purely a legal one, and we suggest that you consult a solicitor. We may say, as a matter of practice you are quite right, in our opinion, in now declining to have anything to do with the goods. If your order was given and accepted conditionally and the conditions were not complied with, we consider you are justified in now refusing the goods. A letter from your solicitor to this effect will, we think, end the matter.

CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRY.

S. [702] asks for makers of Hiatt's patent wire flower holder.

What is a "Glass Mouth"?—A contractor for an Irish Union had his goods recently returned as not being up to the mark. He then suggested that "if he had put 'glass mouths' on the committee who rejected the stuff it would have been all right." We suppose that this expression implied the application of glasses of liquid refreshment to their mouths, though it is the first time we have seen the process thus described.

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Foreign Notes.

U.S. Tariff Decisions.—In determining the weight of china clay, which is dutiable per ton, no allowance should be made for such moisture as is found in the clay in its ordinary commercial condition ; but if an abnormal amount of moisture be present duty should not be paid upon the excess over normal moisture. In assessing on china clay in casks the duty per ton provided, the Government is not bound by the trade custom of regarding a cask as half a ton but may base the duty on the actual contents. Decalcomania paper is dutiable under the provision for "surface coated papers printed, at the rate of 3 cents per lb., and 20 per cent. ad. val."

Bauxite in Georgia.—A discovery of bauxite has recently been made in Central Georgia. The deposit is situated three miles east of McIntyre, Wilkinson county, and about 1½ miles north of the central of Georgia Railway. The lateral extent of the deposit has not yet been determined, so that the total amount of the bauxite cannot be estimated. It is known, however, to reach a thickness of 10 ft., and from the outcrops and a small amount of prospecting, 100,000 tons are known to occur at the point of discovery ; this amount, it is stated, will certainly be increased by further prospecting. The mining of the ore would present no special difficulties, and water for power and other purposes is abundant.

Cuban Tariff Alterations.—The Provisional Governor of Cuba has amended the customs tariff with regard to ordinary hollow glassware, which formerly read :—"Crystal and glass—common, of ordinary hollow glassware electric insulators," 1 dol. per 100 kilogs., to read as follows :—"Crystal and glass—common or ordinary hollow glassware, including syphons to contain mineral, carbonated, or seltzer waters, engraved or not ; electric insulators," 1 dol. per 100 kilogs. The Provisional Governor of Cuba has also added the following note to No. 57 of the customs tariff :—"*a*. Large steel tanks polished but coated with porcelain inside, shall be classified under this article." The duty leviable under tariff No. 57 is $3·90 per 100 kilogs.

The Glass Trade of Mexico.—A U.S. Consular report from Vera Cruz states that Mexico's imports of glass at the port of Vera Cruz for the six months ended December 31, 1907, reached the value of $334,867, United States currency, and cover nearly every article mentioned in the tariff, the various supplying countries being as follows :—Germany furnished the bulk of the shipments, or 60 per cent., amounting in value to $204,248. France was next in order of importance, with $44,326 or 13 per cent., followed by the United States, with $31,017 or 9 per cent. Other countries worthy of mention are Belgium, with $17,000 ; Austria, with $15,613, and England with $15,374. Germany's exports to Mexico consist of fine glassware, large quantities of common bottles, cheap mirrors, &c. The value of similar goods imported from the United States amounted to $18,765. This sum, however, represents more than one-half the value of all American exports of glass to this country by way of Vera Cruz. Belgium and Germany are the principal exporters of plate glass.

Poisonous Lead-Glazed Pots.—A Russian newspaper recently discussed the question (not unknown in this country) of danger of poisoning occurring through the lead-glazed earthen pots. In Russia there are no legal regulations ruling the manufacture of lead-glazed earthenware and providing for any guarantee against the sale of improperly glazed or dangerous vessels. The lead-glaze most commonly used ordinarily contains 60 per cent. and more of lead, which, in case of being abundant and not strongly and fully bound with silica into steadfast compounds (obtainable only by strong firing under high temperatures), is easily discharged by the glaze, under ordinary conditions, into the acid contents of such pots used in the household for keeping eatables. As the latter often contain lactic, acetic and other acids, it is but natural that the glaze thus becomes a source of either acute or chronic poisoning. The fabrication of poor glaze, owing to the latter being very fusible and requiring less fuel during the process, is, certainly profitable to small makers, and so there is on the Russian market a great mass of poorly-glazed earthenware that does not answer the hygienic requirements. In France, Belgium, or Germany, a strict law provides that a glazed earthen vessel which, after having undergone a half-hour boiling test in a four per cent. solution of acetic acid, has proved to have yielded lead, is forbidden for household use. In Russia such ware is freely sold, as the manufacture of earthenware has hitherto never been submitted to any control whatsoever. None the less, no fatal cases of lead poisoning can be traced to this cause. One, indeed, is alleged, but that is highly doubtful.

Glass Making in the United States.—H.M. Consul at Philadelphia reports that United States glass manufacturers have, since 1900, made great strides in the direction of cheaper production by the use of machinery for mechanical manipulation in the manufacture of window glass, narrow-necked bottles, and general glassware. The general improvement in factory construction, furnace equipment, and installation of mechanical blowing machines resulted in an increase of $23,000,000 (about £4,600,000) in the value of the output from 1900 to 1905, which is just $2,000,000 (about £400,000) more than the production of glass in 1880. Plate glass manufacturers have recently introduced the production of imitation marble out of glass, which is particularly suitable for restaurants, hospitals, and other places, where cleanliness is essential, for, unlike marble, it does not absorb moisture. During the past five years, many machines for the manufacture of bottles were invented. One of these machines has been very successful and seems to meet all the requirements of the bottle industry, as it can be built to produce a narrow or wide-necked bottle of any shape ; this machine has so recently come into use that it is not a factor in the returns given of the production of bottles in 1905. The capacity of this machine is estimated at 12 bottles per minute, and one man can look after three machines at the same time. The speed of the machines is not sufficient for them to run hot ; they can, therefore, be operated for 24 hours every day, which makes the output about 360 gross of bottles per day at a labour expense of three men on eight-hour terms or two on 12. There is a United States invention which has perfected the modern art of pressing glass mechanically in portable hinged moulds, thereby increasing the output fully 500 per cent., considerably decreasing the cost and duplicating in large numbers figured and imitation cut patterns and designs which cannot otherwise be made, except by the slower and more costly process of blowing and cutting by hand. There has been an electric method recently introduced for the easier handling of large sheets of plate glass, shop windows, &c., viz., by the use of heavy magnets placed against the glass on one side, whilst on the other are flat plates of iron or steel. The magnet holds the plate tight to the glass, thus enabling a heavy plate of glass to be handled with ease by the use of as many magnets as may be required, each magnet being connected by wire with the current producer, which current can at once be cut off when necessary to release the glass plate from the steel or iron plate at the back.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

"Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Ltd., Potters, Etruria."—Omitting the word "Limited," there is an old-time ring about the published address of the famous firm which is quite in accord with all their characteristics. They are amongst the most up-to-date potters of to-day, but they have consistently preserved those marked features which gave their productions superiority in the early days of the great founder of their business. The company's London show-rooms are at 108, Hatton-garden, Holborn-circus, E.C. I have been going in and out of those rooms at frequent intervals all the time they have been open, but it was only quite recently that I appreciated the significance of their name-plate (if I may call it so). The inscription on a large shield at their doorway, in place of the conventional brass plate, is appropriate to a name that has been in use for a century and a half. Of course, this is a detail—and some may say a trivial one, but the old time influence manifests itself inside the show-room, even more than outside. Mr. Barnard, the Company's London representative, is showing among his samples a number of artistic shapes in domestic ware that were in vogue a century ago. Some of them have neat, inexpensive decorations, in accordance with modern styles. Toilet ware, for instance, is required to be decorated to harmonise with the various styles of furniture that are popular—but they must not be too expensive. Wedgwoods can meet this demand from their immense collection of moulds—a collection probably unequalled either in number or merit. They are showing many perfect reproductions of their early art forms in toilet ware, but with less expensive ornamentations, to supply the demand for cheaper goods. There should be no mistake about one thing—"Wedgwood" still stands for all that the name implies. The quality of the ware is the same whatever the price. It is the fact that they have an abundance of perfect moulds ready for their use, and the further fact that they are applying neat but less costly ornamentations that enables them to supply "Wedgwood" at popular prices. Mr. Barnard showed me some novelties in dinner ware that will be appreciated. They have some pretty decorations in two printings, underglaze. We give an illustration of two of these nicely designed patterns. One is the "Tudor Rose," and the other the "Seaux" pattern. A cover dish and plate of each are given. These have a style of their own, and the register is so perfect that a close observation is necessary to tell that they *are* prints. They look like hand work, though, needless to say, no deception is intended. Many designs are shown at the rooms on the same lines. Those we illustrate are supplied in three combinations of colour—purple and green, blue and brown, and brown and green. The group includes a very pleasing reproduction of a "Bentley" coffee pot in hand-painted china. This is a fine model, beautifully ornamented. A very choice "Old Rouen" decoration is applied to dinner ware with good effect. It is shown on other ware also, and is always pleasing. Mr. Barnard has a number of really fine productions in dinner, tea, and breakfast ware, but says that while they sell well in Paris, there is no sale for them in London. Tastes differ we know, but when there cannot be any doubt about the artistic merits of a production it is not easy to understand why it should be appreciated abroad and not here. The company are making a feature just now of "Old Cane" and "Old Lavender" ware, in tea, breakfast, dinner, and early morning sets. These are plain shapes, and in self colours. They are intended to meet the wishes of persons who want something good, but at a moderate price. (This class of customer is very numerous at the present day.) They are people of refined taste, who will not have printed decorations, but who will not pay the price for hand-painted ware. These goods are perfect in shape and colour, beautifully made, and are as light as china. They are a very acceptable medium between printed and hand-painted patterns. The long popular "Queen's ware" is on show in the London rooms to-day as prominently as if it was a novelty instead of one of the oldest, and certainly one of the best, of Josiah Wedgwood's own productions. Pleasing free-hand decorations are shown on dinner services in "Queen's Ware." The "Jasper Room" at Hatton-garden contains a splendid collection of all kinds of pieces in this famous ware. Vases, plaques, medallions, brooches, pendants, and even pins, are shown in great variety in Jasper cameo.



JOSIAH WEDGWOOD & SONS, LIMITED. [*Photo. by the 'Pottery Gazette.*"

Bishop & Stonier, High-st., Stafford-st., Hanley, are manufacturers of china, earthenware, oriental ivory, semi-porcelain and white granite. By common consent, however, one distinctive title has been given to all the productions of the firm, which are now well-known throughout the trade at home and abroad, as "Bisto Ware." The firm are in a position to cater for very different markets and to meet the special needs of all. Mr. Powell, their London representative, displays samples of nearly all the principal productions of the firm at the rooms, 2, Charterhouse-st., Holborn Circus, E.C. They have now a number of new shapes and decorations in tea and break-

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fast, dinner, dessert, and toilet services, as well as of afternoon tea sets, coffee sets, tea pots, jugs, and all kinds of china and earthenware for table use and for domestic use generally. The firm have a large trade with foreign and Colonial markets, and they have a number of special lines made for each. They do not send out English shapes and patterns to markets abroad. They have studied the requirements of each, and are now in a position to supply



BISHOP & STONIER, HANLEY. [*Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."*

exactly what each wants. All their shapes and patterns are registered and can only be supplied in "Bisto Ware." They make a special line in white granite, which has for a long time been popular in the United States and the Colonies. They have several novelties expressly prepared for export. Amongst them there is the "Champion" shape dinner ware, slightly embossed, treated in many pleasing patterns. We illustrate a cover dish of this shape with neat blue transfer decoration, and a dinner plate of the same shape, but ornamented with violets. The "Champion" is also supplied with "Vine" decoration in green and other colours. They have several new shapes in toilet services, also for the export trade. We illustrate a toilet ewer and basin of two of these. The "Adams" shape is an embossed form, decorated in many pretty shaded printed and embossed patterns. The decoration inside the basin is pleasing. The other toilet shape illustrated is the "Roman"—a good form, which is supplied printed, shaded and enamelled. Our group also contains a new jug ornamented in Chinese style. There are four Chinese figures introduced into the decoration with good results. Teapots and miscellaneous pieces are supplied to match this decoration. The old "globe" shape teapot suits this style of ornamentation exactly, which appears also on the "Roman" shape toilet service. Several new shapes and many decorations in dinner ware are shown, in which large full patterns seem to predominate. There are some effective colour combinations in border patterns. In both shapes and decorations Bishop & Stonier are well up to date for the markets catered for. They are in constant touch with them all, and are kept informed as to any new or special requirements. If "Bisto Ware" is not widely known it will not be the fault of the enterprising firm manufacturing it. In addition to showrooms at the works and in London, samples of their newest goods may always be seen at their agencies, 46, West Broadway, New York; 5 and 7, Rue des Recollets, Paris; 388, Richmond-st., London, Ontario; 137, Bannatyne-avenue, Winnipeg; 37, Pitt-st., Sydney; and 39, Queen-st., Melbourne.

Mr. John Walsh Walsh, Soho and Vesta Glass Works, Birmingham, and 4, Holborn-circus, London, E.C., is now showing, both at the works and at the London rooms, a number of novelties for the present season. His London representative, Mr. R. H. Wood, had a fine display of richly cut flint glass bowls, dishes, and comports on the occasion of my recent visit. This cut glass having latterly become quite a fashion, it is very pleasing that a taste for a distinctly better quality of glass is manifesting itself. The market has far too long been flooded with commoner qualities. Further it is in the interests of the trade to do all in their power to foster this taste with the public. and from the point of view of returns the trader will find it better than selling the cheaper grades so extensively. In buying cheap glass housewives are now heard constantly to remark "It's good enough to break," whereas our predecessors paid great store by their beautiful glass, as



MR. JOHN WALSH WALSH.—FIG. 1.

we see by the specimens handed down, and which are thought very highly of at the present day. Mr. Walsh has achieved a very high standing from the beauty and quality of this exhibit, and no doubt good results will follow. These remarks are by no means to be taken to indicate that the firm does not make a cheaper class of goods.

It does so, but is careful to see that the quality does not deteriorate. Mr. Walsh is showing a number of dainty suites of cut glass table services specially got up as wedding presents. One of these pretty services would make a most acceptable gift for any person of taste, and a wedding present combining utility with intrinsic worth will be more highly appreciated than a mere ornament. In table glass many reproductions of old styles are shown, and amongst them a number of dainty little salts in many pretty shapes, beautifully cut. The firm has a high reputation for flower stands, flower holders, and table decorations generally. The "Thistle" pattern is shown as prominently as if it were a new pattern for the season. I referred to it as "an old acquaintance," when I was informed it was selling as well now as ever it did. I noticed several old favourites which arc apparently still in demand. This may be safely said of all the samples in Mr. Walsh's London rooms, for it is not his practice to keep on show goods that are out of date. He is showing many new shapes in his popular "Mother of Pearl." This appears to great advantage in the shape of flower stands, rose bowls, and flower holders of various kinds. We give an illustration (Fig. 1) of one of many new forms in "Mother of Pearl," with flowers as in use. There are many of these shapes, and they are each made in various sizes. Rose bowls are, we understand, becoming fashionable as wedding presents. Dealers should bear this in mind when their customers are selecting such gifts, or better still, they should label them in their windows, "Suitable for Wedding and Birthday Presents." Mr. Wood showed me their latest novelty in fancy glass. This is a handsome cut glass bowl with tall, semi-circular glass handle. Fig. 2 is an illustration of one filled with cut flowers. The handle is in one piece, with plated fittings, and wire net for supporting flowers attached, made to fit loosely on to the bowl, thus enabling the flowers to be bodily lifted out without being disturbed when replenishing the bowl with water. This form of handle is a new idea in glass, admirably carried out. These handled bowls (or baskets) are made in several sizes, and the bowls can be had either round or oval. As our readers are aware, the firm has now a separate and well-appointed showroom at the same address for cut glass articles for silver mounting, and for fancy shades and globes for gas, incandescent, and electric lighting purposes. The samples of these are numerous, and are now shown to advantage in the new and well lighted front room. This room is fitted in the same tasteful manner as their table and fancy glass showroom, that is to say, in white enamel and silvered glass. The samples are conveniently classified, so that inspection is greatly facilitated. I was very pleased to meet Mr. Plant at the rooms, and to congratulate him on his recovery from his long and serious illness.



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

MR. JOHN WALSH WALSH. FIG. 2.—GLASS-HANDLED BOWL.

Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton, are now settled in their handsome new show rooms, 18, Charterhouse-st., London, E.C. They are represented in London by Mr. J. E. Heath, one of their directors, and it was in his company that I recently inspected the new premises and new samples. Mr. Heath is to be congratulated upon the fine spacious and light rooms he has secured, and to be complimented upon the taste and skill with which he has fitted and decorated them. The position—on the first floor of the block of buildings at the corner of Farringdon-st. and Charterhouse-st.—is a most convenient one for dealers in our trades. It is only about three minutes' walk from Holborn-viaduct and Farringdon-st. Railway Stations, and about one minute from Holborn-circus. On the same floor Mr. Heath shows the samples of Thomas Webb & Corbett's high class flint glass, the rooms opening into each other. The arrangements for the effective display of Messrs. Adderley's goods may be described as perfect. The room is a large and lofty one, and the stands and shelves have been constructed according to Mr. Heath's personal instructions. His long experience has taught him what was best for the purpose—and having a large and bare room to deal with he has been able to attain his ideal. This would have been difficult if not impossible to accomplish by alterations to existing fittings. There are convenient shelves all round the sides of the room, one long section being devoted to toilet ware of which there is a

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large and varied display. The stands in the centre of the room are of novel construction,combining the useful features of the pyramid stand and the flat table. There is a partition about two feet high running down the centre of the table, from one end to the other, a little broader at the bottom than at the top, so that ledges on each side of this division serve for the display of flat ware, while there is the flat portion of the table on both sides for tea cups and saucers and similar pieces. The stands, shelves, and all the wood work are white enamel, and art green cloth is let into the stands. The floor cloth also is an art green shade. There is an abundance of natural light, and, of course, there is a complete installation of electric light. Mr. Heath has a spacious and well appointed private office, there is a comfortable room for his assistants, and there is a packing room. Messrs. Adderleys are manufacturers of china and earthenware of medium and higher grades, and it is safe to say that never, either at the works or elsewhere, have their productions been shown to better advantage. Mr. Heath has always a good selection of samples in London, but he has very properly inaugurated his new rooms by showing some new shapes and decorations in toilet ware, dessert ware, tea and breakfast ware, flower pots, and some very dainty trinket sets. Their range of tea and breakfast ware is very large, from neat, inexpensive printed patterns to elaborately hand-painted and gilt services.

Burtles, Tate & Co., glass manufacturers, Poland-st., Manchester. I met Mr. John Burtles, who represents the firm in London, at the show rooms, Buchanan-buildings, Holborn, E.C., a few days ago. They are nice light rooms, and the fact that they are on one of the upper floors is no disadvantage to visitors, as there is a comfortable lift that is running continually during all the business hours of the day. Burtles, Tate & Co., are one of those firms who are always adding to their samples. They have some lines that seem to be perpetual, but however well pleased they may be with goods they have, buyers are always wanting something different—so without discarding the old, the firm tempt their customers with some things new. These novelties are more frequently in fancy lines than in table glass. I was pleased to hear that they are fairly busy in that department. They have a good show of table glass in suites, and some new patterns are amongst their samples. They make specialities for mounting, a variety of small pieces, known in the trade as "penny lines," and globes and shades for gas, incandescent and electric lighting purposes. The firm are, however, best known as manufacturers of epergnes, flower stands, flower vases, and tubes of all kinds. Epergnes are special lines of theirs, and it is in this department that the firm are constantly introducing novelties. Their "Uranium" flower stands have been favourites for some time, and are still in demand, but by way of variety the firm are showing samples of Uranium epergnes, with stripes in opal. These stripes run from top to bottom, and are either straight or spiral. The combination is a very pretty one, and it is introduced in spills and other fancy articles. Some new shapes in fancy vases are shown. Another line that is selling well, though not exactly a new one, is the emerald coil glass—a beautiful combination, shown in many forms. They make some useful rose blocks, for holding the stems of cut flowers in position. They are made in several sizes.

Johnsen & Jörgensen, Ltd., glass bottle manufacturers and merchants, have just opened new London offices, stock rooms, and show rooms in the handsome buildings 26 and 27, Farringdon-st., E.C., a few doors past the Memorial Hall. The front of the building is a fine piece of architecture of imposing design. The company occupy the entire block, from the lower ground floor to the top room or attic. The lower ground floor and some of the floors above are specially arranged for keeping stock, and they are conveniently yet tastefully fitted with "bins" specially constructed. A handsome suite of general offices occupies one floor. The arrangement of the desks and stools, the low partitions, and the high class fittings, give the large floor more the appearance of a bank than of a merchant's suite of offices. There is an easy running electric lift which is working all business hours, so that customers can inspect each sample room without the trouble of walking upstairs. This is a roomy and most comfortable lift, and it can be easily and safely operated by any of the employees, so that a constant lift attendant is not required. There is a substantial and tasteful appearance all through the buildings. The stands, shelves, and appointments are well designed and beautifully finished, and the samples shown on them in each department have the advantage of a good natural light. In addition to their extensive trade in glass bottles the company are merchants and importers of all kinds of table glass, and are exclusive agents for certain glass manufacturers of repute. The splendid array of samples in their table glass room therefore includes many neat and elaborate patterns in glass ware that cannot be obtained elsewhere. They make a good show of crystal and demi-crystal in suites and miscellaneous pieces to match. Their cut and etched patterns are good, and include some original conceptions in the way of cutting. As an Englishman, I am sorry to see these samples, and more so to notice some of the prices. One especially neat pattern was quoted at a price lower than the cost of cutting alone would be here. I was shown some richly cut decanters, water bottles, and spirit bottles. There was a pretty variety of suites to please all tastes. The company do their own badging, crests, and monograms for clubs, institutions, ships, hotels, and other purposes. They do these either by etching or sandblasts. They also do their own stoppering. All the floors are covered with a neat art pattern linoleum. It has a red ground and a conventional design in two shades of green. It is a good idea, as an artistic feeling pervades all the rooms. They have their own "vacuum cleaner" for removing the dust from the floor cloth without sweeping. The company have just introduced a new branch, and have devoted the top floor to the samples of glass lamps, shades, and screens for all kinds of lighting—gas, incandescent, and electric. They are showing many novelties in this branch. Some of the shades are hung round with thin glass rods coloured. They look very pretty when the light inside is burning. Some pretty hall lamps are shown suspended from the ceiling, with the electric light turned on.

Mr. Winston Churchill on Glass Tariffs.—During his Dundee campaign, the President of the Board of Trade entertained a meeting with an illustration of the working of a tariff. Taking a couple of tumblers he turned one upside down, saying: "Gentlemen, this is not a conjuring trick." Then he christened the turned glass German and the other English, and assumed that the German could be bought for a shilling and the English for thirteenpence. He put an imaginary sixpenny tariff on the German glass, and then he argued that the tariff would not make the English glass cheaper, but would most certainly bring about a proportionate rise in the price of the English glass. Mr. Churchill also said that, in addition to the extra cost of the glass, the tariff would foster the growth of all manner of trusts and monopolies, while the English workman, instead of getting more employment, must suffer from greater cost of living and shrinkages inevitable from restriction of production.

SOME CHINA AND GLASS SHOPS IN KENT.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

KENT is an interesting and pleasant county to visit, either for business, pleasure, or health. The hop industry and fruit growing are important sources of occupation. At one time there were extensive ironworks in the county (as there were also in Sussex), but they have long since been closed. Woollen cloth was also made there, but the manufacture is very limited to-day. Paper making is a thriving industry, while bricks, tiles, cement and pottery are made in various parts of the county, more particularly on the banks of the Swale and Medway. There are three or four Government dockyards, shipbuilding by private firms and engineering works, soap works, and chemical works at Greenwich, with large railway carriage and engineering works at Ashford. It will be seen therefore that the county is a busy place, in spite of its idyllic title as "the Garden of England." As to its claim as a health resort, Kent has upwards of a dozen popular watering-places, while Tunbridge Wells is one of the most favourite spas in the kingdom. It is a great fruit-growing county, almost as widely known for its cherries and filberts as for its hops.

MAIDSTONE

is the county town, and is midway between London and Dover. That situation may be considered advantageous from some points of view, but not from that of the retail trader. The town has seen some remarkable changes since its occupation by the Romans as a military station, but the most extraordinary of all is perhaps its growth in the last century. The population of Maidstone in 1801 was 8,027, in 1881 it was 29,632 and in 1901 it was 32,150. The supply of pottery and glass to the people of Maidstone comes principally through general house furnishers or stores.

M. JACOBS & SONS, 12 and 52, Week-street, are general furnishers, but they have a large and varied stock of pottery and glass, mostly of good medium class quantities, though some of the best description in all lines is kept in stock. They make a moderate, but attractive, window show, while they have a fine and well stocked show room for pottery and glass on the first floor. The business was established in 1861, and has increased in the most satisfactory manner. Mr. Jacobs, who founded the business, has other shops in the north-west of London. The Maidstone business is divided into fourteen departments, but the stock of earthenware, china, and glass is enough for a good-sized separate business. The business is now called "Jacobs' Stores." The glass and china departments is under the care of Mr. Winslow, who has had a long experience in the trade. He has been a long time in Maidstone, and has found out exactly what the residents like. If there are not season fashions in pottery and glass as there are in drapery, the public have fancies and prejudices which have to be considered in catering for them, and Mr. Winslow understands those of the people of Maidstone.



JACOBS' STORES, MAIDSTONE.

The accompanying illustration of their pottery department shows how well they cater for this trade. They have such a full range in every branch of domestic pottery and glass, that there is no necessity for their customers to go elsewhere. Mr. Winslow can submit samples of every grade, with of course, the largest stock and greatest variety in medium class goods. The arrangement of the goods is creditable to the firm, and they are to be

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congratulated on the enterprise they display in this department.

Mr. A. Coulter, 12, Stone-st., Maidstone, limits his stock to china, glass, earthenware, and fancy goods. He has a stock of useful medium class goods in all domestic requisites in pottery and glass. To those who prefer to deal with one who confines himself to his own trade, Mr. Coulter's shop is attractive. It is well situated to catch strangers to the town who may be looking out for pottery and glass, but he does a good trade amongst residents in and around the town. A family business in our trade is not so easy to establish to-day as it was fifteen or twenty years ago, but it is always worth the dealer's while to cultivate it. A retail dealer must, of course, keep his window always attractive for strangers. But the centre of attraction for a provincial family trade must always be the attention and the courtesy of the dealer himself In this respect the individual dealer can ingratiate himself with his customers in a way the assistants in a co-operative store cannot do.

Sage & Co., East India House, 22, Mill-st., are oriental and continental merchants and importers. They are, however, extensive dealers in pottery and glass of both British and foreign manufacture. They call their business "Household China and Glass Stores," and show a good variety of tea, and breakfast ware, dinner ware, toilet sets, dessert services and miscellaneous pottery and glass of many good English makers. They, however, also show a fine collection of pottery and glass in continental fancy styles. Their fancy lines differ materially from what the average glass and china dealer calls fancy goods. They have specialities of their own, among which may be mentioned fancy novelties in artistic creta glass, Vienna and Bruges pottery, Dutch ware in great variety, English and Continental flower tubes and rose bowls, and vases of all kinds. Sage & Co. are alive to the competition of the London stores, but they are not afraid of it. They announce "Best English makes in tea and breakfast sets, dinner sets and toilet sets at store prices." They stock a large assortment of present ware, including heraldic china.

Mr. S. P. Sanders, 11, Week-st., has a large show room for glass and china and earthenware on the first floor, where his goods are displayed in a manner most convenient to customers, while the window on the ground floor is filled with attractive lines in useful and ornamental goods. He holds a large stock of useful domestic pottery and glass of the popular class, that is to say, good shapes and pleasing decorations at moderate prices. He keeps his stock well up to date, and in order to do this has an annual clearance sale to dispose of older stock at reduced prices. I was at his shop a few weeks after this annual sale, and saw one of the priced catalogues that had been widely distributed before and during the sale, which lasted a month. Quite apart from the object of the sale, the distribution of such a neatly illustrated catalogue must have proved useful. It familiarises the public with the name and address of the dealer. When reasonably priced goods are associated with the name, the dealer makes a reputation that will sooner or later bring him trade. Another method of Mr. Sanders' is worth noticing by dealers. He shows a good shaped dinner service in a pretty printed pattern, which he labels "Sanders' 'Hertford' dinner ware." He gives illustrations of this in his catalogue, quotes the prices of a 54 piece set, and a 70 piece set, and mentions the pieces of which each set consists. He does all he can to interest his customers in the manufacturers of British pottery. He labels many of his dinner, toilet, tea and breakfast sets with the names of the makers. Mr. F. Woollard, the buyer and manager, has had a long experience in the trades.

Mr. William King, 46 and 48, Gabriel's-hill, has a good position for a medium class trade. His large stock is selected for the benefit of the million, as we call the majority. Mr. King aims at keeping everything useful in domestic pottery and glass at moderate prices. At the present day the judicious dealer can supply pottery and glass of a pleasing character at low prices. There are plenty of cheap white and gold pr nted tea and breakfast cups and saucers, that are both light and tasteful, and Mr. King has been careful to stock these. These goods are really too cheap, but people have, by foreign competition, been offered goods at such ridiculous prices, and now expect so much for their money, that it is difficult to make them pay fair prices for British goods. Dealers who supply the cheaper classes of goods feel this more than those who handle higher priced commodities. Mr. King's stock includes medium qualities, and he shows a variety of pieces suitable for presents. He stocks brushes, brooms, and ironmongery for household purposes.

(*To be continued.*)

Legal.

Claim for a China Shop.—(From our own Correspondent.)—In the Chancery division recently Mr. Justice Neville heard the action of Willis v. Tregal. Mrs. Willis claimed specific performance of an agreement to sell to her a house and shop at Exeter, in which had been carried on for many years the business of a glass and china merchant. Mr. Wood, for the plaintiff, said that the defendant had refused to carry out the contract on the ground that there was a provision in the defendant's lease against assignment, and the original lessor had refused his consent. He submitted that there was no ground at all, and whether the consent was withheld capriciously or not did not matter. The agreement in question was dated June 5, 1907, and under it the plaintiff paid £10 by way of deposit. The purchase price was £80, and for that the plaintiff had agreed to assign all his interest in the lease of No. 181, Sidwell-st., Exeter, which at the time was being used for the business of a china and glass dealer. The original lease was from 1895 for twenty-one years, and it contained a covenant against assignment without permission of the superior landlord. The plaintiff's case was that the superior landlord had refused to consent to an assignment to either Mr. or Mrs. Willis, as he wanted to get the lease back into his own hands for the purpose of offering it with other property in one lot. He had offered to consent to the assignment if the plaintiff would take the other property as well, but declined to consent without. This, counsel submitted, was withholding the consent capriciously. His lordship, without calling upon counsel for the defendant, decided against the plaintiff on the construction of the agreement, and dismissed the action with costs.

Apprenticeship in the Potteries.—(From our own Correspondent.)—A case which brings back to the memory lively recollections of the bitter controversy which was once waged over the apprenticeship question in the Potteries, was dealt with by his Honour, Judge Ruegg, K.C., at the Hanley County Court, last month, when Bishop & Stonier, earthenware manufacturers, of Stafford-st., Hanley, sued an apprentice hollow-ware presser named Robert Booth, for £3 17s. 4d., being one month's wages in lieu of notice. Booth, according to the evidence, had been an apprentice at Bishop & Stonier's pottery for six years, and he left without giving the customary month's notice on Feb. 8. The firm brought the case in order to establish the principle that defendant was not entitled to leave without notice. They did not press for the full amount claimed but they pointed out the importance of the case to every manufacturer in the neighbourhood. The defence was that Booth left because, owing to bad trade, he was unable to live on the wages he was getting. His Honour said that, as the case was presented to him, apprentices had to give a month's notice, whether there was work for them to do or not. That struck him at first as being a rather one-sided arrangement, and, if there had been evidence, called on the point by the defendant, he was not sure that he should have accepted this as a reasonable custom approved in the trade, for a custom had, after all, to be a reasonable one. As there was only a desire to establish the principle in the case, he gave judgment for the plaintiffs for 1s. and costs, but, he added, "he did not bind himself to find, in future cases, that the custom was a reasonable one."

Earthenware to the value of £179,546, was imported into Java during last year. The figures are a trifle below those for 1906, but well above those for 1905.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

XVII.—THE ACTION OF HEAT ON REFRACTORY MATERIALS.*

By J. W. Mellor and F. J. Austin.

I.—*Introduction.*

We have examined the microscopic appearance of various types of refractory materials with the object of throwing some light upon the curious loss of tensile strength which fireclay bricks, saggars, and pyrometer tubes suffer after prolonged exposure to high temperatures. A short note on this subject was communicated to the Society by one of us in December, 1906 (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6, 76, 1906). A considerable amount of evidence has now accumulated pointing to the fact that, as the constituent minerals of a clay, or artificial pottery body enter into combination at high temperature, new compounds are produced which may separate in a crystalline condition when the temperature is held long enough in the zone of rapid crystallisation (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 5, 75, 1906; *Pot. Gaz.*, 32, 833, 1179, 1907; *Journ. Soc. Chem. Ind.*, 26, 375, 1907).

The devitrification of glass as typified by Réaumur's porcelain (R. A. F. de Réaumur, *Mem. Acad. Roy. Science*, 185, 1727; 325, 1729; 370, 1739) is an interesting example of the crystallisation of vitreous silicates. Clear glass held long enough in the zone of rapid crystallisation acquires the translucency of porcelain. There are two types of crystallisation in operation. First, the whole body may crystallise *en masse*. The crystals have practically the same composition as the vitreous portions (Dartigues, *Ann. Chim.*, 50, 325, 1804; *Schweigger's Journ.*, 2, 112, 1812; G. Morveau, *ib.*, 2, 137, 1812; *Ann, Chim.*, 83, 113, 1812; G. Fournet, *ib.* [3], 4, 370, 1842; *Journ. prakt. Chem.*, 26, 321, 1842; J. B. A. Dumas, *Compt. Rend.*, 40, 1321, 1855; A. Terreil, *ib.*, 47, 693, 1857; J. Pélouse, *ib.*, 40, 1321, 1855; D. Splittgerber, *Pogg. Ann.*, 76, 566, 1849; H. E. Benrath, *Dingler's Journ.*, 202, 428, 1871; 203, 20, 1872; W. Lewis, *Commercium Philosophico Technicum*, London, 230, 1763). Second, crystalline compounds having a different composition from the original vitreous mass may separate. The development of willemite crystals in zinciferous glazes (A. Clément), of wollastonite in calcareous glazes (J. W. Mellor), and of sillimanite in pottery bodies (W. Vernadsky, J. W. Mellor) may be cited in illustration.

2.—*Volatilisation of Alkalies.*

Fireclays also lose alkalies and alkaline earths on exposure to high temperatures, so that grog, after a prolonged heating, is more refractory and less fusible than the original fireclay. Cramer established this first in 1897 (E. Cramer, *Tonind. Ztg.*, 21, 288, 1897). This loss of the "cementing agents" of a fired body is also a source of weakness in fireclay subject to prolonged heating. The loss is illustrated by the following analyses of the over-fired and under-fired earthenware body discussed by one of us in an earlier paper (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 5, 75, 1906—Figs. 2 and 5; *Pot. Gaz.*, 32, 456, 1907).

Under-fired earthenware	2·07 per cent.
Over-fired earthenware	1·53 per cent.
Loss	0·54 per cent.

Accordingly, there is something like 20 per cent. loss of alkalies when an earthenware body is fired at nearly 1,400°. The loss is greater when bodies are fired under reducing conditions, or in an atmosphere of water vapour, and it is one agent at work in the disintegration of bricks heated to a high temperature in a reducing atmosphere. The action of seven times firing to nearly 1,200° (oxidising atmosphere) is illustrated in the following analyses of pieces broken from a saggar made from a local marl:—

	Fired to 1,100 degrees.	Fired seven times to 1,200 degrees.
Silica	67·59	67·76
Titanic acid.....	0·84	0·85
Alumina	24·47	25·29
Ferric Oxide	2·23	2·20
Magnesia	0·55	0·53
Lime	0·45	0·42
Potash	2·14	1·84
Soda	1·25	0·72

Here, again, there is nearly 22 per cent. loss of alkalies. The analysis also shows that "grog" prepared from the same clay as is employed for mixing with the "grog," has not the same composition as the dehydrated clay from which it was derived. The ratios of alumina to silica in the two analyses—1 : 2·76 and 1 : 2·68 respectively—also show that some silica has probably gone with the bases!

Some analysts are in the habit of reporting the composition of the "fired" clay with their analysis of the raw clay. The composition of the "fired" clay is *calculated* from the analysis of the raw clay less volatile matter. The practice is too risky to be commended for general adoption.

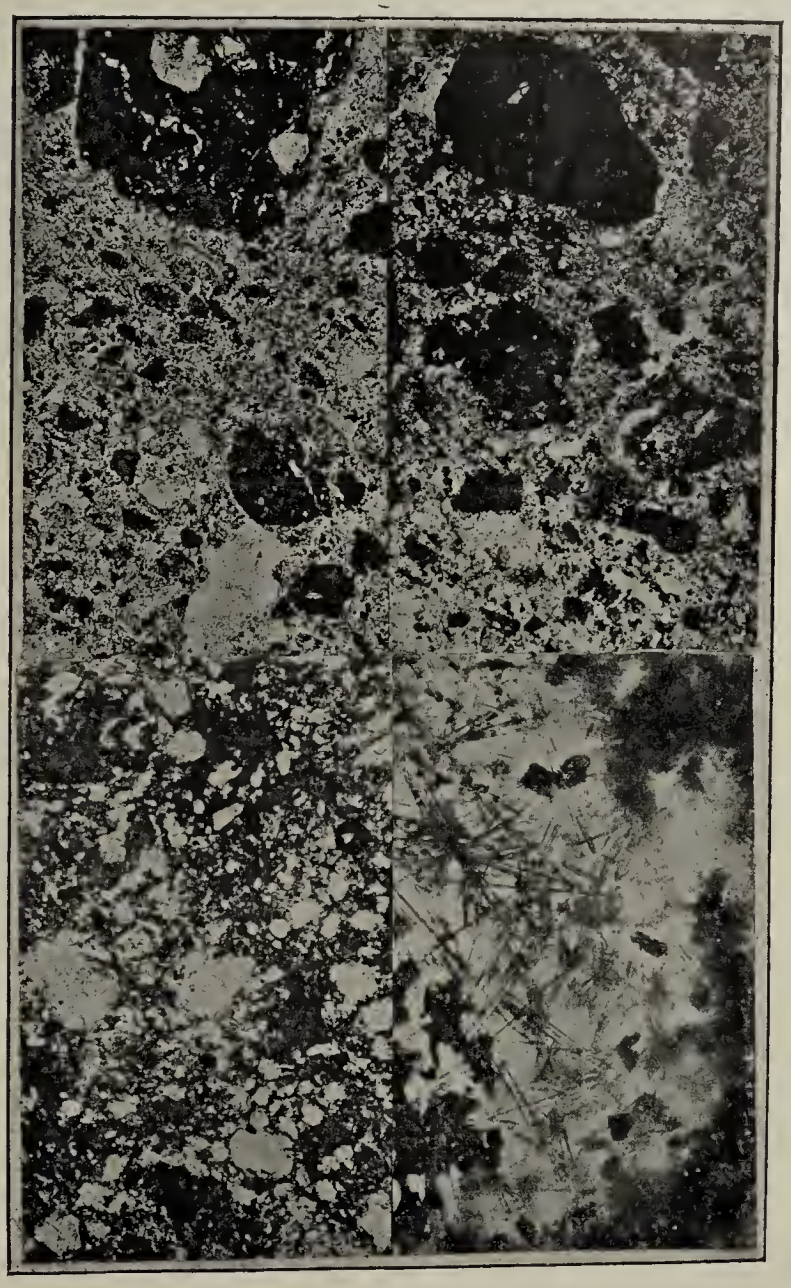


Fig. 1.—(Unfired). Fig. 2.—(Fired to 1,100°).
Fig. 3.—(Fired to 1,200°). Fig. 4.—(Fired 7 times to 1,200°).

Figs. 1 to 4.—Action of Heat on Fireclay.

3.—*Fireclay Bricks, Saggars, and Pyrometer Tubes.*

A typical example of the crystallisation of fireclays is shown in Figs. 1 to 4 (× 50). Fig. 1 is from a photograph of a thin slice of an unfired mixture of fireclay and grog employed for making saggars; Fig. 2 represents a thin slice from a piece fired once in a glost oven, about 1,100°; Fig. 3, the same mixture once fired in a china biscuit oven to about 1,200°; and Fig. 4, the same mixture fired seven times in the same oven to the same temperature. Patches of crystals were developed here and there in the mass, and the whole became exceedingly brittle.

The dark part of Figs. 1 and 2 represent the "grog." The opacity is due to its thickness. "Grog" is so much harder than the unfired clay (Fig. 1), and the imperfectly fired clay (Fig. 2), that we have not been able to grind the "grog" so as to show its structure and at the same time preserve the clay. Both translucent grog and translucent clay cannot therefore appear on the same piece. However, the structure of "grog" is virtually that shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

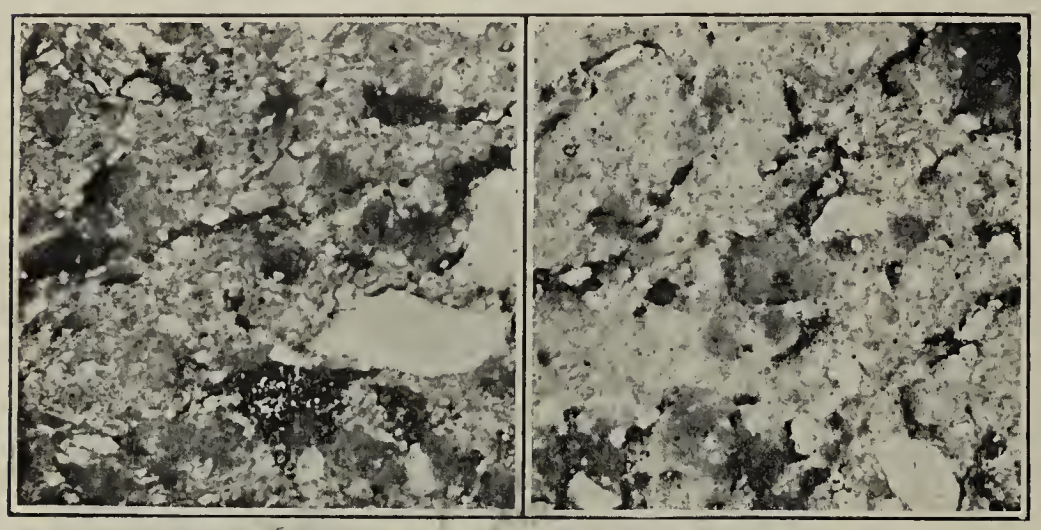
Morgan fireclay pyrometer tubes also crystallise and lose fluxes. These are perhaps the most economical form of pyrometer tubes on the market. Sections of new and seven times fired tubes are shown in Figs. 5 and 6 (× 37). The curious growth of crystals which develops in the zone between glaze and body also introduces strains and leads to rupture of the tubes. Nearly all pieces of glazed pottery, when fired a few times, develop copious growths of these crystals, and glazed pottery is known to be more liable to fracture in firing than biscuit ware.

A time-temperature curve of the oven in which our trials were

* From *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.* 6, 76, 129, 1907; *Journ. Soc. Chem. Ind.*, 26, 375, 380, 1907.

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fired is shown in Fig. 7. Some day sufficient material will have been collected to enable us to define precisely the zone of rapid crystallisation for typical bodies. A special search for this region would be very laborious on account of the disturbing effects of surfusion. The temperature of this particular oven was measured with both the Le Chatelier thermo-couple and the Féry radiation



New. Refired.

FIGS. 5 and 6.—ACTION OF HEAT ON MORGAN PYROMETER TUBE.

pyrometers. The curious depression in the Féry pyrometer curve at the 38th hour was caused by some sand having fallen into and partially blocked up the hole leading from the oven to the pyrometer.

4.—*A Second Hypothesis of the Cause of Brittleness.*

A writer (*Brick and Pot. Trades Journ.*, 15, 449, 1907) reviewing an earlier paper on this subject (J. W. Mellor, *Journ. Soc. Chem. Ind.*, 26,375, 1907) states that "the crystalline matter, having definite planes of cleavage, is necessarily more brittle than firebricks which are free from it." This hypothesis had previously been tried and rejected. The acicular crystals are so interwoven that the cleavage planes of the individual crystals cannot impart a bias to rupture in any particular plane. The crystals stretch out in all directions, and the resultant of the cleavage planes of all the crystals will not appear in any particular direction. Rather would the anastomosed crystals be more likely to render the piece tougher and less brittle if some other influence were not at work.

It has long been known that the volume of a vitreous solid is greater than the volume of the same weight of the solid in the crystalline condition. A crystal permanently expands when it becomes vitreous, and conversely, a vitreous solid permanently contracts when it crystallises. J. Roth (*Allgemeine und Chemische Geologie*, Berlin, 2, 52, 1892) has compiled a table which shows the percentage reduction in volume which occurs when a number of different substances pass from the vitreous to the crystalline condition. Ordinary felspar contracts about 6 per cent. in volume

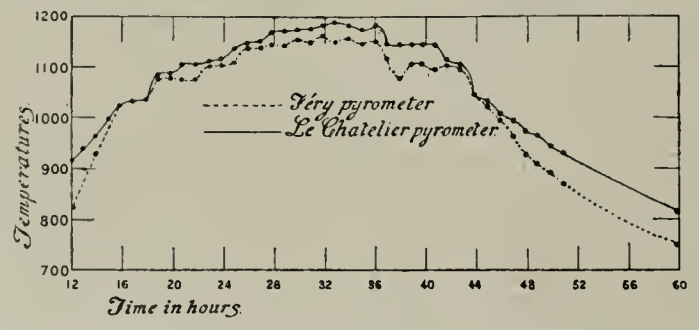


FIG. 7.—TIME-TEMPERATURE CURVE OF CHINA BISCUIT OVEN.

when it passes from the vitreous to the crystalline condition (J. W. Mellor, *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 5, 75, 1906; *Pot. Gaz.*, 32, 456, 1907). What will be the effect of local contractions in the body of a brick or saggar? The crystals, be it observed, are not uniformly diffused throughout the firebrick. They are developed in patches. When crystallisation sets in, the brick is not soft enough to adapt itself to the change in volume which occurs around the centres of crystallisation. Enormous strains will accordingly be set up in the body of the brick, rendering it very liable to rupture.* According to this theory, brittleness is not due to crystallisation, but to the strains induced by *irregular* crystallisation.

We have thus two views of the origin of the brittleness of fireclay after prolonged exposure to high temperature:

1. Volatilisation of alkalies whereby the clay becomes poorer in fluxing or "cementing" agents.
2. Local contraction which attends crystallisation or devitrification.

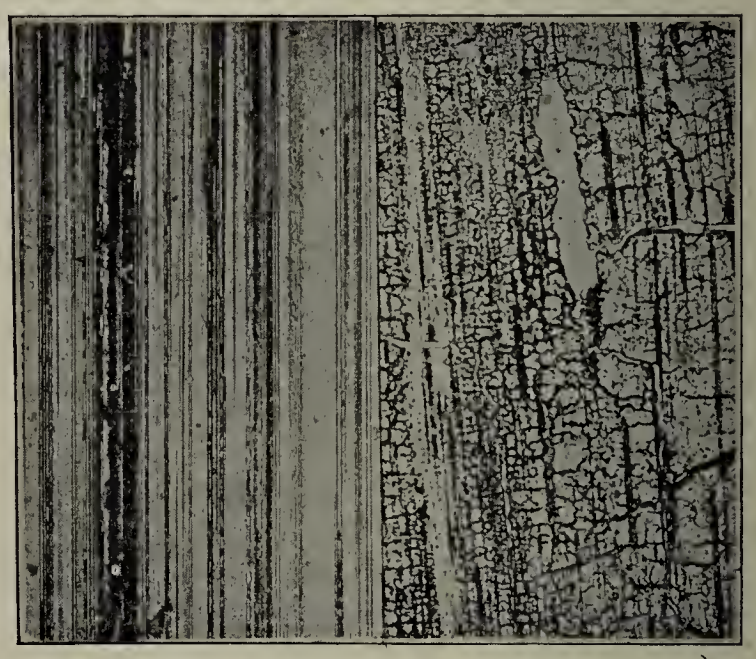
* A simple modification of this hypothesis might also be applied to the liability of crystallised iron and steel to rupture.

5.—*Fused Quartz Pyrometer Tubes.*

The action of heat on vitreous quartz pyrometer tubes, Figs. 8 and 9 (× 50), illustrates the contraction. Fig. 8 is a photograph of a thin slice of a new quartz pyrometer tube. The longitudinal channels in the quartz tube were originally air bubbles in the fused quartz. These were drawn out into long canals in the making of the tubes. After heating two or three times in a china biscuit oven (Fig. 7) the tube disintegrated and crumbled to pieces. The state of the tube after firing seven times is shown in Fig. 9. Obviously the changes in volume which have taken place in passing from the vitreous to the crystalline condition have broken up the tube completely.

A. Gaudin (*Compt. Rend.*, 8, 678, 711, 816, 1839; *Journ. Pharm.*, 25, 392, 1839; *Liebig's Ann.*, 31, 351, 1839) first noticed the devitrification of quartz glass when heated in the blowpipe flame, and he attributed the phenomenon to the condensation of silica vapour in the vicinity of the heated portion; W. A. Shenstone (*Proc. Roy. Inst.*, 16, 525, 1901; *Nature*, 64, 65, 1901) thought the "whitening" of the heated silica was due to the action of alkaline impurities in the glass; and A. Dufour (*Ann. Chim. Phys.* [8], 9, 433, 1906; *Thesé*, Paris, 89, 1906) states that hydrogen attacks silica, producing hydrogen silicide in the flame, and that then decomposes just outside the flame into silica, &c. It will, however, be now quite clear that silica normally devitrifies when heated for any length of time in the zone of rapid crystallisation (H. Hahn, *Int. Cong. angew. Chem*, 1, 714, 1903).

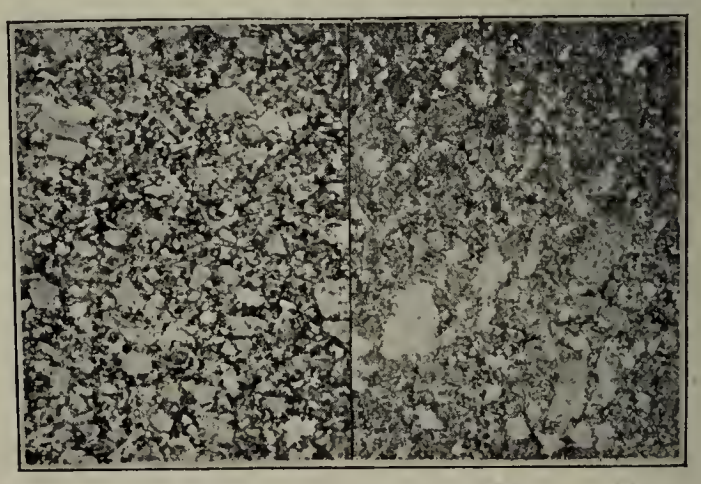
We have also heated a piece of fused silica pyrometer tube inside another wider tube and packed the intervening space with the



New. Refired.

FIGS. 8 and 9.—QUARTZ PYROMETER TUBE.

same powdered fused quartz from which the tubes were made. The two pyrometer tubes were then packed with powdered quartz inside a large crucible and fired in the same oven as before. The inner tube would probably be protected from the influence of alkaline vapours which are no doubt usually suffused in the atmosphere of combustion chambers. The inner tube again devitrified, but



New. Refired.

FIGS. 10 and 11.—MAGNESIA PYROMETER TUBE.

not nearly so much as before. It is, of course, impracticable to protect a quartz pyrometer tube in this manner. Quartz pyrometer tubes are not therefore to be recommended for use under such

conditions that the tube is likely to come in contact with alkaline vapours such as prevail in pottery ovens. It might also be noted that the tube shown in Fig. 9 was partially protected by simple

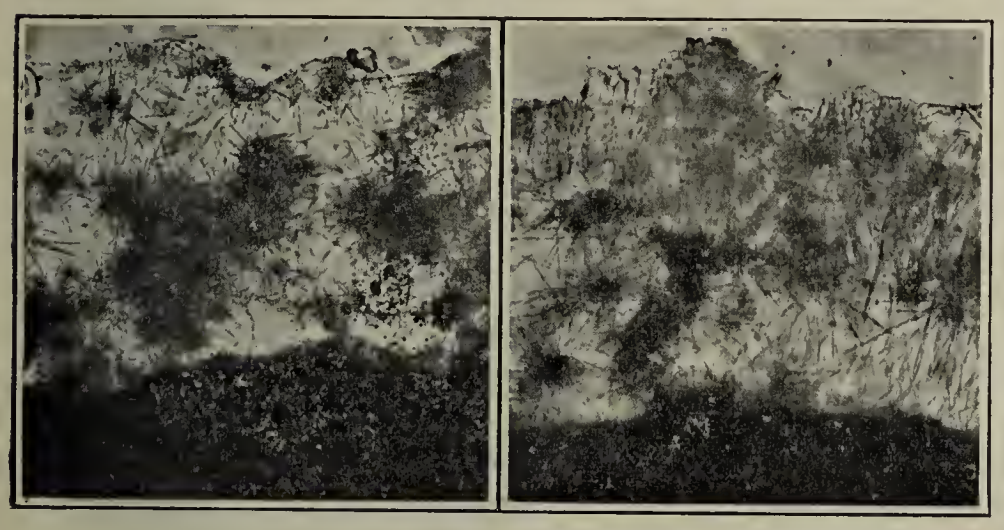


New. Refired.

FIGS. 12 and 13.—ORDINARY BERLIN PORCELAIN PYROMETER.

bedding in powdered flint previously washed in hydrochloric acid to remove free lime.

It must also be remembered that M. Berthelot (*Compt. Rena.*,



New. Refired.

FIGS. 14 and 15.—NEW AND REFIRED MARQUART'S PORCELAIN (×250).

140, 1159, 1256, 1905), has shown that vitreous quartz is permeable to hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen gases at 1,300°, and that the permeability is insensible at 600°—800°. Carbon dioxide does not

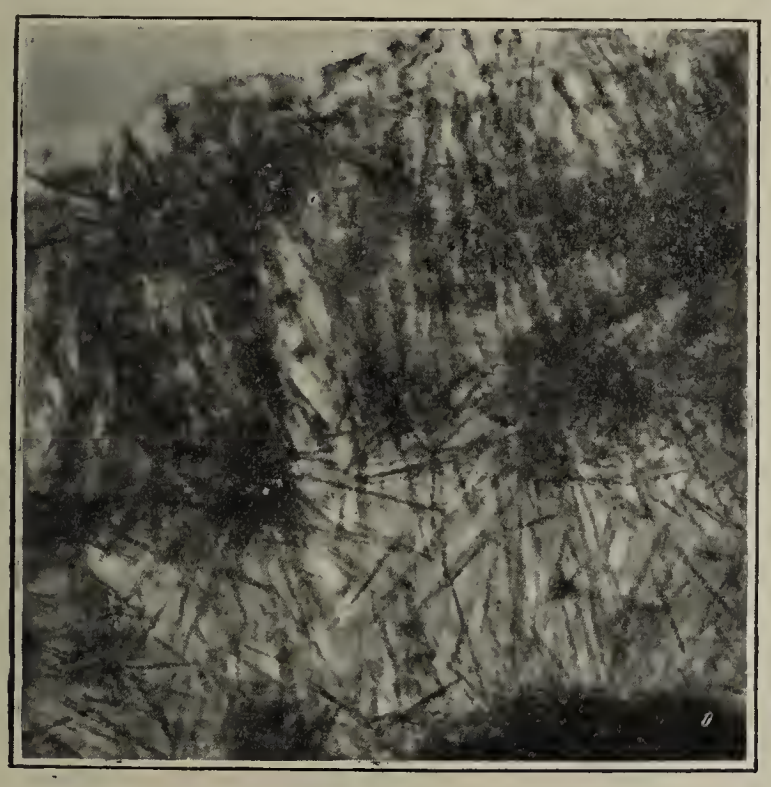
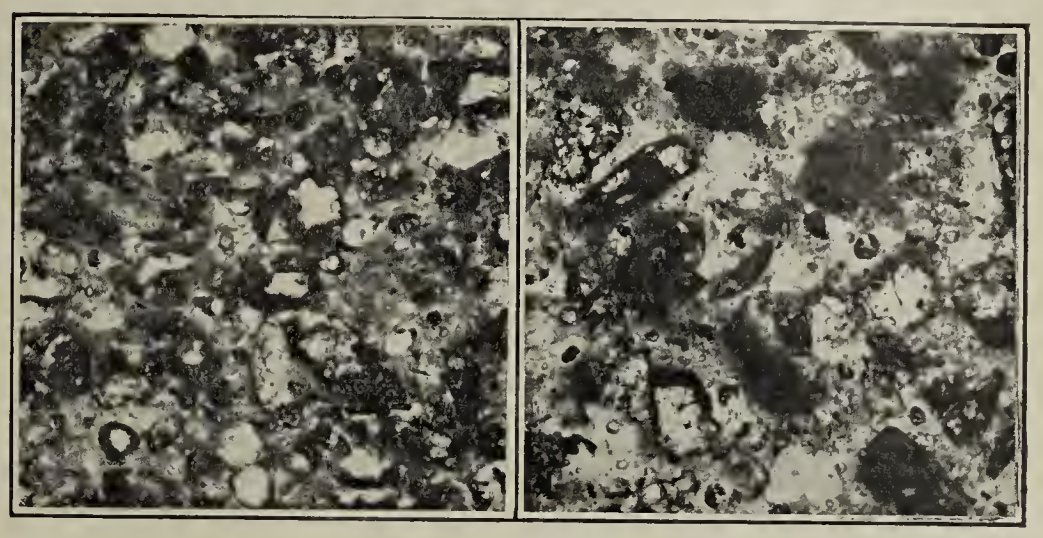


FIG. 16.—REFIRED MARQUART'S PORCELAIN (×1000).

permeate the tubes to an appreciable extent at 1,300°. This action must be considered when vitreous quartz is used for protecting Pt : Pt.Ir, and Pt : Pt.Rh thermocouples from furnace gases.

6.—*Magnesia Pyrometer Tubes.*

Unglazed magnesia pyrometer tubes did not suffer any marked



New. Refired.

FIGS. 17 and 18.—NEW AND REFIRED BUCHNER WARE (×50).

change when heated in a similar manner. No appreciable change in the structure or in the brittleness of the tubes could be detected. The structure of a new tube is shown in Fig. 10, and of a seven times fired tube in Fig. 11 (× 50). Tubes made from fused or "shrunk" magnesia are therefore very promising, provided they prove sufficiently impermeable to gases likely to injure the pyrometer wires. If the tubes are glazed, in order to diminish their permeability to furnace gases, they would probably become more susceptible to dangerous crystallisation. The magnesia tubes were packed in a crucible with powdered magnesia before firing.

7.—*Porcelain Pyrometer Tubes.*

An ordinary Berlin porcelain pyrometer tube new, and five times fired in the china biscuit oven (Fig. 7), is illustrated in Figs. 12 and 13. Dangerous crystallisation has again set in. A curious phenomenon was noticed with these tubes. After about a dozen firings, the crystals seemed to disappear, and body and glaze became a more or less homogeneous vitreous glass. This phenomenon requires further investigation.

Marquart's porcelain pyrometer tubes showed a remarkable growth of crystals after firing seven times under the above-mentioned conditions (Figs. 14, 15, and 16). Crystallisation has here proceeded further than with any other type of ware yet examined. The body and glaze seem to be one mass of relatively enormous crystals. And, what is still more remarkable, the tubes were still comparatively tough and did not break easily after passing through the oven seven times. According to the above-mentioned hypo-

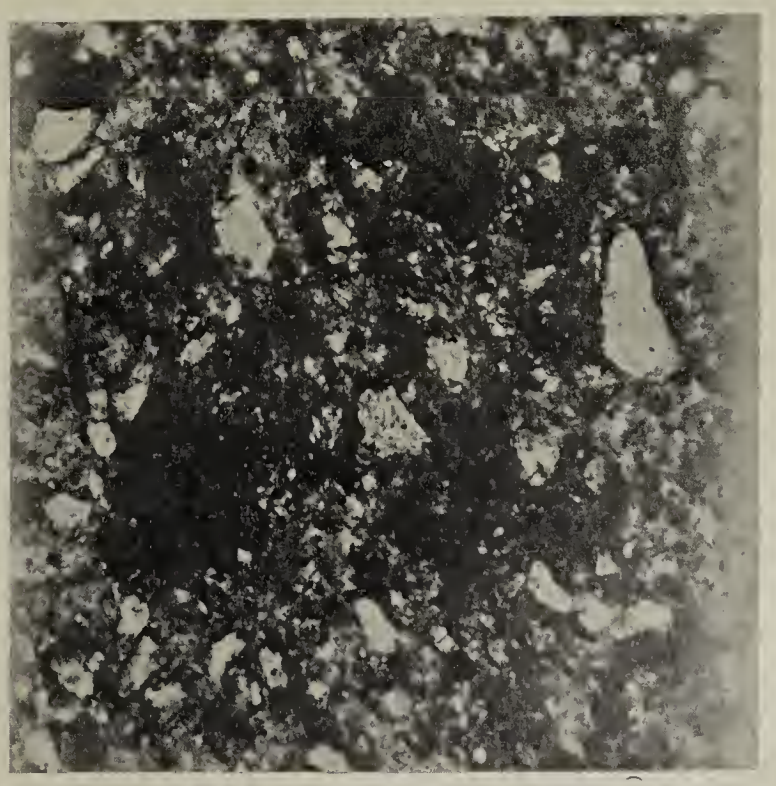


FIG. 19.—NEW BUCHNER WARE (×50), SHOWING RUBY-COLOURED CRYSTALS.

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thesis, if a firebrick or other refractory body crystallises uniformly throughout its whole mass, no strains would be set up, and the brick would not be so liable to rupture as if crystallisation had developed in irregular patches.* However, both the new and the refired bodies are highly crystalline. Marquart's porcelain is supposed to be a hard porcelain rendered less fusible by admixture with a little chromic oxide. (G. Rauter, *Die Industrie der Silikate*, Liepzig, 1, 122, 1904.)

8.—*Buchner Ware.*

We have also examined the action of heat on Buchner's body (M. Buchner, *Zeit. angew. Chem.*, 17, 985, 1904 ; *Chem. Trade Journ.*, 35, 398, 1904) made from a mixture of clay and corundum, a by-product in the Goldschmidt "thermite" process, by the Deutsche Steinzeugwaarenfabrik. During firing the pieces were packed in powdered alumina previously washed in hydrochloric acid and calcined to about 1,200° in the china biscuit oven (Fig. 7). The internal structure of the ware was practically the same before and after this treament (Figs. 17 and 18). The microscopic appearance of the ware in thin slices is particularly fine. Beautiful crimson crystals of "corundum" resembling rubies are diffused throughout the body (Fig. 19). After firing the surface of the ware begins to disintegrate, although the interior remains apparently unaffected.

We desire to thank Drs. R. S. Hutton and R. Seligman, Messrs. Baird & Tatlock, Glasgow, and the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co., for supplying us with specimens, and Messrs. Wilson, Park Works, Fenton, for firing our trials.

TYPICAL POTTERY AND GLASS DEALERS.

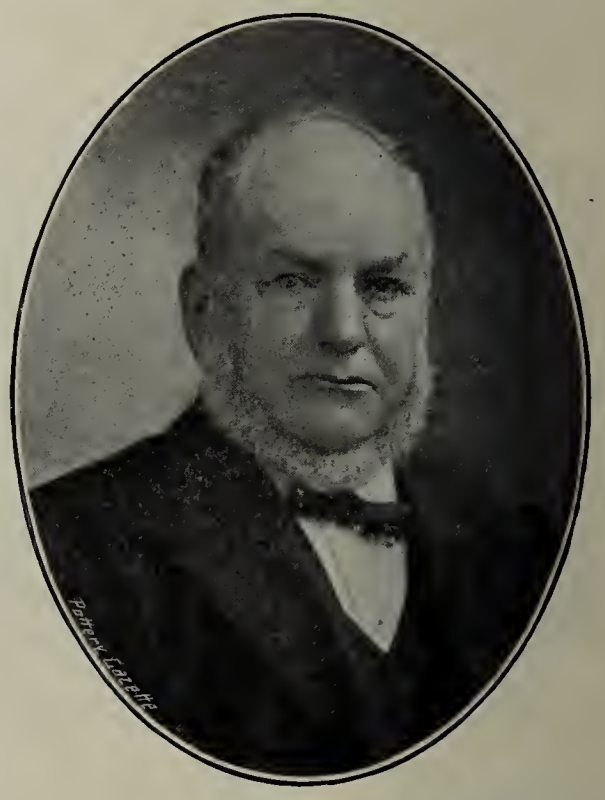
(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

MR. PHILIP PETERS, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

I HAVE frequently pointed out the advantages of an early training, either as an apprentice, or in some service equivalent to it, in qualifying a young man to become, first an assistant, and then a dealer on his own account in pottery and glass. I have also urged that an assistant who wants to understand all the intricacies of sizes, and counts, and prices in the pottery trade should try and obtain some experience at a pottery. I am still of opinion that the youth who has spent a year or two at a pottery or a glass works will be more likely to make an efficient salesman, and ultimately a successful dealer, than one who has not had such a useful preliminary training. An apprenticeship is a good training for a youth, even if he leaves the industry in which he has been trained, as soon as his indentures are completed. As the majority of the "typical" dealers it has been my pleasure to interview have had such an early experience, I have been cultivating the opinion that an apprenticeship (or a service equivalent to it) is a necessity for anyone who aims at success as a pottery and glass dealer. I shall have to modify that opinion, for, however desirable systematic training may be in our trades, I am constrained to admit that it is not an absolute necessity. It no doubt is a good rule that a youth should be apprenticed, but there is a proverb which says "there is no rule without an exception," and in Mr. Philip Peters I have met with exactly such an exception. I am, however, not likely to change my opinion altogether, because I can quote another proverb which says "the exception proves the rule." Mr. Philip Peters had no early experience in the pottery and glass trades, and yet he has been a most successful one. He is such a striking "exception," therefore, of success without early training, that he proves the rule that such training is essential to it.

Mr. Peters was born at Horne, in Surrey, in 1841, his parents were in a humble position in life, but gave him the best education in their power at Horne school. He appears to have made the best of such advantages as he had, but it would appear that his best tutor was always with him for he may almost be called a self-educated man. As was the custom with youths in the village in which he was brought up, as soon as he left school he was engaged in various capacities, and, being a handy young man, had no difficulty in securing constant employment. When he was fourteen years old he entered into his first responsible and definite engagement in the service of a country gentleman, Mr. James Cook, at Burstow, Surrey. He remained in this capacity for about a dozen years, and, like a prudent young man as he was, he had saved a little money, and looked about him for an opportunity of investing it in a business of some kind. He had been interested in observing the manufacture of "red-ware," which was carried on by small makers in several districts in which he had lived. He decided to try making this kind of pottery himself. He started a place at Pembury in Kent, and made rough red bread-pans, milk-pans, and similar heavy articles so much in use in country places. He not only made them, but sold them in the villages and at the farm houses round about. He was successful, and soon added the manufacture of brick, and roofing tiles.

In working the pit which he had leased for his supply of raw materials, he came upon a bed of better clay, which he thought was suitable for finer productions than bricks and tiles, and he proceeded to make experiments with it in the manufacture of flower pots and red-glazed ware. The clay proved particularly suitable for this class of ware, and Mr. Peters decided to develop the production of it. In 1880 he built kilns and drying sheds and added to his warehouse accommodation, thus establishing the pottery at Lower Green, Pembury, which he controls to-day. He had for some time had capable assistance. He was fortunate in securing the services of a good potter and most careful burner, in the man who made the red-glazed ware which took the first prize at the Paris Exhibition of 1878. His son has now the management of the pottery, Having thoroughly established the pottery, and being anxious to increase the output of it, Mr. Peters looked about for increased facilities for disposing of his productions. He thought a



[*Photo by Gordon Chase, Tunbridge Wells*

MR. PHILIP PETERS.

RETAIL DEPÔT IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS

would help in this direction, without interfering with the scattered customers all over the county, who had hitherto taken his goods. It is evident that in choosing a locality for a retail shop, Mr. Peters did not take counsel with any established tradesman. Such a man would probably have advised him to open a shop in a busy street. What Mr. Peters did was to arrange for the lease of a new shop in a new street that was at the time not laid out. This was the shop he now occupies, at 20, Monson-rd., in a new district, in what were then the outskirts of the town. As soon as the builders were out of the premises, and before the street itself was paved, Mr. Peters stocked the shop with goods of his own manufacture, and his daughter Miss Peters took charge of it. After a few weeks' experience she found that

* It may prevent misunderstanding if I here emphasise the fact that it has not yet been proved that crystallisation is the cause of brittleness. There has been a tendency in some quarters to take the "conclusions" further than the facts will allow us to go.—J. W. MELLOR.

there was a sale there for other descriptions of pottery, besides red ware and glazed vases and flower pots. She talked the matter over with her father, and the result was that he supplied her with dinner, tea, breakfast, and toilet ware. In a very short time glass was added, and Mr. Peters became a regular glass and china dealer. Mr. Peters' own account of the inception and growth of his retail business is full of interest, but too lengthy to be given in full. I must condense into sentences details which he described in columns. He bought his first parcel of goods to sell with his own manufactures from Doulton & Co., Lambeth. Representatives of various manufacturers called at his shop, and he placed small orders with them, and as his stock increased the number of manufacturers offering him goods increased out of all proportion to his requirements. At first he had to buy according to the judgment of his daughter and himself, which he checked by asking the opinion of the travellers who called upon him. I have said that Mr. Peters was self-educated. He had made it a rule all through life to learn as much as he could about all matters in which he was interested. He put this rule into more active exercise when he began to sell pottery and glass, and with great success. Until later on, he had no assistance from anyone who had been brought up to the trade, and acquired all his knowledge of it by close observation of other shops, the classes of goods they displayed, and the prices they charged : by interviews with manufacturers' representatives, by perusing and comparing manufacturers' catalogues and price lists, by reading the POTTERY GAZETTE, and adopting when he could the suggestions given in it to dealers, but his most useful knowledge of the trade was acquired by practical experience in buying and selling. He admits that he made some big mistakes in buying in his early days, but he was too shrewd to repeat them. It would have been a good lesson for them, if some of the young, self-conscious travellers in our trades could have heard what Mr. Peters said to me. He says the way in which some of them urge a dealer (especially a beginner) to order more of an article than he should order, is often a great loss to the dealer, but proves a greater loss in the end to the manufacturer, as it prevents him obtaining another order there. On the other hand, Mr. Peters speaks highly of many representatives who gave him much useful and sound advice. I have heard so many complaints of the unreasonableness of British pottery and glass manufacturers, that I asked Mr. Peters if he had found them willing to meet him fairly in business matters, and his reply was emphatic and without hesitation, "Generally speaking, most willing and obliging —the exceptions are very few." Mr. Peters must have worked hard in connection with his retail business. It increased in a surprising manner, so much so that some years ago he acquired a 21-years lease of No. 18, Monson-rd., next door to his original shop No. 20, and made a connection between them. He was a director of "The Opera House Company," formed to purchase the land at the back of Monson-rd., and fronting Mount Pleasant-rd. The company erected the fine block of buildings which includes the handsome little opera house and several shops fronting Mount Pleasant-rd., and large warehouses behind. Mr. Peters secured a good site in Opera House-buildings for a third shop, and also obtained large warehouses and stock rooms in the back portions of the new premises for his wholesale business. I am referring to these shops in another place. I am now dealing more particularly with the striking and energetic personality which created, and still controls, this large glass and china business.

I have, so far, only spoken of Mr. Peters as a glass and china dealer, and he is one, as completely as though he had no other business on hand. I must, however, explain, that he is still the proprietor of the red ware pottery at Pembury, which has grown in importance with his pottery and glass distributing business. His increased facilities as a dealer created an increased demand for the red ware he manufactured, and thus he has been successful in both. Mr. Peters did not seem to think so much of his achievements as I did. I was, however, desirous of getting some idea of his own views of them, if possible, so I asked him plainly if, for the benefit of others, he could say briefly to what chiefly he attributed his success—first as a manufacturer of red ware, and secondly as a pottery and glass dealer ?

He smiled and said, "Well, I suppose I should say 'hard work and sticking at it.' At Pembury I have from the first always made a point of turning out my ware fired well, and well finished. I have a careful foreman, who always keeps a good stock of ware in hand, so that we can give prompt delivery—which we do by our own vans, within a 20-mile radius. Then, as to my success as a dealer, you see I was already in touch with the local shopkeepers for many miles round, with my red ware. So I gradually introduced various lines in general earthenware, china, and glass, and sold them with my own red ware productions. I was content with a small profit on this wholesale trade, because my larger turnover enabled me to buy better for my retail trade." Having had details of his strenuous business life I hesitated to ask him if he had taken any part in public affairs, but I did ask him, and found that for many years he had been a member of the School Board at Pembury, that for as many years he had been a sidesman of his parish church, that he was a member of the local "Tradesmen's and Ratepayers' Association," and that he is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce. Since my interview, I have learned from other sources that Mr. Peters has been often asked to allow himself to be nominated for a seat on the town council, but has always declined. He is chairman of the Tunbridge Wells and District Omnibus Company, a director of the Tunbridge Wells Finance Company, and as I have said, a director of the Opera House Company. He is also on the directorate of several smaller local companies. As a final question, I ventured to ask Mr. Peters if he had any particular recreation or hobby ? To speak candidly I did not expect to find that he had, but he replied cheerily : "My only hobby —apart from business—that's my real hobby—is dairy farming. I have a very intimate friend, who has a fine dairy farm, and I have found great interest in the subject with him. I am a member of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, and take my annual holidays with them. I always attend their annual congress, and have been with them to Denmark, Sweden, Jersey, and many parts of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales."

In view of what I have just been saying, I had better conclude by reminding my readers that the subject of this sketch is a glass and china dealer.

The imports of Rome during the year 1907 included earthenware to the value of £136, china £101, glass and crystal articles £312. The first and last items are above the average for recent years, but china has fallen off seriously.

Porcelain tableware to the weight of 6,573,800 kilos, valued at £542,350, was exported from the German Empire during the first three months of the present year. The export for the corresponding period of last year was 7,164,600 kilos, valued at £591,100.

Norwegian Pottery Imports.—The imports of Bergen last year included :—Roofing tiles, 185,709, china 77 tons, sheet glass, 53 tons, glass bottles 25 tons. Trondhjem during the same period imported the following :—China 158 tons, pottery 29 tons, sheet glass 54 tons.

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ENTERPRISING RETAIL DEALERS.

(BY A MEMBER OF OUR STAFF.)

TOWNSEND & CO., glass and china galleries, 54, Northumberland-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are to be congratulated on the phenomenal success of their business. During a period in which distributors generally, and retail dealers in our trades particularly, have been complaining of a depression in trade, their business appears to have been constantly increasing. In June 1902 they removed from 58, Northumberland-st., to what they then considered spacious new premises specially built for them at 54, Northumberland-st. Now, after an experience there of only six years, they have found their new premises too small for the requirements of their business, and they have just added 1,914 square feet to their ground floor space. Their front shop is spacious, and the new section is in the rear of it, but on the same floor there is a wide opening connecting the old with the new, so that they have now a splendid ground floor occupying 3,622 square feet forming one continuous showroom. In order to inaugurate their extended premises, Messrs. Townsend arranged a special exhibition of fine porcelains, which was held from May 11 to May 23 inclusive. This is said to have been the finest display of high class English porcelains ever made in Newcastle. It included special pieces from W. T. Copeland & Sons (Spode), the Royal Worcester Porcelain Co., Ltd., the Royal Crown Derby Co., Ltd., and the Coalport China Co., Ltd. (Shropshire). At the same time, they made a fine display with English hand-made glass, including some beautiful table services. The accompanying illustration shows the addition just made in the rear of their shop, with the front shop seen in the perspective through the wide opening connecting the two. They announced this special opening show by advertisement in the local daily papers, and in addition they circulated an artistically printed and illustrated circular inviting the public to visit their enlarged show galleries during the fortnight named. We should like to see more of this energetic enterprise on the part of our dealers, and it is with the view to encourage this that we draw attention to this interesting opening show.



TOWNSEND & CO.: VIEW OF ENLARGED REAR SALOONS.

MRS. G. M. LEVI, 5, Holstein-parade, Weybridge, has a large shop with a fine window display. We visited the shop last year and admired the roomy and well arranged interior, with a large stand in the centre. Mr. Levi, who assists Mrs. Levi in the business, has other duties, but we believe the arrangement of the shop is due to him. We asked him at the time to send us a photograph of the interior, thinking that some of our readers might get a useful suggestion or two from it. Mr. Levi has, however, sent us a photograph of the exterior instead. This is not what we wished, but it is a well arranged front with an attractive appearance, and we give an illustration of it on page 687. When Mrs. Levi opened the shop, it was a perfectly new building with a handsome terra cotta front, so that not only the window, but the whole of the interior fittings (including the handsome centre stand we have referred to) were constructed to her wishes. The window has perhaps rather more pieces than we should have placed in it, but it is not nearly so crowded as the photograph would lead anyone to believe who has not seen it. For instance, there is considerable space between the toilet ewers in the middle of the window and the front pane, though the illustration does not show it. The arrangement of stoneware at the foot of the window (outside) is a good one.

Mr. F. C. White, a well-known dealer in high class pottery and glass, has recently opened a shop at 67, Eversfield-place, Hastings. The artistic side of the glass and china trade has long been cultivated by Mr. White, who comes to Hastings (from Ilfracombe) for the sake of his health. He has made a very spirited opening, and his shop will prove one of the attractions of the Front. The whole premises have been specially fitted for his business, and his window display is one of the most attractive in the town. The premises are nearly one hundred feet deep, are well arranged and are electrically lighted throughout. The stock includes specimens of the productions of the best English manufacturers of pottery and glass, and is displayed with artistic effect. Silvered glass is introduced discreetly, and plush-covered stands are used for the art wares. Mr. White is evidently aware that at Hastings he will meet with some competition from the large stores in London, and he is, therefore, marking his goods at reasonable prices. While he supplies the best porcelain and glass, both useful and ornamental, he has an extensive assortment of good medium class wares—those in greatest demand. Mr. White has the good wishes of his many friends in the trade, not only for the success of his business enterprise, but for the re-establishment of his health.

Pottery Strike in France.—Reuter reports that seven hundred porcelain workers have gone on strike at Mehun.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

FIRST NOTICE.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

WE wished to say something about the pottery and glass exhibits in this issue. We have been to the exhibition three times with that object, and the conclusion we have come to is that it will be better to defer our remarks until the next month. By that time we hope we shall be able to modify what we should say about the exhibition, if we wrote now. It was opened a month too soon, and even a month hence, it will be far from completion. Structurally it is a bold conception, magnificently carried out. The arrangement of the grounds is fairylike, and will doubtless give pleasure to hundreds of thousands during the summer and autumn. That, however, is a feature upon which a trade journal is not called to comment; so we wait until the exhibits of French and British pottery and glass are all disclosed for inspection. There is one feature which comes within our province, which is not an exhibit, and which is ready. We refer to

WEBB'S GLASS FURNACE.

This is an exhibition in itself, rather than an exhibit, and is now working. Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., have erected in a central position a real glass works with a handsome external appearance in harmony with the rest of the beautiful "White City." There is inside a glass furnace from which six workers, men and boys, are making English hand-made glass during the hours the exhibition is open. The workers are railed off, and outside the barrier (but inside the building), the public can witness the operation of glass being made by hand. There are elevated seats on each side of the glass house from which those who desire a better view of the process by which glass is made, can obtain it on payment of a small fee. The object of the company in making this public exhibition of the process of glass manufacture by hand, is to inculcate in the minds of the public a taste for good British glass. As thousands of dealers from all parts of the kingdom will be visiting the exhibition grounds for pleasure, it is hoped they will take advantage of this opportunity of seeing how Stourbridge hand-made glass is produced, and thus be the better able to explain its advantages to customers. Dealers have opportunities of explaining to the public the superiority of hand-made over machine-made glass, that manufacturers have not. It will help them to make the best use of these opportunities, if they clearly understand the process by which hand-made glass is produced. Of course, the company hope the exhibition will create a preference for hand-made glass which will increase their own trade. But if the object-lesson they have undertaken to give, at such great cost of money and labour, answers their expectations, it must prove advantageous to hand-made-glass makers generally, and thus in a wider sense tend to improve the trade of the country. The whole installation has been carried out by their own builders from Stourbridge, and the furnace and stack are as substantially built as they would have been, if intended for regular use at Dennis Glass Works.



ENTERPRISING RETAIL DEALERS.—MRS. G. M. LEVI, WEYBRIDGE.

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Reviews.

The Arts and Crafts of Older Spain. By Leonard Williams. (London and Edinburgh: T. N. Foulis. Three vols. 15s. net.)

SECOND NOTICE.

THIS is one of the "World of Art Series" of publications. The first volume deals with gold, silver, and jewel work, iron work, bronze, and arms; the second one treats of furniture, ivories, pottery, and glass, and the third volume is devoted to Spanish silks, clothes, and novelties, embroidery, tapestry, and lace. We have read the whole with interest and profit, but do not venture to comment on any but the sections on Pottery and Glass, beyond saying that Mr. Leonard Williams has given us three delightfully interesting volumes. Our first notice had reference to the section of the second volume dealing with Glass, and we shall now limit ourselves to that devoted to



FIG. 1.—HISPANO-MORESQUE LUSTRED VASE.

POTTERY.

The history of every country is more or less linked-up by its pottery. Indeed the records of the rise, progress, and even the fall of nations preserved in the work of the potter, have often proved more reliable than those of scribes, while in some instances we are made acquainted with important incidents of which we should have known nothing if they had not been recorded on imperishable pottery. This is, perhaps, more true of Egyptian and Roman than of Spanish pottery, but that the pottery of "Older Spain" is full of interest the author has demonstrated beyond doubt. He has confirmed and added to our knowledge of early Spanish pottery by detailed accounts of modern discoveries of specimens of it. Those, therefore, who are fairly familiar with the pottery of Older Spain will be interested in the more recently discovered examples of it described in this work. In past centuries Spain exercised a great influence in the commercial world, and was noted for superiority in various branches of industry. From a very early date the Spaniards were famous for the production of artistic pottery, but they have not sustained either their commercial influence, or their proficiency in ceramic art. The author, however, concerns himself with what they did rather than with what they are doing. He refers to quantities of pottery ware "believed to date from the time of the Phœnicians, or even earlier, which were unearthed in 1899 from tumuli in the Guadalquivir Valley. Those objects are ornamented in relief with complicated patterns paler than the ground, obtained by using lighter coloured clays." He quotes Martin Hume, who says (in *The Spanish People*): "As similar Celtic pottery has been found in Portugal, it will be understood that the Celtic influence, having crossed the Pyrenees, reached the South by the Western seaboard. It will thus be seen that long before the arrival of the Romans, a relatively high degree of civilisation had been reached at least in the south of Spain." He refers to even later discoveries. "In the summer of 1905 two German archæologists, Messrs. Schulten and Konen, who had obtained permission from the Spanish Government to explore the site of old Numancia, filled four large cases with the Celtiberian pottery they extracted from the ruins. These cases were forwarded to the University of Gottingen, but they are to be returned to Spain." Long before the Christian era, Greek colonies existed on the Spanish coast at Rhodes and elsewhere. Pottery of good design and workmanship was manufactured there, and strongly influenced native art. "Roman potteries existed in the suburb of Seville. The name of 'Saguntine ware' was given by the Romans to a kind of pottery which seems to have been made along the Spanish littoral extending south from Saguntum." This ware is adorned with garlands, animals, hunting scenes, games, divinities, or religious ceremonies, and also bears in nearly every case the potter's name or mark. More than 200 marks have been discovered which were used by potters of Ampurias alone.

The work abounds in such interesting particulars of early Spanish pottery. The chapter on mosaic work and tiles is instructive. Seville is described as the principal centre of the craft of decorative tile making. "These tiles made the potteries of Seville famous throughout Europe, and they are said to have been exported to Italy, Portugal, and even to England." "The names of several hundreds of mediæval and post-mediæval makers of these Seville tiles have been extensively published." "In a passage of the Alhambra Palace a space was laid bare not many years ago, containing the original small tiles used for flooring, glazed in two colours, and in the same building are large numbers of tiles which date from the time of the Spanish Moors. Excellent polychrome tiles (fourteenth century) in white, green, yellow, blue, and black are over the horseshoe archway of the gate of Wine of the Alhambra." (An illustration of this is given.)

The chapter on lustred pottery will appeal to potters of to-day. "Probably no pottery in the world possesses

greater loveliness or interest than the celebrated, yet even to this day mysterious, lustred ware of Moorish Spain. Our knowledge of the early history of this ware is still imperfect. . . . . The origin of lustred pottery is yet a problem which awaits solution. Until some years ago it was believed to have had its source in Persia, but this belief was shaken by Fouquet, who unearthed at Fostat, in Egypt, in the year 1884, specimens of lustred ware which are known to date from the eleventh century.'' As to the methods of producing lustre pottery, '' chemical investigations have shown that the metals used to produce the characteristic reflex which gives the ware its name, were copper and silver, entering into the composition of an extremely thin glaze extended over the surface of the pottery, and employed, sometimes together and sometimes separately.'' . . . ''The oldest specimens of this pottery extant to-day are those which contain the palest and most pearly lustre, and consequently the largest quantity of the costlier metal. In those of later date, there is an evident inferiority, both in colour, lustre, and design.'' An illustration and description is given of the celebrated Hispano-Moresque lustred plaque formerly belonging to Fortuny, which is said to date from 1408-1417. '' No less remarkable for the quality of its golden lustre, than for the grace and elegance of its fanciful oriental design.'' . . . A specimen of Spanish lustred ware more celebrated even than Fortuny's plaque is the Vase of the Alhambra (which we illustrate, Fig. 1). The history of the mighty jar is interesting. Popular superstition affirms it to have been discovered filled to the brim with gold, by the first of the Christian governors of the fortress of Granada. Exposed for many years to every stress of weather, and to every mutilation at the hands of passers by, it stood, in company with other vases of enormous size, upon a rampart which is now the Garden Terrace known as the Adarves. Swinburne wrote in 1776 : '' On a slip of terrace is the governor's garden, a very pleasant walk, full of fine orange and cypress trees and myrtle hedges, but quite abandoned. The view it commands is incomparable. Two large vases, enamelled with gold and azure foliages and characters, are the only ornaments left. These were taken out of the vaults under the Royal apartments.'' In the time of Owen Jones, the one surviving vase '' occupied the room that looks upon the Court of Myrtles.'' The vase, which measures four feet six inches in height by eight feet two inches and a half in circumference, is of common earthenware painted with intricate devices fired after painting. This was a difficult operation in a vessel of such size, and, in consequence, the colours have slightly run and mingled. The belly of the vase is broken clean in half, and one of the handles is missing. The vase is coloured blue and caramel upon a delicate yellow ground, and has a faint metallic lustre. An Arabic inscription is repeated several times, and consists of the words '' Felicity,'' '' Welcome.''

We can only make one more reference, although many fine old wares deserve lengthy notice. The Pottery at Talavera was at one time much esteemed. It is mentioned in a manuscript history of the town in 1560. '' Here was produced fine white glazed earthenware and other pottery, which supplied the country, part of Portugal and India. A writer of a history of Talavera in 1651 says : '' Her pottery is as good as that of Pisa, and is used to adorn the front of altars, churches, gardens, alcoves, saloons, and bowers. Two hundred workmen work at eight separate kilns, and four other kilns produce the commoner kinds of ware. Red porous clay vessels are baked in two other kilns in a thousand shapes to imitate birds and other creatures.'' The most important examples which have reached us consists of bowls of different sizes, dishes, vases, medicine jars, and wall decorations. Fig. 2 is an illustration of a fine Talavera vase. '' The potteries of Talavera were greatly celebrated for many years and supplied a lucrative and important branch of commerce.'' The chapter on Pottery is an exceedingly fascinating one, and will be found full of interest to manufacturers and dealers in pottery, and also to connoisseurs. The work is well illustrated throughout, and we are indebted to the publisher for the use of the blocks for the two illustrations we give.



FIG. 2.—TALAVERA VASE.

The Clay Industry in connection with Glass-Making (Die Tonindustrie im Glashüttenbetriebe). By Hans Schnurpfeil. (''Tonindustrie Zeitung Verlag, Berlin, N.W. 21.'' 5s. 6d. post free.)

IT has long been a source of dissatisfaction amongst students and the more progressive manufacturers, that little or no information on the subject of clay from a glass-maker's standpoint could be obtained without a most laborious search through journals and scientific papers not available to the ordinary man. Herr Schnurpfeil has

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therefore rendered a great service to the trade at large in condensing much of this information within 200 pages of a small volume recently published. Unfortunately the book is in German, but to those who can read it, the chapters on clay characteristics, pot construction, and annealing furnaces will be particularly interesting, whilst the chapters on refractory materials used in glass manufactures and the life of pots are almost equally valuable, though less complete. It is peculiarly interesting to find that the author still prefers the old-fashioned mixing of the materials by hand in a large wooden trough to the more common pug-mill or mixer, but he is probably quite correct in his reasons for this choice, especially in a country like Germany, where skilled labour is cheap. The book is quite as valuable to the manufacturer of refractory clay ware generally as to the glass manufacturer who makes his own pots and bricks, though its scope is limited to the trade with which it is chiefly concerned. The materials used are almost exclusively German, though slight reference is made to Stourbridge clay and to the compositions used in this country and in Scotland, of which land Garnkirk clay is taken as typical. This book exhibits the usual characteristics of scientific work carried out in the Fatherland, details rather than principles being emphasised, and the reader is given minute instructions as to what to do in certain cases so as to avoid small difficulties, whilst greater sources of error are frequently over looked. The section devoted to cracked pots and their causes is one which gives the author almost unlimited possibilities of placing his knowledge and experience in a permanent form, but in this, the weakest section of the book, he contents himself with a brief mention of the more important causes. It is to be hoped that if a second edition appears this part of the work may be at least trebled in size. Whilst making no special claim to originality of information, this book is one which all those interested in the glass and refractory clay industries would do well to study, providing the German language is not too difficult for them, in this somewhat concentrated style of writing.

Diseases of Occupation : from the Legislative, Social, and Medical Points of View. By THOMAS OLIVER, M.D. Sc., F.R.C.P., Physician Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Professor of Physiology Durham University. (London : Methuen & Co. 10s. 6d. net.)

THIS is a volume in the "New Library of Medicine," edited by C. W. Saleeby, M.D., F.R.S.E., &c. The reputation of the author would alone justify the selection of a work of his for such a distinguished position. But the book itself vindicates its appearance in that series. Dr. Thomas Oliver is medical expert on the Dangerous Trades Committee, appointed by the Home Office. He was a member of the "White Lead Commission" appointed by Government in 1892–1893, and medical expert at the Home Office special inquiry into the manufacture of lucifer matches, and on pottery. He has written works on lead poisoning and on industrial diseases generally. He has, in addition, special knowledge as a physiologist, and large experience as a practical physician. The author reviews the factors contributing to industrial diseases and accidents. The monthly statistics published in the "Labour Gazette," under the heading of "Diseases of Occupation in Factories and Workshops," only give cases of lead poisoning, mercurial poisoning, phosphorus poisoning, arsenic poisoning, and anthrax. Dr. Oliver in the present work takes a survey of diseases due to gases, vapours, high temperature, &c., to working in caissons and compressed air; to diseases incidental to chemical trades; to explosives and the effect upon health of the gases evolved; to metallic poisons, dust, and fumes; to diseases due to organic and inorganic dust, heated atmosphere, &c., and to diseases due to fatigue and occupation neuroses. Then under the heading of "Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations," the doctor includes practically every form of occupation, not separately enumerated, from tea-tasting to motor-car driving. The author has "endeavoured to place before the general and professional reader, important facts dealing with the effects of industries upon health. The subject is one which, within the last few years, has attracted, and in the future is still likely to attract, considerable attention. The health of the nation must be viewed from all standpoints, and as the working classes form the largest proportion of the population, the conditions under which they labour call for thoughtful study." The author is "therefore hopeful that this book will prove useful to members of Parliament, and to all persons interested in schemes for social betterment, to medical officers of health, and to others."

The importance of the subject is admitted by everyone, and in connection with it there are obligations incumbent on manufacturers and employees. The author concedes this, for the first words in the opening chapter are—"No matter what parliamentary legislation may enact, industrial hygiene will never be secured until the workers themselves are educated in regard to the dangers incidental to particular trades, and are willing to co-operate in making Home Office regulations effective." The author probably did not intend it, but in this sentence we have exemplified the different treatment of manufacturers and workers. While the latter are to be "educated" in regard to particular dangers until they "are willing" to co-operate in favour of obedience to Home Office regulations," manufacturers are at once subject to pains and penalties if they do not obey those regulations. The author refers to the objection manifested by workers themselves to hygienic measures and methods designed for their safety. There are probably many ways of accounting for this feeling on the part of workers in all industries where danger to health exists, but the principal reason for it will, we think, be found in the inability of the workers to understand the real reasons for the regulations. The author has very ably explained these reasons, and his book (full of information respecting every branch of industry where injury to health exists) is deserving of the attention of the public and especially of that of industrial workers themselves. In regard to some industries, the advice is so sound and so practical, that manufacturers would do well to have extracts from it printed and circulated as leaflets among their employees—men and women.

LEAD POISONING.

Naturally, we turn with greatest interest to the chapter on "Diseases due to Metallic Poisons, Dust, Fumes, &c.," and to that section of it headed, "Manufacture of Pottery and Earthenware." We regret to find that in writing of leadless glaze—the most debateable, and, we may add, the most exhaustively debated feature in pottery manufacture—the author seems to be quite out of touch with the real position of the question. It may appear presumptuous to make such a remark about a gentleman of the ability and professional eminence of Dr. Thomas Oliver, but we would rather put it that way than charge him with deliberate misrepresentation. His extraordinary attitude on the question of leadless glaze discounts the unstinted praise we should have had for his interesting and useful chapter on metallic poisons. The comments we feel bound to make on that attitude preclude any reference to other sections of the chapter. Our readers are well acquainted with the various phases of the leadless glaze agitation, and with the present position of the subject, so that quotations from the author's observations will be understood without explanation. He says (p.166) :—

"The use of leadless glazes has been consistently

opposed by a large number of manufacturers on the ground that without the presence of lead in the glaze, they cannot get the depth and beauty of colouring which are so much admired. In the Thorpe-Oliver report it is shown that by far the largest proportion of earthenware can be made without lead in the glaze. . . . An exhibition of leadless glazed pottery was recently held at Westminster House. Those who had the opportunity of inspecting the various products could not be but impressed by the high-class character of the goods exhibited and by the variety, depth, and beauty of the colouring displayed. It is true, leadless glazed ware is more apt to go wrong in the firing, and is more expensive to produce, but these are trade and economic problems which manufacturers would readily overcome if there was the stimulus of an increasing demand for the goods. Manufacturers will only make what they can sell. Since all sanitary and office goods can be produced just as well without lead as with it, public bodies should set the example in their contracts of asking for leadless glazed ware, and if this were done an increasing public demand for domestic ware similarly prepared would end in creating, through the spirit of competition aroused, a supply that would prove just as satisfactory as lead glazed ware.''

The fact that the statement contained in the last twelve words has been proved by experts as clever as the author himself (who have the further advantage of practical experience) to be absolutely untrue, will not prevent it being quoted by faddists.

With reference to the notorious exhibition at Westminster House, it was pointed out at the time that many of the exhibits of so-called leadless-glazed ware were glazed with lead. In reference to those that were not lead glaze the eminent firm of Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Ltd., Etruria, wrote to the promoters of the exhibition: ''We wish to point out that the Wedgwood ware exhibited is our well-known ornamental jasper ware. In this case we can use a leadless glaze when glazing is required, but for 'utility' ware, we have been for many years unable, and are still unable, to produce commercially a satisfactory leadless glaze, and that no china or earthenware of ours is exhibited at the Church House.''

On April 30, last year, Mr. Wm. Burton, of Clifton Junction, expert chemist and potter, delivered a lecture before the Society of Arts, on ''Lustre Pottery.'' In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Burton, Mr. H. Hardinge Cunynghame, C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary at the Home Office, said :—

''It was impossible to look at the exhibits collected without feeling that lustre pottery was the pottery of the future. The beautiful colours produced by the methods described by Mr. Burton, ought to play a large part in household pottery, useful and ornamental. Art should be progressive, but on looking at ordinary crockery one felt that manufacturers were children at the work, and only at the beginning of art. There seemed to be no reason why, from what they had heard, ordinary pottery should not be artistically decorated. He first made Mr. Burton's acquaintance at the arbitration proceedings before Lord James of Hereford some years ago. At that time there was a movement conducted by benevolent and philanthropic people, who urged upon the Government that the use of lead in pottery manufacture should be absolutely forbidden, because of the injury to the workers. The Government proposed practically to prohibit the use of lead in the manufacture, but the manufacturers strongly opposed the prohibition. The pottery trade were indebted to Mr. Burton, who showed his willingness to meet the suggestions made by the Home Office as far as they could be met. His evidence was principally instrumental in showing that certain kinds of pottery could not be produced without lead; and by his breadth of view he prevented rash action being taken in the total abolition of the use of lead. Wiser counsels now prevailed. He was not in the secrets of the House of Commons like the chairman, but he hoped they would not rashly press changes upon departments which, if carried out, would ruin a national industry. The use of lead was almost essential in certain manufactures, to those who knew how to use it, it being impossible to produce the finest class of work without its use. In the beautiful specimens exhibited by Mr. Burton that evening, a considerable amount of lead glaze had been used, and it would, therefore, be a thousand pities if anybody pressed upon the industry a total prohibition of that material.''

Mr. Wm. Burton delivered a lecture on Feb. 12 last, before the Royal Society of Arts, on the ''Hygiene of the Pottery Trade,'' a report of which appeared in this GAZETTE. Towards the conclusion of it, Mr. Burton says: ''The great bulk of our English products—earthenware, English china, tiles, electrical fittings, &c.—can only be satisfactorily glazed with glazes containing lead; and this is the experience of the potters of all the countries, either in Europe or America, where similar wares are manufactured. I must say, with the fullest sense of the responsibility of such a statement, that to talk of the possibility of using leadless glazes on the great bulk of the pottery made in this country, is simpy to cherish a delusion.''

We have felt it due to our manufacturers to point out the mistaken statement published by the author with all the authority of his position. We trust he will find an opportunity for modifying, if not absolutely withdrawing, his statement. We regret that the necessity for this lengthy explanation has prevented us doing justice to the other sections of his exceedingly able and interesting treatment of other diseases of occupation.

[The above review was in type in time for our May issue, but was unavoidably held over.—EDS. P. G.]

THE BOARD OF CONCILIATION.

THE rules governing the Board of Conciliation and Reference for the China and Earthenware Manufacturers and Workers in Staffordshire, have been finally agreed upon. The following is a copy of them :—

1.—That this Board be styled the ''Board of Conciliation and Reference'' for the Staffordshire China and Earthenware Manufacturers and Operatives.

2.—That the leading principle shall be the continuance of work at existing prices pending any dispute. Any decision shall date backward to the time of the appeal being made.

3.—The object of the Board shall be to investigate and settle as between employers and operatives all questions of wages or any other matters affecting their respective interests that may be referred to it from time to time by the employers or operatives, and by conciliatory means to interpose its influence to prevent disputes and put an end to any that may arise.

It is, however, understood and agreed that under these rules neither employers nor operatives shall be entitled to appeal to the Board on the following questions, except as provided by the trade rules :—

1.—Good from oven.

2.—Limitation of apprentices—except in the oven branch, and then only when a change is proposed to be made during the year at a manufactory in the proportion of apprentices to journeymen working together in a set.

4.—That the Board consist of ten employers and ten operatives, four of each to form a quorum; and the first Board shall hold their first meeting within 14 days after their appointment. The operatives to be elected by their own body, and the employers by their own body. The members of the Board to serve for one year and to be eligible for re-election. The new Board to be elected in the month of January in each year, but the first Board shall be elected as soon as possible after these rules shall have been agreed upon

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The annual meeting to be held in January, and be apart from the quarterly meeting.

5.—That the Board shall at its first meeting in each year elect a President and Vice-President ; also two secretaries, one for the employers and one for the operatives, who shall continue in office one year, and be eligible for re-election.

6.—That the Board shall meet for the transaction of business once a quarter—namely, the first Monday in the months of January, April, July and October ; but on a requisition to the President signed by three members of the Board, specifying the nature of the business to be transacted he (or in case of his absence the Vice-President) shall within seven days convene a meeting of the Board. The circular calling such meeting shall specify the nature of the business for consideration.

7.—A reference to the Board may be made by either party to any dispute, but the primary obligation to appeal to the Board shall rest upon the party who wishes to alter existing arrangements, subject, however, to Rules 15 and 20.

8.—That no employer or operative shall be entitled to appeal to the Board, except with the consent of the Board, unless he has been a subscriber from the commencement of the current year of subscription.

9.—The parties to any dispute intended to be submitted to the Board shall, if possible, agree to a joint written statement of their case ; but if they cannot agree, a statement in writing on behalf of each party shall be made, and every such statement shall be sent to the secretaries at least two days prior to the Board meeting. Each party shall have power to adduce oral evidence before the Board.

10.—That the President shall preside over all meetings of the Board, except such meetings where the independent Chairman is called in. In his absence the Vice-President. In the absence of both President and Vice-President, a Chairman shall be elected by the majority present.

11.—In all cases of dispute or difference the Board shall, in the first instance, make an attempt to arrive at a settlement, and in the event of the Board being unable to do so the matter shall be further considered at a special meeting of the Board, under the chairmanship of an independent Chairman, who shall be appointed by the Board, and failing agreement, by the Speaker of the House of Commons, and in the event of the parties being still unable to agree the Chairman shall be invited to settle the question, and his decision shall be binding on each party.

12.—That when at any meeting of the Board the number of employers or operatives is unequal, all shall have the right of fully entering into the discussion of any matter brought before them, but only an equal number of each shall vote. The withdrawal of the numbers of which ever body may be in excess to be left to the selection of such body.

13.—That the parties to any dispute which has been submitted to the Board shall be bound by its decision until the 25th March following.

14.—That each party shall pay their own secretary and separate expenses, but the joint expenses of the Board shall be borne equally by the employers and operatives.

15.—A committee consisting of four, that is to say—two employers and two operatives—shall inquire into any dispute that may arise at any individual manufactory, and that does not affect the interest of a whole branch, and such committee shall use its influence in the settlement of disputes, and have power to make an award. Before such committee shall commence to inquire into any dispute it shall appoint a referee, before whom the case shall be laid by such committee in the event of its being unable to adjust the business referred to it. The decision of the reference shall be accepted by both parties to the dispute. If such committee shall not be able to agree upon a referee, the independent Chairman of the Board shall make the appointment and the case shall proceed. Such committee, however, shall not deal with any question which cannot be dealt with under these rules.

16.—That if anyone or more of the Board shall be immediately affected by the dispute they shall not be appointed upon the committee referred to in Rule 15.

17.—That the Board shall recognise the trade rules set forth in the schedule as binding upon the parties to any dispute, and for the regulation of the trade.

18.—That no alteration or addition be made to these rules except at the annual meeting. Notice of any proposed alteration shall be given in writing to the secretaries, one month previous to such meeting, and the secretaries shall give one week's notice thereof to each member of the board.

19.—That when a general inquiry shall take place involving a reduction or increase of wages, the case in respect of all branches shall be dealt with as one, if desired.

20.—When there is no general inquiry on March 25 affecting the interests of the whole trade, any one branch, but not more than three branches, may make a separate and special appeal to the Board for change in prices on any special ground that may seem to them to justify such a change, and in like manner the employers shall be at liberty to claim an inquiry in case of there being a dispute with any one or not more than three branches. Any dispute affecting more than three branches shall be dealt with as a subject for general inquiry.

21.—That the independent Chairman shall have full opportunity to verify any figures or statements made in evidence, providing that such verification be not allowed to interfere with, or expose, the private business of any firm ; such verification shall be made through a sworn accountant, appointed by, and responsible to the independent Chairman, and shall be disclosed to no other person.

SCHEDULE.

Trade Rules.

1st. "That in the absence of any specific agreement to the contrary the recognised custom of the trade shall be, that four weeks' notice be given at any part of the year by an employer to discharge an operative, or by an operative to leave an employer."

2nd. "That the prices of labour mutually agreed upon on March 25, in one year, shall not be subject to alterations by either party until March 25 following."

3rd. "That if new articles or new modes of working be introduced at a manufactory during the same year, any disagreement as to price shall be referred for settlement to a committee to be appointed under Rule 15."

4th.—"That if either employer or operative intends to propose any alteration in prices or trade usage, he shall give to the other at least six weeks' notice in writing previous to the ensuing March 25, and such notice shall specify the alterations proposed ; and if the parties concerned cannot agree to such alterations the dispute shall be referred to the Board within 14 days ; and the Board shall meet within seven days afterwards as per Rule 6. If the Board's decision cannot be obtained by the commencement of the trade year the employer shall continue to employ the operative, and the operative to serve the employer, according to No. 2 of the Board's rules, and the decision when given shall govern prices and trade usages for the trade year. If no notice of alteration be given within the prescribed time the prices and trade usages shall continue for the ensuing year without alteration."

5th.—"That all apprentices shall be bound by an indenture in a form to be settled by the Board ; and any body of journeymen who feel aggrieved by the action of any particular firm regarding the employment of apprentices shall be entitled to have the matter brought before the committee."

6th.—"That should a firm make any change which when completed involves an alteration in the work or rate of wages of the operatives which is considered not satisfactory by them, then the firm shall at once place the matter in the hands of their Association who shall immediately take action by placing the matter before the Board, failing which the operatives involved shall have the right to tender notices to cease work without further notice to the Employers' Association. When a settlement is arrived at it shall date from the time the change was made."

7th.—"That the representatives of the employers and the representatives of the employed in all disputes do mutually undertake that they will use their best endeavours to see that the engagements hereinbefore respectively entered into by them are faithfully carried out in every respect."

That the usages in the biscuit warehouse shall be :—

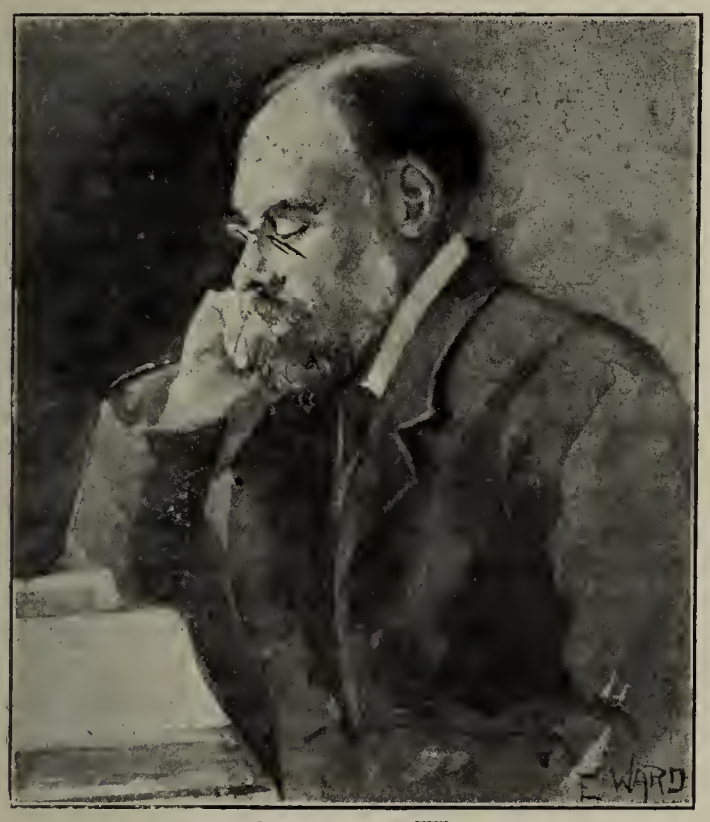
(a) "That the operatives be paid for all ware which is spoiled through causes that do not come under their control, or that cannot be traced to their bad workmanship ; but that no payment be made for bad work which can be proved to be the fault of the operatives." (b) "That in all cases where defective work can be made good by a second firing, the operative shall be allowed that privilege, or where work can be made good previous to firing, the operative shall have the right to do so." (c) "That all ware be counted to the operative before it be allowed to be taken out of the biscuit warehouse, and not later than the first full working day after drawing, but at manufactories where there is one biscuit oven only, an additional day shall be allowed." (d) "That any branch of operatives which is paid good from oven and which is dissatisfied with the check provided by its employers as regards the loss and breakages of ware, shall be entitled to have the question referred to the committee."

The Imports of the Straits Settlements during last year included $231,000 worth of crockery and earthenware from the United Kingdom and $416,000 worth from the Continent of Europe. The corresponding figures for 1906 were $217,000 and $368,000 respectively. Of glassware, the import from the United Kingdom was valued at $125,000 in 1906 and $135,000 in 1907 ; from the continent of Europe the values were $367,000 and $351,000.

Obituary.

CHARLES WEBB.—Aged 72.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Charles Webb, for many years associated with the Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge, and for several years, and up to the date of his death, one of the directors of Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd. Mr. Webb had not been very well and had been on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Mills, at Malvern. He was very fond of the hills, and on one day he climbed the heights twice, which so greatly distressed him as to cause him to



MR. CHARLES WEBB.

return home earlier than he intended. He never recovered, but died at his residence, Claremont, Kingswinford, on Tuesday, May 5. The late Mr. Webb was the eldest son of the late Mr. Thomas Webb, the founder of the Dennis Glass Works. Mr. Thomas Webb was at one period in partnership with W. H. & B. Richardson until he built the Platts Glass Works, and commenced business there on his own account. At this time he lived at Platts House. The late Mr. Charles Webb went to the business as soon as he left school, but after a short stay with his father he went to Mr. Alderman Copeland, the well known china manufacturer, at Stoke-on-Trent. Alderman Copeland had a shop in Bond-st., London, where he sold large quantities of Webb's glass, and it was in this shop that the deceased obtained his first business experience. Returning to the glass trade, the deceased travelled for the firm for several years. In course of time Mr. Thomas Webb built the Dennis Works and took his sons Mr. Charles Webb and Mr. Wilkes Webb into partnership with him. The business increased rapidly, and on the retirement of their father, Mr. Thomas Webb, the business was left to them, and a few years later they were joined in the firm by their younger brother, Mr. Walter Webb. The firm continued to make rapid strides, both in the quantity of trade and in the quality of the goods they produced. They were very successful at the Paris Exhibitions, 1867 and 1878. At the latter exhibition they were awarded the "Grand Prix," in competition with the most famous glass works in the world. The late Mr. Charles Webb shared with others the duty of designing the cut patterns that secured that prize. When the business was converted into a limited liability company Mr. Charles Webb was the managing director, a position he held until about four years ago, when he retired from active work in connection with the business, but kept a seat on the board of directors until his death. Mr. Webb was of a quiet, unostentatious disposition, and, though a consistent Conservative, took no part in politics. He was a regular attendant at Wordsley Church all his life, and was a member of the Amblecote Urban District Council. The deceased was of a sympathetic nature and was respected and esteemed by all who came in contact with him either in business or social life. The interment took place in the family vault in Wordsley Churchyard on May 9, in the presence of many relatives and friends, including most of the principal glass manufacturers of the district.

WALTER HORN.—Aged 60.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Walter Horn, the senior partner in the Ayres Quay Bottle Company, Ayres Quay and Commercial-rd., Sunderland. Mr. Horn had been ailing for some time past, but during the past few weeks an improvement in his health induced him to get about again. He attempted to resume business, but after an attendance of less than a week at his office, he caught a chill, which was followed by an attack of pneumonia ending fatally. The deceased was a son of the late Mr. Nathan Horn, of Bainbridge, Holme, a member of one of the oldest families in Sunderland. The Ayres Quay Bottle Works are amongst the best known in the trade, and the deceased had been connected with them all his life. Many years ago the late Sir James Laing, Mr. Frank Horn, Mr. John Scott, and the deceased were associated in the conduct of the business, but for about twenty years the late Mr. Walter Horn has had the sole management. Under his care great extensions have been made, and the output of the works is now twelve times greater than it was. The deceased was an ardent Tariff Reformer, and did much to sustain the interest in the movement in his neighbourhood. He was a member of the Sunderland Constitutional Club, though he did not take an active part in political affairs. He was for many years a magistrate on the Houghton-le-Spring Bench and was a justice of the peace for the county. The late Mr. Horn was well known and greatly esteemed in Sunderland and indeed on both sides of the Wear. Mr. Horn leaves a widow and two sons. The latter both obtained university degrees, and are now engaged in the bottle making industry.

THOMAS P. RATCLIFFE.—Aged 58.

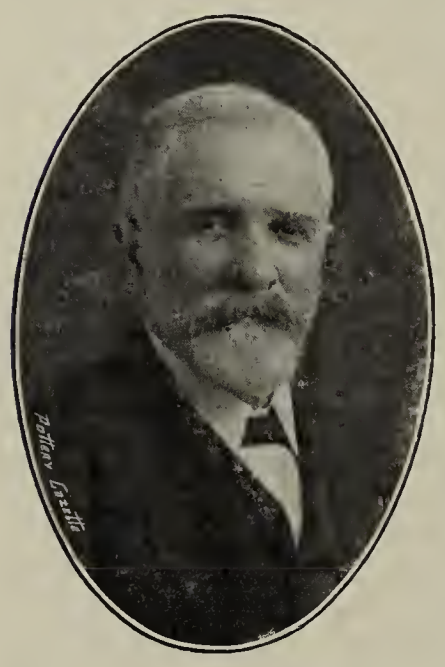
DEEP regret is felt in Longton and district at the death of Mr. Thomas Parker Ratcliffe, the well-known manufacturer, of Church-st., Longton, who passed away a few weeks ago, following a long illness, at his residence, "Rosslyn," Fenton, as briefly mentioned in our last issue. Mr. Ratcliffe conducted a considerable trade both in the home market and also abroad, but business absorbed most of his attention, and he took little part in outside affairs. He was, however, a greatly respected member of the English China Manufacturers' Association, and was a keen supporter of recreative institutions, being the captain of the Fenton Bowling and Tennis Club, and a patron of the local cricket club. The high esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held was shown by the large number of his friends in the potting trade who attended the funeral. Among those present were Ald. A. B. Jones, Mr. E. Brain, Mr. Winkle, Mr. T. Poole, Mr. Myatt, Mr. T. Hines, Mr. P. Elliott (chairman of the Fenton Urban District Council), Dr. A. Rowley Moody, Mr. W. Jones, Mr, T. Tunnicliffe, Mr. P. Warren, Mr. C. Leese, Mr. W. Hines.

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Mr. J. Hewitt, Mr. A. Cotterill, Mr. Marshall, Mr. J. Stevenson, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. A. S. Marmon, Mr. T. Brunt, Mr. A. Lovatt, Mr. Dent. Mr. Cone, Mr. Siddall. Deputations were also present from the workpeople of the factory, the Fenton Bowling and Tennis Club, the Mount Tabor Chapel (where Mr. Ratcliffe regularly worshipped) and the Fenton Cricket Club. The interment took place at Fenton Cemetery. Mr. Ratcliffe, who was 58 years of age, leaves a widow and five children, with whom great sympathy is felt.

CARL HERMANN POTHS.—Aged 72.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Carl Hermann Poths, which took place at Freiburg-im-Baden on May 9. Mr. Poths had not been feeling well for some time, but his friends had no suspicion that there was anything serious the matter with him. The illness that terminated fatally was of short duration, and he died at his residence as stated. The deceased was the founder of the firm of H. Poths & Co., formerly of Bury-court, St. Mary Axe, and now associated with Johnsen & Jörgensen, 26, Farringdon-rd., E.C. He retired from business three years ago, and went to reside at Freiburg, his native place. He was held in great esteem by all his business and social friends, and it is within the writer's knowledge that he was sincerely respected by the employees of the firm. I had the pleasure of several interviews with him, and I always found him a courteous and affable gentleman. I well remember a lengthy chat we had at one of the early chemists' exhibitions. He came to England when he was about 30 years of age, and before he had been here long he commenced business in London as an importer of bottles for chemists and druggists, trading as H. Poths & Co. He introduced the porcelain jars with vitrified labels, and developed the use of special glass bottles, vials, and jars for shop windows and exhibition purposes. Mr. Poths spent considerable trouble in providing glass vials for travellers' samples, and for sending specimens by post. At that time the postal authorities would not permit liquid samples to be sent by post, as parcels. Mr. Poths produced a light box to hold a small porcelain or glass tube or vial. The box was fitted with a screw top, and a rubber washer rendered it absolutely liquid and air tight. He submitted it to the Post Office, it was approved, and has been in use ever since. Deceased was a practical man, and his business career was a very active one. The funeral took place at Freiburg on May 12.



MR CARL HERMANN POTHS.

DÉSIRÉ LEROY.—Aged 66.

ON Thursday afternoon, May 21, the funeral took place at Normanton Cemetery, Derby, amid many manifestations of regret and sympathy, of the late Monsieur Désiré Leroy, of Walbrook-rd., Derby. Désiré Leroy was born at the small village of Les Loges, Commune D'Arrou, Département d'Eure et Loire, in France. When he was quite young his parents removed to Sèvres, and at eleven years of age, he commenced to work at the celebrated Sèvres factory. He made rapid progress, showed great talent, and by the time he was 22 years of age he was acknowledged to be one of the leading artists in the ceramic world. He made a speciality of old-time Sèvres flower, bird, and trophy painting, and was also very successful with white enamels. In 1874 he came to England and worked at Minton's china works in company with his friends Solon, Boullemier, Mussill, and other artists. In 1890, he accepted an engagement with the Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Company, at Derby, in whose service he continued until his death. He has done some very important work, among other things a service of plate presented to H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Teck, on the occasion of her marriage with H.R.H. the Duke of York (now Prince of Wales). His work is well known, and is eagerly sought after by connoisseurs. Although he suffered great pain during the latter part of his illness, he still retained the love of his work, and painted until within a very few days of his death.

He was very highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact, as was evidenced by the large number of friends who attended the funeral at the cemetery. The Rev. W. A. Knight, of St. Augustine's officiated. The coffin was carried by six friends of deceased, namely, Messrs. Dale, Borrows, Rooney, Brock, Wood, and Hough. The name plate was engraved :—"Désiré Leroy, at rest May 17, 1908; aged 66 years." There was a large number of very beautiful floral tributes from relatives and friends, including one from the Directors of the Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Works.

MRS. ELIZABETH BEECH.—Aged 65.

WE regret to record the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Beech, glass and china dealer, Wellington Hall, 19, Wellington-rd., Rhyl. Mrs. Beech was well known to, and highly respected by, many of the manufacturers in the Potteries, and by their representatives. She was the widow of the late Mr. Jesse Beech, a Staffordshire man, who died about five years ago. He settled in Rhyl as a china dealer many years since, and the late Mrs. Beech has carried on the business at Wellington Hall since his death. The deceased was a native of Rhyl, and the daughter of the late Mr. Edward Hope. Her health had been failing for some time, but she was not confined to her house until about the middle of April. Serious symptoms were observed on Thursday, April 23, and on Sunday, April 26, she passed away in the presence of members of her family at her residence "Hanley House," 9, Vaughan-st., Rhyl. Her late husband never lost touch with the Potteries, and indicated his "place of origin," by giving his residence the name of a pottery town. The late Mrs. Beech was a good business woman, and knew exactly how to cater for both residents in, and visitors to, the popular North Wales watering place. The requirements of the two classes of customers are very different, and Mrs. Beech knew it, and specialised for both. She could furnish a boarding house with every requisite in glass, china and earthenware, at once from her stock, while for visitors she had a wonderful assortment of fancy lines suitable for presents. She made it a rule to have attractive illustrated posters in prominent positions throughout the town, drawing attention to her shop. In addition to her active business life, the deceased took a prominent part in local religious movements, and her assistance will be greatly missed in many spheres of usefulness. She leaves one son and four daughters. The funeral took place on May 1, at the old cemetery near the Gladstone Bridge, the deceased being buried with her late husband. A large number of relatives and friends attended the interment. Amongst the many floral tributes of affection and respect there were several from the Potteries, including one from Mr. George Proctor and family, Longton, and another from Burgess & Leigh, Burslem.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Mr. F. Cohen, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 782, Holloway-rd., N.

Buyers & Sellers, china and glass merchants, have relinquished the business at 19, High-st., Ealing, W.

Mr. S. Symes, china and glass dealer, &c., has re-purchased the business at 71, Portland-rd., South Norwood, S.E.

Mr. J. G. Dickins, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 108, Hoe-st., Walthamstow, E.

The clay trade is reported by a Devonshire correspondent to be good. The local potting trade shows a slight improvement.

Kerry & Co., china and glass dealers, &c., have taken over the business of Kerry & Morgan, 2 to 12, Upton-lane, Forest Gate, E.

Mr. Henry Keylock, founder of the firm of Keylock & Sons. china and glass dealers, &c., 278 to 280, Evelyn-st., Deptford, S.E., died last month.

A Worcester china dessert service was presented by the tenants on the Stoulton estate to Lord Somers on the occasion of his attaining his majority a few days ago.

Mr. Frank P. Wade has been appointed manager and buyer of James Elmy & Co., now incorporated in the business of T. W. Thompson & Co., Ltd., 163 to 168, Tottenham Court-rd., W.

The Dover Pageant should offer a good opportunity for the disposal of china souvenirs. Probably English manufacturers are preparing to take advantage of it. We know that foreigners are.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—One china, class, and earthenware dealer was gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during the month of April, 1908. Similarly only one was gazetted in April, 1907.

Doulton & Co., Ltd.—The accounts for the year, 1907, show, after paying the preference dividend and writing £500 off goodwill, a credit balance of £8,327, which it is proposed to carry forward.

Jones & Higgins, of Peckham, have purchased the stock of Risdon, Locke & Co., china and glass dealers, &c., and are holding a sale of the same at the latter's premises at Newington Causeway, S.E.

Mr. R. Ballantine has retired from the firm of "J. Lizars," 101 and 107, Buchanan-st., Glasgow. Mr. A. Ballantine and Mr. M. Ballantine, jun. (the remaining proprietors), continue under the old name.

Recent Wills.—The value of the estate of the late Mr. T. P. Ratcliffe, china manufacturer of Longton, has been entered at £9,376.——Mr. W. Fowler Mountford Copeland, of Quarry House, St. Leonards, who died on April 11, left estate to the value of £38,588.

Alloa Glass Work Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £30,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to aequire the business of bottle makers carried on by the Alloa Glass Works Co., at Alloa, and to carry on the same and the business of manufacturers of glass artieles generally. Registered office, Glass Works, Alloa.

Reduction in Glassworkers' Wages.—Owing to trade depression affecting the industry, 1,000 workmen, including glass gatherers, blowers, and flatteners, employed at St. Helens, have been notified by Pilkington Brothers, Ltd., that their wages will be redueed 5 per cent. The plate-glass workers will not be affeeted.

Unmanufactured Clay to the weight of 48,879 tons and valued at £50,459, including 3,675 tons of fire clay valued at £3,563, was exported from the United Kingdom during the month of April, 1908. The figures are below those for April, 1907, but above those for April, 1906.

Irish Glass Bottle Co., Ltd.—Registered in Dublin. Capital £14,000, in 9,000 preference and 5,000 ordinary shares of £1 eaeh. Objects, to earry on the business of manufacturers of glass, china, delf and earthenware and of bottles, jars, and other artieles made wholly or partly thereof. Registered offiee, Charlotte Quay, Ringsend, eo. Dublin.

Mr. John Porter, 13, Charterhouse-st., E.C., has an artistic business card, with his address, and the names of the manufaeturers he represents inscribed. At the side of the eard there is an embossed vase in blue and gold deeoration. The vase and the inseription are each enclosed in embossed gilt borders. A neat card will often seeure an interview, when a tasteless one would not.

G. Zani & Co., Ltd.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital £2,000 in £1 shares. Objects : to purchase the business of G. Zani & Co., marble ceramic and glass mosaic and terazzo manufacturers and fixers, tile workers and makers of "Lanolin" fireproof flooring, 125, Hill-street, Garnethill, Glasgow, together with whole of the property and assets of that business and to earry on the same.

Ford & Sons, Ltd.—Registered capital, £15,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of earthenware manufacturers earried on by T. I. Ford and S. H. Ford, at the Lower Manufaetory, Newcastle-st., Burslem, as "Ford & Sons." The subscribers are Mr. T. I. Ford, Mrs. S. L. Ford, Mrs. M. A. Ford, Messrs. S. H. Ford, J. Robinson, A. J. Copey, and F. W. Hodgkinson.

The Osborne China Co., Ltd., has been registered, with a capital of £2,000 in £1 shares, to earry on at Longton and elsewhere the business of china manufacturers, manufacturers and decorators of and dealers in earthenware, china, glass, potters' materials, &c. The subscribers are : H. J. Colclough, F. E. Johnson, Mrs. S. A. Colclough, Mrs. W. M. Johnson, R. T. Adderley, H. H. Lewis, and E. Edwards.

Standard China Clay Co., Ltd.—Registered eapital, £25,000 in £1 shares. Objects. to aequire any inventions relating to the mining production, treatment, applieation and use of kaolin or china clay and like substanees, in particular to aequire from the W. G. Patents Syndieate, Ltd., the right to use a certain existing invention referred to therein, and to win, get, quarry, treat, manipulate and prepare for market kaolin, or china clay, and other mineral substances.

F. H. Barker, Rhead, & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £3,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of a pottery manufacturer carried on by F. H. Barker, at Vine-st., Hanley, and to earry on the same and the business of manufaeturers of and dealers in bricks, tiles, pipes, earthenware, terra-cotta, and ceramic ware of all kinds. The subscribers are :—Messrs. F. H. Barker, F. A. Rhead, A. E. Piggott, the Rev. D. Varcoe, Mrs. F. Varcoe, and Messrs. A. E. and H. Baguley.

Tenders Accepted.—Wimbledon Town Council has accepted the tender of Mr. L. Grocott for the annual supply of glass and crockery to the Isolation Hospital.——For supply of earthenware to the new Infirmary for the Wrexham Guardians :—S. Aston & Son, £25 13s.——The L.C.C. Stores committee have recommended that the contract with Mr. T. Connoys of 23, Camden-st., N.W. for the supply of glass tablets should be terminated, on the ground that he has failed to execute their orders.

Glass Cutter's Death from Lead Poisoning.—An inquest was held at Stourbridge, on May 21, touching the death of A. Bowkley, of Amblecote, who was a glass-cutter em-

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ployed at the Dennis Glassworks. Dr. Ellis said he first saw the deceased on April 29, when he was suffering from chronic lead poisoning. He died on May 15 from cerebral hæmorrhage,to which persons suffering from chronic lead poisoning were very liable. He did not think the poisoning had been set up whilst the deceased was at Dennis glass works ; it was of older date. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

Glass Supply Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £5,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt agreements (1) with Ada M. M. de Saulles ; (2) with W. R. Moores and (3) with J. M. Hingley, and W. Wellsbury ; to acquire the business carried on (a) by the said Ada M. M. de Saulles at 120, Bermondsey-st., S.E., as the Glass Supply Company, (b) by the said W. R. Moores at 12, Railway-approach, London Bridge, S.E., as Engel & Co., and (c) by the said J. M. Hingley and W. Wellsbury, at Stourbridge, Worcs., as Hingley and Wellsbury, and to carry on the business of glass manufacturers, cutters, bevellers, grinders and polishers, gilders, &c. Registered office, 116, Bermondsey-st., S.E.

Lead Poisoning in April.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during April, was 53 and 1 death, as compared with 55 cases reported and 1 death in March. In addition to the above 13 cases and 2 deaths were reported in April among house painters and plumbers, as compared with 17 cases and 2 deaths connected with the same employments in March. During the four months ending April, 1908, there were 203 cases of lead poisoning reported under the Act and 8 deaths, as compared with 131 cases and 6 deaths in the same period last year. In addition there were 62 cases of lead poisoning and 11 deaths among house painters and plumbers during the first four months of this year, as compared with 47 cases and 13 deaths in the corresponding months of 1907. In the china and earthenware trades there were 16 reported cases and three deaths in April this year, as compared with 8 reported cases and no death in March. In the four months ending April this year there were 41 reported cases and 5 deaths in the china and earthenware, as compared with 22 cases and 5 deaths in the same four months last year.

Glass Workers' Conference.—On May 16, a number of glass workers met at the Victoria Station Hotel, Nottingham, under the auspices of the General Federation of Trade Unions to adopt means for securing closer union between the different sections of the glass working industry, Mr. James Holmes presiding. Mr. W. A. Appleton and Mr. James Holmes represented the General Federation of Trade Unions, and the following sections were represented :—The Lancashire Glass Bottle Makers, Decorative Glass Workers, National Glass Bottle Makers, Birmingham Glass Bevellers, London Glass Blowers, and National Glass Blowers. After Mr. Appleton had explained the steps taken since the last conference, Mr. Stokes moved, and Mr. Wacey seconded, that the societies represented constitute themselves a National Federation of Glass Workers and Kindred Trade Unions, and that the object of the Federation should be to combine for trade purposes and to secure unity of action amongst the various unions affiliated. Rules were drawn up, and it was decided that these be submitted to the various unions for confirmation, and that the conference re-assemble at Manchester in July to elect officers.

The Stamping of Measures.—Our Parliamentary correspondent writes :—The following question and answer have been printed in the Parliamentary papers :—Mr. John Johnson asked the President of the Board of Trade, whether he was aware that Regulation 21 of the new regulations recently issued by his department prevented an inspector of weights and measures from stamping glass and earthenware measures on the premises of the manufacturer without the sanction of the Board of Trade, and that no such sanction was necessary for inspectors to stamp weights, scales, or even pewter measures on manufacturers' premises ; whether he could give any reasons for this distinction, which was resented in the glass and earthenware manufacturing districts ; and whether he would give instructions to have the regulation deleted. Mr. Kearley (in reply) : "The stamping on manufacturers' premises of glass and earthenware measures is on a different footing to that of other measures or of weights or weighing instruments, inasmuch as in the case of the former measures alone an allowance may be made to the manufacturer, under Section 13 of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904, for assistance rendered by him or for the use of tools, premises, machinery, or instruments. This allowance is expressly subject to the consent of the Board of Trade, and in order to prevent, as far as possible, allowances being improperly given without such consent, the stamping of the measures in question on manufacturers' premises without the sanction of the department being obtained has been prohibited by the regulation referred to. There seems no reason why the regulation, which was framed to secure uniformity of practice, should be deleted."

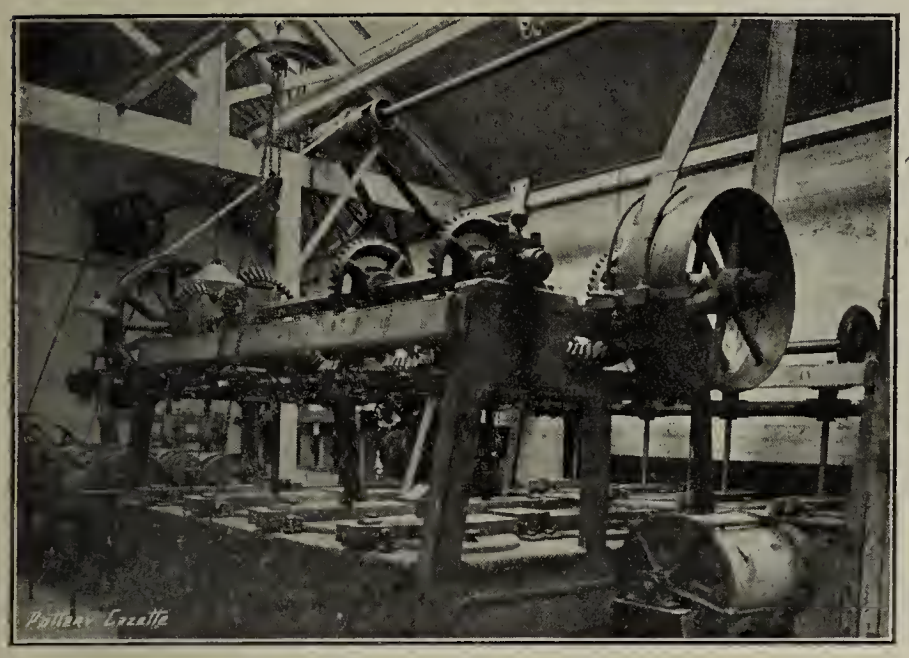
The Potting Trade of the 19th Century.—Messrs. Wengers, Ltd., manufacturers of requisites for potters and glass-makers, Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, have prepared for distribution at the Franco-British Exhibition a "Short Review of the Potting Trade of the Nineteenth Century." The front cover is artistically printed in colours with illustrations in gold. It is a well-written and judiciously condensed résumé of the subject, and will be found interesting to the public at large, as well as to practical potters and glass makers. We give two short extracts. "The last century has seen an advance in the production of pottery of all kinds, without precedent, and taking this into consideration, there is every prospect that the requirements of pottery having reached a demand which, at one time, would have appeared fabulous, the consumption at the end of this century will, no doubt, pass all our expectations." A brief account is given of the materials used in pottery, the method of mixing them and the glazes used. "The glazes for earthenware were composed of lead oxides, alkalies, flint, &c., and to these boracic acid, borax and zinc oxide were added to obtain a greater brilliancy and hardness, and to give a more radiant effect to the colours. These glazes became more and more used until recently, when there was a complaint made by people (unaware of the difficulties of substituting, and of altering processes which had been in use for centuries), who wanted to secure the prohibition of the use of lead in glazes, and allow only the use of alkaline and elaborate glazes. This substitution, which any potter would be glad to adopt on economical grounds, is applicable to clay ware refractory enough to stand without bending under the heat at which it is fired. Therefore, for bricks, tiles, common earthenware and stone ware, leadless glaze is freely adopted, but where the colouring of the glaze is obtained by different metallic oxides, lead must still continue to be used." Very interesting particulars are given of the various methods and appliances made uuse of in pottery manufacture.

Norwegian Mineral Trade.—The export of rutile from Norway in 1907 was about 50 tons concentrated and about 18 tons ore. Only 6,000 tons of quartz were exported in 1907, the value being about 6s. 6d. f.o.b. per ton. The amount of felspar exported was 20,000 tons lump and about 4,400 tons ground spar, and the value was £20,833. Of 21,190 tons of earth and clay imported, 6,560 tons, chiefly consisting of china clay, came from the United Kingdom.

POTTERS' ACCESSORIES.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTERS.)

The Chromo-Transfer and Potters' Supply Co., Ltd., of the Eagle Transfer and Colour Works, Newland-st., Stoke-on-Trent, conducts its business in one of the most handsome and up-to-date premises in the Potteries. For a number of years building operations have been constantly



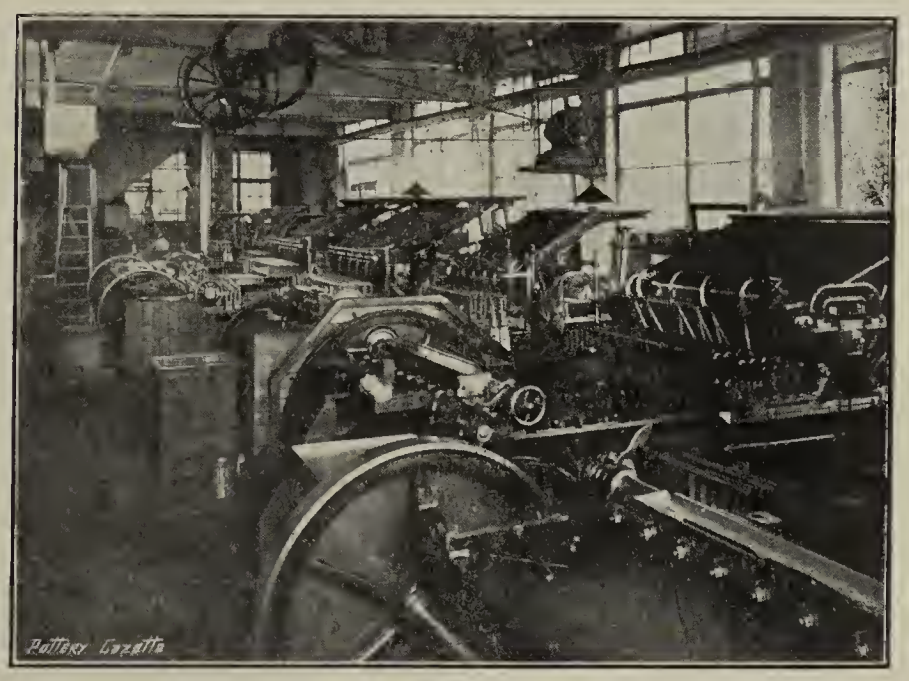
PART OF COLOUR MILL.

needed in order to keep pace with the rapid expansion which the business has been experiencing under the able direction of Mr. Edward J. Buckley, the alert and enterprising managing director, and when we paid that gentleman a visit a week or two ago, we found the workmen putting the last touches to the works, which now form a most complete building, splendidly adapted, in every way, for the purposes of the business carried on. Thirteen years ago the Chromo-Transfer Co. commenced operations in a very small way at the back of the present premises. Gradually extensions took place and a cottage was converted into offices. Six years ago, a new works was constructed, and, within a couple of years, it was found necessary to add a new wing to this. Finally, in April of last year



LITHO PRINTING MACHINE.

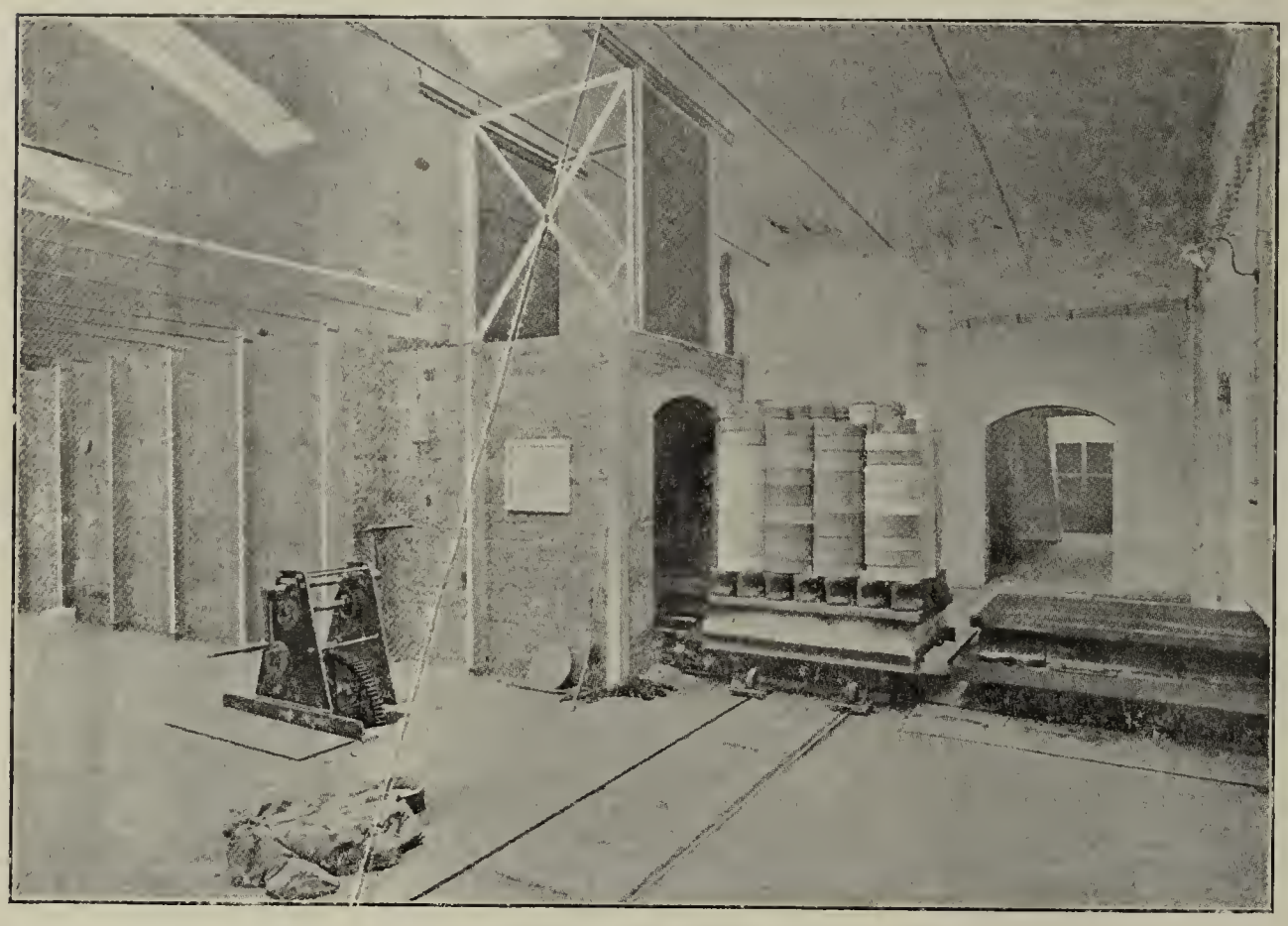
the present extension, with its fine frontage to Newland-st., was entered upon. Indicative of the rapid strides made, is the fact that to-day 120 hands are employed as against half a dozen thirteen years ago ; while other evidence to the same effect is furnished by the statement that, whereas only two printing machines were needed to cope with the demand for transfers ten years ago, when Mr. Buckley took over the reins, to-day thirteen machines are kept running, while three others are about to be installed, making sixteen in all. The recent enlargements at the works provide excellent new work-rooms for artists and litho artists, machine room, press room, proving room, show room, offices, and colour works. The contract has been carried out by Mr. Thos. Godwin of Hanley to the designs of Wood & Son, architects, of Burslem. Of the productions of the Chromo-Transfer Co., Ltd., it is not too much to say that they are known all over the world. It is Mr. Buckley's proud boast that, in every country where there is a pottery, the company's products will be found. Special representatives are kept on the Continent (Mr. Dawson), and in the United States (Mr. J. T. Croxall) ; Mr. A. Hughes is the local representative, and the business is represented by numerous agents in other parts of the world. In the course of a tour of the factory the visitor finds it difficult to express his feelings of admiration at the cleanliness and order which everywhere prevail. The workers, particularly the women, look the picture of health, and the comfort of the conditions under which they work is largely accentuated by the use of electricity, which drives the whole of the machinery efficiently and silently. Each of the machines has its individual motor, and each is fitted with an ingenious link



RANGE OF PRINTING MACHINES.

motion of Mr. Buckley's own invention, which enables the machine to be stopped, by one movement, in an eighth of an inch. The extent of the business done may be judged when it is mentioned that transfer sheets to the value of £14,000 are kept in the stock room, representing some 400,000 sheets of transfers, some of which contain as many as 400 or 500 separate sprays upon them. The transfers are all printed on the "Duplex" paper invented by the company, which enables the transferer to handle the print easily and safely, while the transfers have the advantage that they have no size mark. Customers will be greatly pleased by the facilities offered for examining designs in the spacious new showroom, which is situated on the second story of the new premises. The apartment is about 24 ft. by 20 ft. in extent, is lofty, admirably lighted, and is fitted in such a way as to enable the buyer to see, almost at a glance, a large proporton of the company's latest patterns, as actually applied to plates, ewer slabs, cups and saucers, and other ware. Mr. Charles Brough, medallist at the St. Louis Exhibition, has been engaged by the company at considerable expense, to get

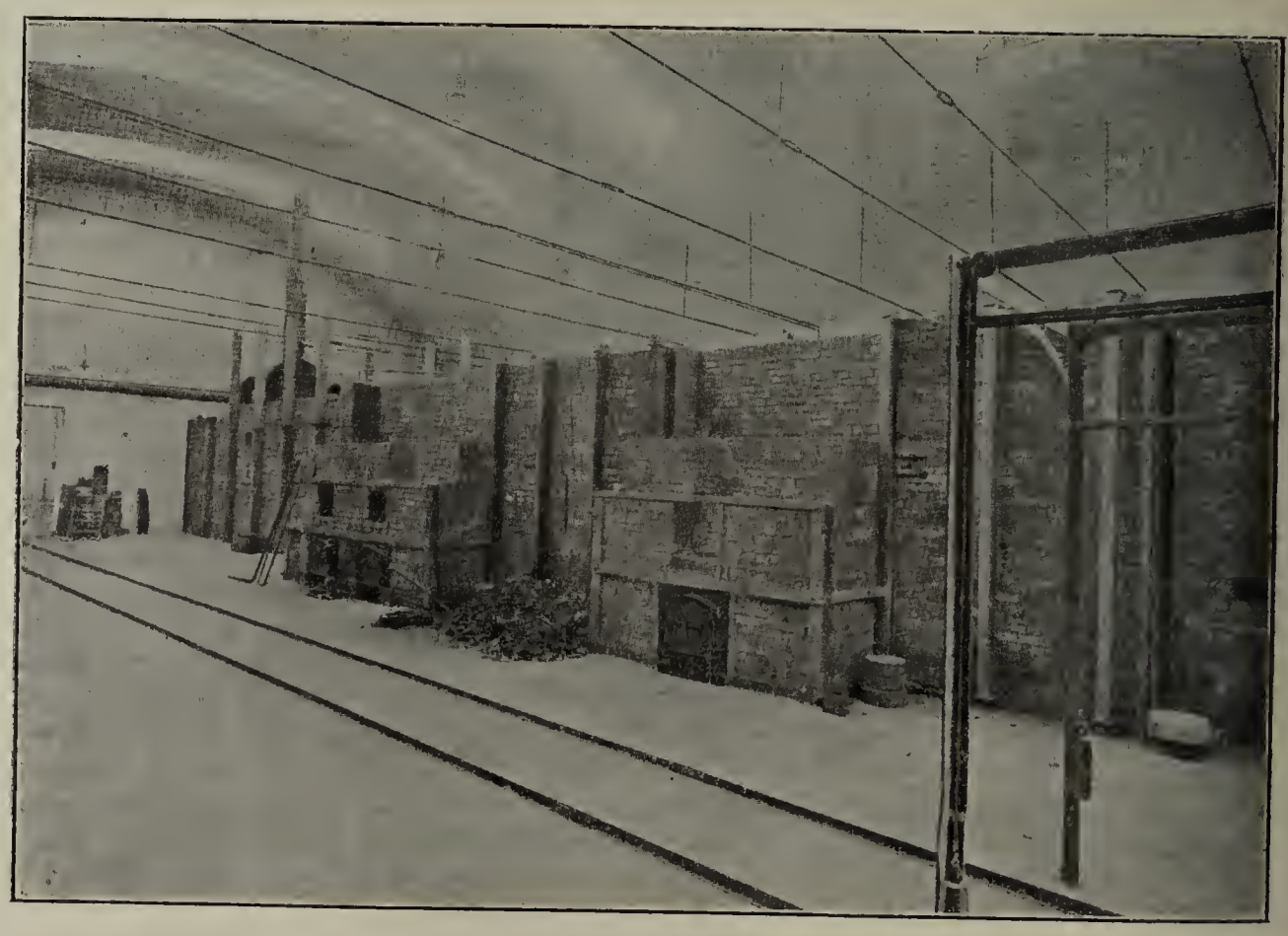
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NEAR END OF A CONTINUOUS TUNNEL KILN FOR POTTERY.

out patterns for the showroom and to make decorative suggestions for customers. Over 700 running patterns are kept, and notable among them are the "Dora" a marguerite decoration for toilets and jugs, of which over 350,000 sheets have been sold: the "Suffolk," a pretty decoration composed of roses of various kinds; the "Stratton," consisting of violets and wild roses; the "Veronese," a new purple rose design; the "Nora" jug sheet, comprising red poppies and cornflowers; the "Hadrian Carnation" pattern, a lovely colour for toilets, vases and suite ware; the Hove pattern, representing new hybrid roses, and the "Michaelmas Daisy" sheet. The decorative effect produced by these transfers is so perfect that, in looking at the ware exhibited in the show room, one is often almost deceived into thinking that the decoration has been carried out by hand. Roses are the most popular of all floral decorations. Mr. Buckley is himself an enthusiast in the culture of this lovely bloom, and has over 200 varieties in his gardens, which furnish the originals of not a few of the company's most successful designs. In addition to floral transfers the company exhibit innumerable attractive patterns representing land and sea scapes, well-known places of interest, game studies, fruit, fish, animal, hunting, farmyard, heraldic, nursery rhyme, humorous and other subjects. An extensive range of patterns is devoted to "New Art" designs, and a speciality is made of decorations for the many little contrivances such as match-boxes and calendars of pottery, which well-known firms are now giving away to advertise their wares. It should be added that the company place the original litho stones in a fireproof vault every night, so as to avoid disaster from fire. In recent years the company have considerably developed the colour manufacturing side of their business, and they possess to-day one of the most modern colour making plants in the district. Between 400 and 500 different tones are produced, and some entirely new effects are being obtained by the utilisation of materials not used hitherto in connection with the decoration of pottery. The company are sole agents for the "Minimax" colour spray, the mechanism of which is so simple that the colour tank can be removed and changed in less than a minute, while repairs can be made immediately at the cost of the spare parts only.

The Ferbeck Construction Co., of Finsbury-pavement House, London, E.C., are placing on the market their continuous tunnel kilns, for china, pottery and tiles. The tunnel kiln consists of a firebrick tunnel which is fired in the middle by means of two gas producers. The saggars are put on trucks which have firebrick platforms which protect the bogies against the influence of the fire. The trucks are charged at the end of the canal and move towards the stationary fire in the middle, whereby they are gradually heated up until they get full fire. Then the cars move towards the discharge end, whilst the cold air from this end meets them and cools them and is itself being heated, arriving finally at high temperature at the fire grates. The trucks are taken off at the discharge end, and either are wheeled to the glost department or to the stores, as the



VIEW OF GAS PRODUCERS OF THE FERBECK TUNNEL KILN.

same tunnel kiln can be used as either biscuit or glost oven. A winch gear permits of the trucks being moved mechanically through the canal without undue vibration. The first kiln of this kind was built some three years ago at the Old Water Potteries. The results are described as astonishing. About 70 per cent. of fuel, it is said, is saved when comparing the fuel consumption with the round bottle kilns, which had been replaced by the new construction. As to labour a similar saving is obtained. For loading and unloading the cars and firing two tunnel kilns only four men are necessary. The two kilns have replaced six bottle kilns of each 1,650 cubc feet saggar space, and an additional number of glost ovens. The old bottle kilns required more than twice as many men. A still greater saving, amounting to 80 per cent., was shown in the saggar account. This is easily understood when it is pointed out that the saggars are set only 4 ft. high on low trucks, and consequently there is very little pressure. Another cause is the absence of fire bags, the neighbourhood of which tends to an increase of breakages, as every potter knows. Six of these tunnel kilns are now working, and it is believed that this type will revolutionise the methods of firing.

Mr. G. Hassall, engineer, of Elder-rd., Cobridge, has just taken out a provisional patent for a potter's transfer machine of his own invention. This machine is wonderfully simple in construction, and so easy to work that a child can operate it ; yet it is capable of turning out a great amount of work very rapidly and efficiently. It is applicable to plates, saucers, and all kinds of flat ware, and will effect a great saving of labour in this branch at very small cost. It is already being taken up readily by manufacturers, one leading firm having ordered four machines for immediate use. Mr. Hassall is now well established in his convenient and commodious premises at Cobridge, to which he removed some months ago from his former works at Hanley. He is a practical and capable engineer, thoroughly acquainted with the mechanical requirements of the potting industry, and, having had previous experience in the printing trade, is in a particularly favourable position for producing such highly useful innovations as these new transferring machines.

THE CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

THE annual meeting of the Central Branch of the China and Glass Dealers' Association was held on the evening of Wednesday, May 20, at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Snow Hill, London, E.C., Mr. W. G. Church (Northampton) in the absence of Mr. D. Marsh (Woolwich) the President, in the chair.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he regretted that there were not more members present, as they had on the agenda some important business to transact. He expressed astonishment at the apathy which seemed to prevail among the members of the china and glass trades located in London and the Southern districts, more especially when he took into account the many interests connected with the trade which this Association was attempting to serve. They were endeavouring, as they knew, to get a reduction in railway freights ; they were also attempting to put a stop to auction sales ; they had secured insurance at light rates through their past efforts ; and other matters of equal importance would be taken into consideration in the future. He therefore could not help expressing regret that the London and Southern dealers took so little interest in the affairs of the Association. He then called upon the Secretary to read the annual report of the Committee.

Mr. A. E. Watson (Reading) submitted the Committee's report, which was as follows :—"The Committee have pleasure in presenting their third annual report to the members of the Association, and they regret that the year under review has not been as successful as they could have desired. The question of railway rates has received considerable attention. During the last few months a committee has been formed by the President of the Board of Trade to deal with the matter, the railway companies being desirous of increasing the charges. We requested the Board of Trade that we should be allowed to select a member to represent us on the committee. In this we have not been successful, as the Committee was limited to about 8 members, besides representatives of the railway companies. After considerable correspondence, the Board of Trade have promised that we should be notified of any change that may be detrimental to our interests, and that we shall be allowed to appear before the Committee before any change is authorised. At the time of preparing this report, nothing further has been done, but your Committee will not lose sight of this matter, and will take all necessary steps to safeguard the interests of the Association.

"The question of alteration of show days in London from Tuesday and Friday to Wednesday and Thursday—which days are the most convenient to country buyers—has been under consideration. Several agents have been seen by the Secretary, most of whom are in favour of the change. It was, however, not thought desirable to call a meeting of agents and buyers at the time, but to wait until a greater number were approached and a successful issue more certain.

"A few claims on railway companies have been settled to the satisfaction of the members concerned, which they individually could not get the railway companies to consider.

"About 1,000 copies of a circular, showing what the Association had done during its existence, were sent out during the year, the following being the principal items dealt with :—Railway rates ; packing charges, &c. ; direct trading ; weights of packages on invoices ; the combine shops ; free legal assistance to members ; insurance (E.L.A.) at reduced rates ; and seconds.

"The introduction of the 'combine shop' system of trading into our trade has had the attention of the Committee ; and the interests of members has been safeguarded as far as possible by the Association. Manufacturers have been written to, and in many cases, where they have an agent in a town where a combine shop has been opened, they have insisted that their (the manufacturers') goods should not be shown by being transferred from another branch of the combine. The Leeds and district branch has been very successful, and the committee regret that other branches have not been formed, the great difficulty being in finding anyone to take the initiative and call a meeting. The thanks of the Association are accorded to the POTTERY GAZETTE for the assistance it has given to the Association in various ways."

The balance sheet was also submitted, and showed that a substantial balance was in the hands of the Treasurer.

Mr. A. MARTIN (Derby) moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet, and this was seconded by Mr. Davis and unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said the next and most important part of their business was a recommendation by the Committee to transfer the Central branch to Leeds, thus amalgamating the Central Section with the prosperous branch in existence in the Midlands. Hitherto, as he had said before, their meetings in London had not been well attended, but in the North of England and in the Midlands they could always rest assured that their gatherings would be representative of the trades. In the North they seemed to be going ahead, and were taking an active interest in all matters concerning the well-being of the china and glass dealers.

Mr. DAVIS concurred with the Chairman in his statement that the meetings of the Leeds and district branch were well attended. Besides, Leeds was an important centre, embracing the whole of Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midland Counties, and it was easily accessible by members from Scotland.

Mr. NEAVERSON, the Secretary of the Leeds branch, said there was no doubt that the Yorkshire Association were most enthusiastic in all they undertook. They entered into the work with a considerable amount of heart, and there was never any doubt as to their obtaining a good attendance of members at their meetings. As Mr. Davis had said, Leeds was a most central point, and was convenient for Manchester and Liverpool dealers.

Mr. DAVIS then formally moved that the headquarters of the Association be transferred to Leeds.

Mr. MARTIN seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said they could not allow such an important resolution to pass without thanking their Secretary, Mr. Watson, for all he had done for the Central Association in the past. He did not know a member who had worked so hard in their interests as Mr. Watson. He knew the trouble he had taken in working up the Association in the South of England, and he regretted that his endeavours had met with such little success. He trusted Mr. Watson would still continue an active member of the Amalgamated Association, and be ever foremost in all work which was for the good of the trade.

Mr. NEAVERSON said he could only echo what the Chairman had said with regard to the useful work which Mr. Watson had performed in their interests. He had had a lot of correspondence with that gentleman in the past, and, therefore, knew the zeal and ability which Mr. Watson had displayed in furthering the interests of the Association

Mr. WATSON, in returning thanks for the compliment paid him, remarked that had the trade in London and the South supported him in his efforts, he would have continued to have given up a lot

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of his time on their behalf. Still, what he had already done for them had been a pleasure to him, as the correspondence which had formed part of his duties had been the means of his making many friends in the trade whom, previously, he had not had the pleasure of knowing. Again, through his connection with the Association, he had gained experience, an experience which he could not have obtained in any other way. In a sense, he was sorry the Central Association was going to be transferred to Leeds, but the amalgamation, he believed, would be for the good of the members and the trade generally. He trusted that Mr. Neaverson, the Secretary of the Leeds branch, would have on his roll some 600 members before the end of the year.

Some conversation ensued as to whether they should proceed to elect office-bearers for the short time this branch would be in existence, and after consideration it was agreed to appoint Mr. S. Hurst (Leeds) as President, and Mr. Neaverson (Huddersfield) Secretary, the present members of Committee to retain their offices. Instructions were given to the Committee to make the necessary arrangements to carry out the proposed amalgamation with the Leeds Association.

It was also agreed to recommend to the Leeds Association to reduce the membership fee from 10s. 6d. to 5s., and the fee of associated members from 5s. to 2s. 6d. One member expressed the opinion that the fees should remain as at present, considering the advantages which members of the trades derived from the Association. He pointed out that a dealer was entitled, under their rules, to obtain legal assistance in any test case which might be approved by the executive. The majority of the meeting, however, considered that by the reduction of the fees the advantages of the Association would be shared by a still larger number of members.

Mr. NEAVERSON brought before the meeting an advertisement which had appeared in one of the Yorkshire papers stating that a firm of auctioneers had been commissioned by certain "leading firms of manufacturers" to dispose of china and glass ware. He questioned very much whether any leading firms of manufacturers would countenance such a means of disposing of their goods. He asked the Association whether they could not take legal advice in order to ascertain whether this firm of auctioneers was justified in making such a statement.

Mr. HAYWARD suggested that Mr. Neaverson should consult a solicitor on the point.

Mr. NEAVERSON felt sure that no "leading manufacturers" supplied such dealers.

It was then agreed that it should be left to Mr. Neaverson to take the opinion of a solicitor upon the subject.

Mr. NEAVERSON laid a suggestion from the Leeds branch before the meeting as to the desirability of a deputation of the trade meeting manufacturers at Stoke, or some other place, in order to confer together on matters which would be of benefit to the trade generally. At present, he said, various matters affecting them were carried out in a way which they held was not right, and they believed that if a conference were held this would be remedied. Without discussion it was left to the Leeds Association to deal with the matter. A further suggestion was adopted, namely, the desirability of requesting the manufacturers to discontinue placing their increase in prices at the foot of their invoices, as members were apt to overlook the footnote.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Church for presiding terminated the proceedings.

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC SOCIETY.

AT the annual meeting of the English Ceramic Society, held at the Victoria Institute, Tunstall, on May 16, after some formal business, including the election of officers, &c., the retiring President, Mr. L. Solon, delivered an instructive address on

"THE NATURE AND HISTORY OF PORCELAIN."

He remarked at the commencement, that since the formation of the Ceramic Society no paper had been read before the members which, wandering out of the scientific or technical fields of knowledge, dealt exclusively with a separate branch of the fictile art, considered from a purely æsthetic, artistic, and historical point of view. If, then, he ventured to make a departure from the established order of things, and submit a few general observations on the nature and history of porcelain, he would plead as an excuse for once more tackling the somewhat hackneyed subject his incapability to descant upon any other matters than those to which the most fascinating studies of his life had been entirely devoted. Moreover, it occurred to him that in the near future, historians and critics better intended than he to captivate attention, following his example, might be induced to submit interesting communications of the same order. A few well-directed incursions into the glories of the past were bound to exert a beneficial influence upon the labours of the present, and assist achievements to be accomplished in the future. He felt a kind of misgiving that the youthful generation of our scientific students was rather prone to take it for granted that all that had been done before was but a negligible prelude to the high degree of perfection that pottery manufacture had reached at the present day. A considerate examination of the choicest remains of departed handicrafts was sufficient to make us aware that, at very remote periods and in very distant countries, the potter had produced ceramic marvels which we might strive to equal, but hardly hope to surpass. This was obviously the case with the earthen vessels of a superior order, the variety of which was ranged under the generic name of "porcelain." Before entering into a short historical survey of the invention and transformations of the incomparable ware, he would ask leave to present a

GENERAL CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBJECT.

Man, through his mastery of the arts of fire, in their countless possibilities, had achieved amazing results. Of all the artificial substances that his ingenuity and perseverance had obtained by submitting to the transforming agency of intense heat, porcelain—an artful compound of rare materials—was one of those which reflected the greatest credit on his inventive power. Porcelain was to be the crowning glory of the consecutive efforts made by a long lineage of pot-makers bent on raising the beauty of their work above the highest standard reached by their predecessors. From the early days of rising civilisation, clays had been burned and metals smelted in primitive furnaces. But it must be borne in mind that the conquest of our most precious raw materials was originally due to a fortuitous discovery. Uncounted centuries might have elapsed before the discovery—whatever might have been the importance of its further practical applications—was at last turned to good account. It was only as the social conditions of the people went on improving that, accordingly, an unremitting course of technical modifications kept up the refinement of the long adopted clays and metallic ores to a point where they could fully satisfy newly created exigencies. For a long time the natural substances continued to be used by the craftsman in their native coarseness, and the earliest examples of pottery scarcely showed traces of a perfunctory epuration of the mass. One could not detect any essential difference between the bodily state of the rudely smelted and clumsily wrought ingot found in the graves of the prehistoric tribes and the virgin nugget picked up hard by. Absolutely similar was the nature of the terra cotta urn of the same period to the soil upon which it had been burned. Glass-making itself—the remote precursor of the ceramic art in its noblest form—had its origin in the skilful elaboration of a facile discovery. Among the ashes of a brazier in which fusible matters had accidentally been brought into contact it was not rare to find vitrified nodules of irregular purity. The formation of glass was a natural phenomenon, strictly speaking, and whatever could be the degree of perfection to which it might have been brought in the course of ages, glass had certainly not to be "invented." Perhaps it was better that, before going any farther, he should define the exact sense in which he had made use of the word "invented." While "discovery" might be said to be the mere outcome of the superficial examination of the marvels that nature offered to the glance of any clear-sighted observer' "invention," he thought, should be regarded as the intellectual triumph of a gifted personality who, grounding his unprecedented researches upon rational principles and experiments upon the combination of cosmic elements, arrived through subtle perceptions and sound deductions, at a materialisation of the cogitations evolved in his brain. The distance which separated discovery from invention was forcibly illustrated in the range of ceramic productions, by contrasting simple terra cotta with the complex and highly refined material which we called "porcelain." One could not deny that industrious man was, from the first, doomed to be a potter. The extreme ductility of the plastic clay, its faculty of being hardened by fire, and the limitless uses to which these qualities could be applied, were not to remain undiscovered. The ubiquity of the potter's art seemed to imply that cultured humanity could not have dispensed with its assistance. It was not so with porcelain considered as a material. Unaided nature did not produce its equivalent. We could understand that, were it not for the effective efforts made by successive artificers towards the realisation of an ideal pottery this truly admirable substance would never have existed. It was true the world could have done without it. The earth yielded enough precious gems, dazzling stones, and variegated marbles to gratify our cravings for all that was rare and priceless. But porcelain possessed, in one respect, a commendation which was not shared by any of these earthly treasures. The substance was one of man's own creation, and, as such, he might be justly proud of it; and could not too highly praise its achievement. In the production of a porcelain body a curious similarity of external appearance had been obtained by so many different combinations of constitutive materials that the term did not admit of a scientific definition which would equally suit the numerous varieties of the ware. The word "porcelain" was, however, sufficiently explicit when taken in its familiar acceptation. A ceramic collector would find no hesitation in dividing the miscellaneous specimens of pottery and porcelain in his possession into two distinct sections. The experienced housewife, when putting the pantry into order, would, likewise, knowingly discriminate between her best earthenware and the more valuable china.

THE SUPERIORITY OF CHINA.

In such cases a confident appreciation of the superior delicacy, the extreme whiteness, and the slight translucency of the substance ratified a superficial judgment. A scientist could not, however, be satisfied with the application of these simple criteria. But when he attempted to formulate a precise definition of porcelain, as a separate class of ceramic wares, he had soon to recognise his inability to grasp with the difficulties of the task. Some of the intrinsic qualities of porcelain also belonged to other kinds of vitrificd compounds, admittedly of a very different order. For instance, whiteness and translucency were conspicuously apparent in opaque glass and in certain enamels. On the other hand, the celadon porcelain of early Chinese manufacture was neither white nor translucent. It had been demonstrated that the Persian faience, when submitted to a much higher degree of heat, became translucent porcelain. Were we to adopt, perhaps, the most acceptable definition amongst those which had been proposed which said that "Porcelain is technically characterised by an incipient vitrification of the whole mass," stoneware—made of plastic clay semi-vitrified throughout—would have to be placed into a class of pottery from which it differed obviously through the coarseness of its texture and the peculiar nature of its glaze. Unlike the majority of artistic handicrafts, the making of porcelain was not of such an obscure origin that its birthplace could not be fixed at least within the bounds of a limited geographical area. Considered in chronological order, the history of porcelain comprised three distinct phases, which could be described as the periods of invention, imitation, and vulgarisation. The first period opened at the time when the Chinese potters conceived the idea of associating the kaolin—a white body which had so far been of little use to them on account of its refractory nature—with the pe-tun-tse, or felspar, a fusible rock found in the same bearings. From that day porcelain had come into existence, and one might say in passing that no true porcelain had ever since been manufactured either in China or in Europe which had not a mixture of kaolin and felspar as its fundamental basis. The second period, that described as the period of imitation, occurred when a radical transformation took place in European countries of the ways and means of obtaining a white and translucid ware, this being in response to the ardent admiration excited by the marvellous importations which came from the Far East. The European potter was in complete ignorance of the materials which entered into the constitution of the ware, and the chemist supplied him with a choice of artificial compounds which permitted the production of a highly satisfactory substitute. Technically speaking, there was nothing in common, despite their outward resemblance, between this artificial, or soft, porcelain, as it was usually called, and the genuine Oriental ware of which it was an excellent, but incontestably fictitious representation. With regard to the last of the three periods, that described as the period of vulgarisation, this occurred when the processes of manufacture were mastered in Germany, and spread far and wide, superseding the complicated and unreliable methods which, from a practical point of view, were no more than clever makeshifts. From this point the making of porcelain became a comparatively facile business. Many potters embarked in it, and whereas, so far, the adoption of porcelain as one of the indispensable requisites of a well-appointed household had remained the privilege of the wealthy, now it was placed within the reach of all. The speaker here gave a survey of the march and progress of the art of porcelain making during the three periods to to which he had alluded. Dealing with the origin of porcelain, he said that although tradition had it that porcelain had been manufactured in certain localities since very remote, indeed prehistoric ages, this misty notion was gradually losing ground. Whilst there could be no doubt that certain uncouth earthenware vessels were made in very ancient times, the question was whether these legendary vessels were anything else but primitive stoneware. As a matter of fact, there was reason to believe that the immaculate and diaphanous porcelain decorated in azure blue, the well-defined types with which our conception of the finest form of Chinese manufacture was closely associated, was probably not produced before the beginning of the fourteenth century. It was at that epoch that the first specimens of it were introduced into Europe. On the last point, dealing with the period of vulgarisation, the speaker referred at some length to the advance of the industry in Germany and France, and spoke of the rapid revolution which occurred on the discovery of apparently inexhaustible mines of kaolin within a short distance of Limoges. Successful trials of the materials were made at Sevres in 1768, and from this point the manufacture spread so rapidly that at the end of the eighteenth century no fewer than thirty factories were started in Paris alone. In England, after Cookworthy had made his discovery of the required china clay and stone, although results, technically successful, had been obtained at Bristol and at Plymouth, the manufacture of hard porcelain could never take root. The addition of these two important factors in the development of British industry could not, however, be overestimated, and it was needless to expatiate upon the part that kaolin and felspar, obtained from Cornwall, when associated with the phosphate of lime of bones, had played in the settlement of the composition of our national china. So satisfactory had proved the methods initiated at the beginning of the 19th century, and followed ever since without material alterations, that we need not apprehend the necessity of having to discard them in favour of very superior processes for a long time to come.

Mr. Bernard Moore proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Solon for his past services to the Society. In doing so Mr. Moore said that for many years Mr. Solon had been known as one of the most leading men in the ceramic world. He knew of no one better known all over the world than their retiring president. They had looked with pleasure at the marvellous productions which, through his medium, had been given to the world, and which would live as a credit to the ceramic industry of the ages. Mr. Williams, in seconding, said Mr. Solon had been an exemplary president, and had attended every meeting during his terms of office. Mr. Solon briefly and appropriately acknowledged the vote of thanks.

The members of the Society held a meeting at the Free Library, Fenton, on May 9, Mr. Solon presided. A paper was submitted by M. Louis Franchet, of Paris, on

"COPPER RED GLAZES."

As M. Franchet was unable to be present, his paper was read by Mr. Bishop.

The author commenced by saying that the Chinese were the first to show that porcelain received a special and really remarkable decoration when a glaze, coloured with copper oxide, was fired in a reducing atmosphere. The discovery was probably due to mere chance, and possibly came about by reason of the peculiar shape of the Chinese porcelain ovens, inside which the atmosphere could not possibly be so uniform as that of our present ovens, where the flames were so evenly and regularly distributed by iron fire mouths, placed symmetrically. There was a feature which seemed to have a real influence on the beauty of the glaze, and that was the Chinese method of drawing the oven. The Chinese potter drew the ware whilst the oven was still very hot. After the ware was drawn, and whilst the oven was still hot, more ware was put into the oven, and thus part of the heat was utilised, which would otherwise have been wasted. The composition of the Chinese red glazes, coloured with a base of copper, was not known, the descriptions being very obscure, but the information derived from an analysis made by Ebelman and Salvetat, who had worked with a sample of red glaze taken from a Chinese vase, was certainly valuable, and a glaze synthesised from this analysis, furnished these two authors with very satisfactory results, and for the first time the effect was produced in Europe, the red tint being well developed in a reducing atmosphere. These experiments opened the way, and were the basis of all the later researches which had so often been crowned with brilliant success.

The author's own researches had been based upon an investigation undertaken by M. Lauth at Sevres in 1897, with the help of M. Dutailly, one result of which had been to prove that if it were impossible to keep the atmosphere in the necessary reducing condition, and the glaze remained in a fluid condition too long in contact with an oxidising atmosphere, the copper in the glaze would become re-oxidised, and a green colour would be obtained in place of the red. This was particularly worthy of notice, for it seemed to show that the Chinese drew the pieces from the oven whilst red hot, to avoid getting a green glaze. M. Franchet's private researches were detailed at some length. He said that his loss had never been more than 3 to 4 per cent., and even less than that, and the conditions, briefly summed up, were as follows:—(1) The glaze must contain alkalies, lead, and tin oxide, in excess of the copper compound; (2) when the glaze was fritted before use a better red could be obtained; (3) a more varied effect could be obtained when the glaze was applied on the pieces with a brush; (4) the pieces must be put into the oven in entirely closed saggars, made of unglazed refractory clay; (5) the reduction must be regularly made, the regulation of the oven being obtained by means of a damper placed at the base of the chimney; (6) the duration of the oxidising fire must be, if possible, from 10 to 12 hours, but must not exceed 15; (7) it was not necessary to fire the ware in an oven with an inclined roof like the Chinese ovens; ordinary porcelain ovens were quite suitable; (8) the cooling must be done as quickly as possible. M. Franchet took the pieces out of the oven 48 hours after the fires were extinguished.

The author said that the question of red copper colourings still required a good deal of attention. He had simply related his personal observations, and it had been his endeavour to supply potters with some practical information, which he hoped would be of use to them.

A discussion followed, some of the members differing from certain of the author's opinions.

The president, in moving a vote of thanks to M. Franchet, referred to the cordiality which existed between members of the society in all parts of the world. Little or no jealousy seemed to be found existing between people who were really competitors in the market, and between people who might be supposed to be even more jealous of one another, because of their different nationalities. The society had already had valuable papers from other foreign members, and it was very pleased to add another to the list from a gentleman who, whilst not of English nationality, was yet a member of the English Ceramic Society.

LIBRARY OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR APRIL, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended April 30.		Four Months ended April 30.		Month ended April 30.		Four Months ended April 30.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany	cwts.	7,077	9,323	21,336	28,389	£6,410	£6,110	£23,793	£21,653
„ France	„	3,518	2,830	17,324	15,019	5,188	5,249	22,226	26,225
„ United States of America	„	43,112	35,953	165,893	145,890	51,648	48,247	196,275	190,707
„ Brazil	„	12,825	16,446	65,569	73,036	12,595	10,035	48,590	43,316
„ Argentine Republic	„	43,446	29,442	136,464	110,725	17,295	21,721	67,464	74,015
„ British South Africa	„	13,713	5,314	50,323	30,429	8,668	6,144	31,294	26,953
„ British East Indies	„	27,755	39,170	123,509	137,751	12,826	17,116	56,918	67,175
„ Australia	„	16,652	18,736	65,912	72,410	20,403	16,663	74,519	79,876
„ New Zealand	„	7,685	7,911	27,857	35,483	10,327	8,043	37,295	36,541
„ Canada	„	26,430	30,391	87,065	106,161	25,898	21,241	87,413	89,387
„ Other Countries	„	69,934	79,231	283,393	271,603	45,427	52,617	184,366	192,106
Made up as follows:									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	„	1,574	1,544	6,289	6,487	16,322	11,029	56,058	47,767
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„	129,889	9,405	494,147	28,859	160,690	10,516	614,051	28,129
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„		6,511		32,045		5,865		24,154
Sanitary Ware	„		15,264		57,810		24,506		86,824
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		101,129		429,729		129,524		539,339
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	22	447	81	3,615	20	1,015	149	4,925
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	129,113	134,878	496,758	440,881	25,045	22,883	100,024	78,570
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	„	11,549	5,569	47,370	27,470	14,608	7,848	59,871	38,246
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	4,159	3,743	20,447	18,350
„ Other Countries	„	—	—	—	—	107,244	106,779	401,770	410,735
Made up as follows:									
Plate Glass	cwts.	12,404	10,939	47,465	48,459	20,806	17,815	76,216	77,776
Flint Glass	„	5,175	5,302	23,172	18,645	16,295	15,749	67,199	57,898
Glass Bottles	gross	72,588	62,250	270,263	261,159	45,969	40,793	172,042	174,274
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	33,361	45,947	130,645	146,057	28,333	36,165	106,760	119,137

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE AND GLASS FOR APRIL.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	3,473	5,570	15,473	18,602	17,352	25,242	77,658	83,847
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„	30,490	1,044	106,321	2,093	62,449	282	205,347	551
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„		1,722		13,120		1,991		7,506
Sanitary Ware	„		8		68		18		149
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		27,778		93,473		57,252		192,993
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	—	20	26	52	—	58	59	226
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	7,462	12,235	17,120	35,539	1,404	3,876	3,511	13,606
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware)	„	1,580	1,781	7,636	8,556	1,886	2,915	10,308	12,636
Window and German Sheet Glass	„	105,128	96,569	443,523	417,748	57,990	55,381	247,656	230,450
Plate Glass	„	43,249	23,727	155,270	108,489	52,811	30,425	193,432	135,293
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	„	62,046	57,425	250,942	228,448	92,356	84,508	368,227	337,323
Glass Bottles	gross	150,997	143,831	515,384	543,803	63,859	59,754	212,979	225,501
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	1,369	298	4,188	2,433	1,847	505	5,207	3,321

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR APRIL.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	1,346	1,621	6,308	5,213	5,974	8,841	28,268	26,136
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„	965	18	4,479	32	2,103	12	8,188	55
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„		7		7		12		12
Sanitary Ware	„		—		5		—		4
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		221		2,323		691		5,707
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	7	—	15	—	17	—	42	—
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	—	124	97	1,328	—	149	21	979
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	„	5	1	20	3	16	2	31	14
Window and German Sheet Glass	„	284	1,376	2,301	2,905	190	634	1,163	1,432
Plate Glass	„	1,364	6	2,830	541	1,487	9	3,007	580
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	„	507	325	2,224	1,636	1,083	908	4,838	5,076
Glass Bottles	gross	3,622	3,953	13,294	16,579	2,407	2,167	7,463	9,164
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	586	423	2,948	1,529	1,502	922	6,174	4,096

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, March 29 to April 25, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to April 25, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Paekages.
To Boston	441	405	1,926	1,974
,, New York	388	570	2,050	2,299
,, Baltimore	1,292	1,411	6,601	6,247
,, Philadelphia	353	280	1,481	811
,, New Orleans	371	765	2,019	2,782
,, Newport News	108	42	256	336
,, San Franeisco	—	12	39	146
,, Portland, Me.	662	601	3,167	3,006
,, Galveston	—	182	300	492
,, Portland, Or.	—	—	—	20
,, Inland Points	74	22	110	139
Total	3,689	4,290	17,949	18,252

POINTS IN SAGGAR MANUFACTURE.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

THE manufacture of saggars is a branch of the clay industry which is fraught with so many difficulties that it is eminently desirable that some important developments which have taken place in the last twenty years, and which are not by any means commonly known to potters, should be collected into a single article in order that those who are troubled with the ever-present "saggar problem" may possibly find a solution to some of their problems.

In the first place, it is necessary to remember some of the more important conditions it is expected will be fulfilled by all saggars, others being demanded in special cases. The most important of these conditions are (1) mechanical strength to resist the pressure of the saggar, above the ones under consideration; (2) mechanical strength to resist the action of the dust, &c., in the kilns and the wear and tear of placing and drawing; (3) density sufficient to withstand the action of reducing gases from the fuel, and to keep the goods free from discolouration; (4) resistance to high temperatures sufficient for the purposes for which they are required; (5) ability to withstand sudden changes of temperature due to local air-currents or sudden contact with a hot part of the flame; and (6) lack of contraction or expansion in the kiln to an extent sufficient to interfere with the contents of the saggars or to endanger the safety of the bungs.

Saggars vary greatly in the extent to which they fulfil these requirements, and it is by no means an uncommon experience to find that two saggars made consecutively and apparently composed of the same material and treated in every respect in identically the same manner will behave quite differently in actual use, and one may easily last twice as long as the other. This simply shows that our present knowledge of saggar composition and manufacture is still in its infancy, and that only as the result of continual observation and research can we hope to make any permanent improvement in this, one of the most important of the potter's appliances.

The purposes to be served by saggars are chiefly two—(a) to protect the goods from harmful influences whilst in the kiln, and (b) to enable them to be heated as evenly as possible by radiation from the saggar walls. The more cheaply these two objects can be carried out the better it is for the potter, and consequently his energies and thought should be concentrated on the production of as durable a saggar at as low a total cost as possible.

In estimating the relative costs of saggars made by different firms, it is not sufficient to take the total cost of manufacture, as the ordinary potter's expenditure on saggars is dependent far more on the number of times a saggar can be used than on its first cost. Hence it is always desirable when saggars are purchased from firms making a speciality to divide the cost of each saggar by the number of times it can be used (or has been used) in order to obtain a reliable idea as to their actual value.

In this connection it is interesting to note the widely varying experience of different firms. Most potters are satisfied if they can use their saggars an average of ten times each, and many fail to reach this number. A few firms exceed it, and it is generally understood that the Pilkington Tile & Pottery Co., Ltd., in their works near Manchester, find their saggars last thirty to thirty-five times on an average. It is one of the great advantages of gas as compared with coal-firing in the ordinary potter's oven that the life of the saggars is twice or three times as great in a gas-fired oven as it is in one fired in the ordinary way. This, apart from any question in the saving of fuel, which cannot be very great in a single oven, makes the subject of gas-firing one well worth the attention of progressive potters.

The Materials.

The composition of the mixtures from which saggars are made has never received the attention it deserves from the majority of those engaged in saggar making, and too many potters have been satisfied to continue using recipes without taking any account of variations in their clays or grog, or have been content to continue in a regular method of working without any serious attempts to find out whether the saggars might not be improved. This lack of enterprise is, to say the least of it, unfortunate; but, luckily for the potters of the present day, much of the kind of research which is needed in this country has been carried out on the Continent with satisfactory results, though this work, having been done on clays not used in this country, the results are not as valuable as they would have been had the investigations been carried out in connection with British clays.

In order to possess a maximum strength combined with high resistance to changes in temperature, it is usually necessary to make saggars from a mixture of several clays and to include a certain amount of non-plastic material in the mixture in order to form a mass which shall be sufficiently permeable, and yet shall not shrink excessively. It was at one time thought that the composition of the clays used in saggar manufacture was of great importance, but it is now known that the physical constitution of the material may exercise a greater influence than the chemical, and that of two substances of similar chemical composition one may be entirely unsuitable because of its physical condition. It, therefore, not infrequently happens

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that a firm uses good materials and yet fails to obtain the best results because of some lack of proportion in the sizes of the various particles, in their relative angularity or roundness, or in the completeness with which they have been mixed together.

The main ingredient of most saggars is fire-clay, as this possesses the necessary plasticity during moulding, and refractoriness and durability after firing. Many varieties of fireclay may be used, though local clays are usually preferred on account of their cheapness. In Staffordshire the outcropping clay of the coal measures (locally known as "marl") is chiefly used, but in other parts of the country similar clays—usually, but not exclusively, from the coal measures—are employed.

In France the clays used for saggar-making are of an entirely different character to those employed in this country, being more of the nature of the Devon and Hampshire clays (tertiary clays) than of the coal measure series. This difference is chiefly due to the scarcity of coal-measure clays in France, and not to any special characteristics in the clay they use.

In Germany, where there is an abundance of a crude china clay as well as of shale, both these materials are used in the manufacture of saggars, and the methods of preparation in the Fatherland are not, therefore, widely different from those used in this country.

The American potters have such a large variety of clays from which to make their saggars that they have several advantages over the potters in Great Britain. At the same time, there appears to be several minor points of difference between otherwise identical clays in this country and the States, and potters who have an equal knowledge of the clays of both countries say that there is no clay at present in use in America which is identical with the saggar marl so popular in Staffordshire.

It is an interesting sign of the amount of empiricism existing in saggar manufacture that although the clays used in the Staffordshire potteries are all from a very small number of sources, yet in order to please and satisfy the varied demands of different potters, special parts of each marl hole are reserved for different firms. Occasionally a potter gets clay from a different portion of the pit (though of practically identical composition), but he does not usually notice any difference unless a slight variation in the colour makes him suspicious. It is a fact that more than one firm of marl dealers sell the same material under a large variety of names to different firms, as these would not purchase the same material under a different title. There is no harm done by this method of conducting business, but its continuance is an interesting survival of ancient times.

The chief characteristics required in a saggar clay are that it shall be reasonably plastic, whilst not excessively so, that it shall produce a material of great strength when fired at a relatively low temperature, and yet shall not lose its shape when fired to the highest heat in the oven. It should mix readily with water so as to render the preparation of the paste as easy a matter as possible, and must not shrink too much on either drying or firing.

These qualities are not easily found in a single clay, and mixtures of several clays are therefore frequently employed. Thus a mixture of a highly plastic clay which burns to a very dense mass at Seger cone 1 would be useless by itself, but is invaluable for binding a leaner clay of a kaolin or gannister type and giving it the necessary strength and ring. The leaner clay has little tendency to contract or spring, has ample power of heat resistance, and ability to withstand sudden changes in temperature; but if used alone it does not usually possess sufficient binding power to make the saggar sufficiently strong to resist the rather heavy wear and tear to which it is subjected.

The mixing of various clays for saggars has not received much attention in this country, but in Germany, where it has been practised for many years, and in certain firms in this country also it has proved to yield far more satisfactory results than when the saggars are composed of a simple mixture of one kind of marl with grog. Even as long ago as 1830 Shaw records that this advantage was appreciated to a small extent in the Potteries, and a well-known saggar mixture used at that time consisted of :—

Lean grey marl	2 parts.
Plastic black marl	1 part.
Grog	1 ,,

In more recent years the tendency has been to rely on a single marl mixed with grog, though the pit-owners have been sufficiently businesslike in several instances to supply firms with a mixture of several marls, so that the clay, as a whole, has the required characteristics which could not be obtained from any single constituent clay. In this way the marl dealers do for their customers what the potter usually does for himself on the Continent, and the effect is precisely the same, providing the dealer continues to be sufficiently careful with the material he supplies.

The oft-heard complaint that in this country we do not know how to mix clays for saggar-making is therefore only partially true, for although the potter may fancy he is purchasing only one kind of clay, he is, in reality, in the majority of cases, purchasing a mixture specially adapted to his requirements, whilst relieved of the necessity of making this mixture himself. Whether the British or German method of obtaining saggar clay is the cheaper and more satisfactory must be left for each potter to decide for himself. It may be remarked, however, that as the grog has to be mixed with the clay in the pottery, it would not require any more power (or so little more that it would not be appreciable) to purchase the clays separately and mix them at the same time that the grog was added.

(To be continued.)

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

(BY OUR EDINBURGH CORRESPONDENT.)

THE industries for which this journal mainly caters are neither largely nor generally represented at this exhibition, which was thrown open on May 1, while yet incomplete in a good many of its details. For the most part, the exhibits falling within our category are found within the Industrial Hall, the largest of the group of buildings, but one or two also are found in the Machinery Hall. Following the order of the official catalogue, we find a large and most effective display by Doulton & Co., Ltd., of Lambeth. This is almost wholly within the field of sanitary engineering; but reference must here be made to the two very fine tile panels, entitled "Spring" and "Summer" in the firm's Parian faïence, over the entrance to the stand, designed by Miss M. E. Thompson; also to the screens in the same ("egg-shell" finish), and those in majolica enamels. W. A. Gray & Sons, Mid-Lothian Pottery, Portobello, Edinburgh, have a very fair show of manufactured articles within the stoneware and whiteware departments, jam jars, spirit jars and bottles, chemical ware, hot-water bottles, inks, creams, ointments, and Liebig pots. also stone ginger bottles, and bottles for drysaltery goods, J. Donald & Co., Bristo Port, Edinburgh, have a display which is not large, but most effective so far as it goes, consisting of dinner, dessert, toilet, tea, and breakfast ware, patterns of crystal wine-glasses, tumblers, &c., also some ornamental specimens in china and earthenware. A large

and fairly effective show of examples of porcelain manufacture, consisting of vases, with pictures of flowers, animals, &c., also plates and medallions with pictures, likewise figures, groups, animal life, &c., belongs to Gebruder Henbach, Lichte, Wallendorff. L. & G. Salberg & Co., Birmingham, make a great display of mixed English and Continental manufacture, within the domain of art china, glass, and other goods. The foreign makes here are mostly, though not wholly Austrian. Within this same building (Industrial Hall) we find a Dutch and a Japanese section, pottery and glass goods represented in both, but not much of praise can be spared for either of these. Articles of merit are to be found, certainly, but whether it is owing to the defective arrangement, the over-abundance of items, or otherwise, the idea of trumperiness is suggested, more especially as regards the Japanese section, which certainly ought to have come out with more credit, if the most had been made of the Japanese capabilities.

Turning into the Machinery Hall, close by, one comes, a little unexpectedly, unless forewarned by a study of the catalogue, upon the exhibit of A. W. Buchan & Co., Portobello, which though not at all large, is distinctly attractive in a practical sense. There are good specimens of ordinary stoneware and white stoneware, the aim apparently having been to show what can be produced in ware the body of which is thoroughly vitrified; the glazes are leadless and non-crazing, and the body is impervious, although kept unglazed. John Baird, Ltd., Port Dundas, Glasgow, have a very fine show, including cut, engraved, and etched glass for table use, and glass for electric and incandescent lighting. Here are at times shown processes of decorative glass etching, engraving, and sand blasting, but this feature was not in evidence at the time of the present writer's inspection.

New Trade Marks.

FOR WHICH APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Objections to the registration of any of the following Trade Marks must reach the Comptroller-General, Patent Office, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C., within one month from date given with each Mark. A form for making such objection can be obtained at any money-order office at a cost of £1.

LIBERTY. Liberty & Co., Ltd., 18 and 19, Warwick-street, W. Dinner ware-dessert services, tea ware, decorative ornaments included in this class, toilet ware, garden pottery, flower bowls, flower pots, and fruit bowls, all the said goods being of porcelain or earthenware. Class 16. 293,892. April 29, 1908.

"PHIALOID." Istituto Terapeutico Italiano-Lab. di Biologia Appl. e di Terapia Ipoderm Riuniti, 4, Via Dante, Milan, Italy. Address for service in the United Kingdom is, c/o Haseltine, Lake & Co., 7 and 8, Southampton Buildings, W.C. Glass phials for medicines, such phials being sold empty, *i.e.* independently of any contents. Class 15. 301,422. May 20, 1908.

MODERNIA. Aug. Brennecke & Co., 68, Finsbury-pavement, E.C. Glass tiles for wall decoration. Class 15. 301,823. May 20, 1908.

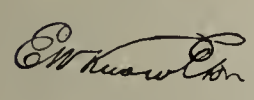


Christopher Thompson Maling & Sons, Ford Potteries, Newcastle-on-Tyne, earthenware manufacturers. Earthenware. Class 16. 300,976. March 3, 1908.

CASCADE. T. J. Wood, 673, Eccles New-road, Pendleton, Manchester. A milk boiling utensil made of porcelain. Class 16. 301,250. May 6, 1908.



J.Mayrow, 29, Sinclair-road, West Kensington, W. Earthenware tea pots, earthenware coffee pots, earthenware cocoa pots, and earthenware chocolate pots. Class 16. 300,187. May 6, 1908.



Knowltons, 1, Manor Farm-road, Bitterne Park, Southampton. Potteryware fire-proof milk-boilers. Class 16. 300,461. May 6, 1908.

FROSTA. The Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd, 65, Moor-road, Wortley. Leeds. Porcelain and earthenware. Class 16. 301,645. May 13, 1908.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN APRIL.

The Pottery Trades.—Employment in the pottery trade continued moderate, and was worse than a year ago. Employment in Staffordshire was moderate, and was affected to some extent by holidays; it was also moderate in Scotland; in Devonshire and at Swadlincote and Newcastle-on-Tyne it was fair; at Bristol it declined. With earthenware makers employment was slack in the Potteries, and continued about the same as a month ago in the South Yorkshire and the River Aire district. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries it was fair, and better than a month ago. Employment with packers in the Potteries was very quiet. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester, dull at Gateshead, and bad at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades was fair, but not so good as either a month ago or a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,910 workpeople in the week ended April 25, and paying £10,424 in wages, showed a decrease of 0·9 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 0·4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was principally in the North of England and Lancashire. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 5·4 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 5·2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The decline was common to all departments and to all the principal districts except Scotland, which showed an increase.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol and at Portobello; moderate in the North of England and in Lancashire, and at Barnsley, Leeds, and Glasgow; slack at Wakefield, Castleford, and Mexborough; improving at Dublin. With medical glass bottle makers employment was fair at Rotherham and quiet at Leeds. Employment with flint glass makers continued good in Scotland and fairly good in England. With cutters it was fair; at Stourbridge and Wordsley it was good. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad; with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was fair. Employment with London glass blowers showed a decline. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was very bad, short time being general.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on the last pay day in April :—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,569	£6,867
Plate Glass	754	864
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	2,162	2,215
Other Branches	425	478
Total	8,910	£10,424

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid them on the last pay day in April :—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	1,234	£1,003
Yorkshire	4,540	5,703
Lancashire	685	760
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,244	1,515
Scotland	881	1,127
Other parts of United Kingdom	326	316
Total	8,910	£10,424

A King's Collection of Tea-pots.—King George IV had a craze for teapots, of which he held an immense number piled up in pyramids at the Pavilion at Brighton.

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Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NOT often are local trade conditions more throughly depressing than at present. Manufacturers are unanimous in saying that trade is wretchedly bad, and complaints are heard on every side. Those firms who manufacture better class goods—articles of the kind which may be deemed "luxuries"—are being especially hard hit, and those who, thus far, are feeling the slump least are those who make the bulk lines which are in everyday demand. For this reason, sections like the jet and rockingham makers, and the producers of cheap goods for the American market, seem to be better employed than most other departments for the time being, but nowhere in the district can trade be said to be anything but unsatisfactory. Many works are only running half-time, and those which are working more normally are doing so, to a large extent, on old orders, which are being worked off rapidly, and are not replaced by new ones. The home market has not been so dull as it is now for a long time. The London market is flat. On the North-East Coast, the shipbuilding strike is affecting trade more and more. In the Midlands, the coal and iron trades are so slack that numbers of hands are being turned away, with consequent loss to the tradespeople. The Scottish trade, so far as it affects North Staffordshire products, is exceedingly slow, and the West of England is no better.

The Board of Trade returns for April show that the exports of British pottery for the month only amounted to £213,186, compared with £216,685 in April of last year. This, however, was considerably better than in 1906, when the figure was £175,832. There was a decrease in the exports to Germany, to the United States, to Brazil, to South Africa, to Australia, to New Zealand and to Canada, while increases were recorded in the exports to France, the Argentine, the British East Indies, and various minor countries. Although it would seem from these figures that the Colonial trade is dropping off, it is said to have picked up a little during the past few weeks. The Australian outlook is generally regarded as hopeful, but one leading manufacturer tells me that recent advices allude to fears of drought. So far, this year, the exports of ware to the end of April had amounted to £847,954, against £830,153 in the corresponding period of 1907, and £734,396 in 1906. These figures are not very alarming, but unless the unexpected happens, and there is a great and speedy change for the better in trade, their aspect will be considerably altered during the approaching months.

Business in the home market seems to be resolving itself into a two-season trade—the Spring and the "Fall." The intermediate journeys, except in the watering places, produce thinner orders than they used to do, and it seems unlikely that trade will improve much now until late in August, when the Christmas orders begin to cause the annual spurt. A traveller making three journeys a year used to reckon to do pretty well on all of them, but nowadays, when he goes to a large centre, he has to look for substantial business on both the Spring and the Fall journey to keep up his returns and make up for the shortcomings of the intermediate trip. It is consequently possible to attach too much importance to the position of the trade at the moment, though it must be confessed that things could not easily be worse than they actually are. In seeking for an explanation of the dulness which prevails, a good many reasons have been advanced. Some manufacturers assign political reasons for it; others make the more feasible suggestion that the cold and late spring has caused a diminished amount of shopping, and by leading to the accumulation of heavy stocks of spring goods at the big drapery emporiums, has helped to make money tighter, which it undoubtedly is, in spite of the reduced bank rate. Again, the quiet state of trade in America is put down, in some quarters, to the fact that this is the year of the Presidential Election, and that as there is some talk of the possibility of the tariff being reduced—a vain hope, probably—buyers are exercising great caution, and purchasing from hand to mouth. If there is any real ground for thinking that a few months may see the tariff on English pottery reduced from 60 to 50 per cent., there might be something in this, but, really it would be less surprising to see the tariff increased than to see it reduced. Still, the possibility of a fiscal change is a factor to be taken into account in considering the general situation, especially as the financial crisis in the States now seems to be pretty well over.

The sanitary trade is in a very lifeless condition, and at Longton and Fenton, the china manufacturers are complaining all round of the lack of orders. Business, they say, has rarely been so unsatisfactory, and money is very scarce. This, indeed, is a feature common to the entire district. Manufacturers cannot get their money in, and their difficulties are accentuated by the stiff prices which they have to pay for coal and materials. To add to their troubles, dealers are trying to pull prices down, and, such is the scarcity of orders, that some firms are said to be offering increased discounts, and to have expressed their willingness to forego the 5 per cent. increase in selling prices which was agreed to by a large part of the trade last autumn. To reduce prices in this way can only result in forcing other manufacturers to follow suit, so that, in the end, the last state will be worse than the first. With things as they are, manufacturers need to stick to their prices more strongly than ever; quoting lower prices will not increase the amount of trade one fraction. It must not be forgotten, by the way, that the workmen's demands for higher making prices still have to be dealt with. We understand that on May 21 a meeting was held between representatives of the employers and operatives at which the Board of Arbitration was formally constituted, and on May 28 a further meeting was to be held to appoint the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other officials. The men's leaders are anxious to push on with the question of prices as soon as possible, and though it is not anticipated that they will be granted an increase until, at any rate, trade is much livelier than it is now, it is always well to be prepared for contingencies, and, consequently, there should be no thought whatever of dropping prices at this juncture.

The rules for the government of the "Board of Conciliation and Reference for the Staffordshire China and Earthenware Manufacturers and Operatives," as finally agreed to by the conferences of masters and men held during March and April, have now been issued, and appear in full in another part of this issue of the GAZETTE. They provide machinery for the settlement of all the most fruitful causes of disputes in the trade, without any stoppage of work, and, if loyally adhered to by both sides, they should entirely obviate those harassing crises which for the past sixteen or seventeen years, have recurred with annoying persistency each settling time. As already mentioned, the Board was to meet to elect its officers on May 28. No doubt, by this time next month, it will have settled down to business.

Can any reader of the POTTERY GAZETTE furnish us with reliable information concerning the old "Potteries Railway" which people in Shropshire are talking about so much just now. Manufacturers in this district, to whom the question of railway rates means so much, are constantly asking one another for information relating to the railway, but without success; entire ignorance seems to prevail regarding it. Some two or three years ago the idea of "reviving" the line was projected, and it was then stated that the line was partially constructed in the Shrewsbury district, a great many years ago, but was afterwards abandoned without ever having reached the Potteries. The originators of the scheme seemed to have the intention, in the first instance, of connecting the Potteries and the Welsh Coast. They thought that if they could do this, there would be a great deal of traffic in the way of conveying china stone and clay to this district, and they appeared to think that the higher cost of rail transit would be more than compensated for by the shortening of the sea journey to the Mersey, and of the subsequent canal carriage, while a considerable passenger, agricultural produce, and merchandise traffic was also reckoned upon. When the scheme was revived two years or so ago, it was much discussed in North Staffordshire, but after the nine days' wonder was over, nobody thought much more about it. The Shrewsbury people, however, have not yet relinquished the idea, and on May 2 the Shropshire County Council authorised application to be made to the Light Railway Commissioners for power, if they thought fit, to advance a certain amount of money, either by way of loan or as part of the share capital, to the North SShropshire Light Railway Company, for the purpose of carrying the proposed revival of the "Potteries Railway" into effect. Mr. Ward Green, in a speech on the subject, informed the County Council that it was proposed to reopen the old Potteries line as a light railway, and that if it could only command the same amount of traffic as in the year prior to its closing, years ago, the working of it would give a return of 4½ per cent., as the old proprietors had agreed to sell the railway for the price of an old song, and for a sum of £30,000 or £40,000 it could be put into working order again. In the course of subsequent debate it transpired that the original capital of the company was £750,000, which has now been reduced to about £40,000. Public bodies in all parts of Shropshire are promising financial aid to the venture, and Potteries people are beginning to wonder whether there may not some day be a prospect of the line being extended to the Potteries as was originally intended. At present, however, we are quite in the dark as to where the railway really is, what district it runs through, and how near it comes to North Staffordshire. It is bewildering, under these circumstances, to keep opening our morning papers and reading of the progress which is being made with the resuscitation of the "Potteries Railway"—a railway that "the Potteries" knows nothing about.

The famous Anderton lift on the River Weaver, which plays so important a part in the conveyance of raw materials for the potting industry to the Potteries, and also in the conveyance of manufactured ware from North Staffordshire to Runcorn and Liverpool for export, was re-opened on May 6, after having been closed in order that it might be converted from an hydraulic to an electrical lift, at a cost of £25,000. The lift is the most wonderful contrivance of its kind in the world, and engineers are constantly coming from all parts of the globe to see it working. To call it a "lift" does not convey anything of its real nature. It is, in point of fact, a colossal watertight, movable lock situated at the point where the North Staffordshire Canal reaches the River Weaver, which runs into the Mersey. The Weaver and the canal are on entirely different levels, and, this being so, it is necessary to provide a connecting link between them so that the boats on the one may be transferred to the other without loss of time. This connecting link is furnished by the Anderton lift. When a string of boats, laden with pottery, comes to the end of the canal it is floated into the lift which then lowers the whole consignment to the level of the Weaver below. The boats coming down the Weaver laden with clay and other materials for the Potteries have, of course, to be hoisted up to the level of the canal. The new electrical scheme is said to work quite successfully.

Alderman Aaron Edwards, J.P., C.C., the popular Mayor of Longton, whose generous hospitality to his fellow townspeople has made this, his sixth year of office as chief magistrate, one of the most brilliant ever known in the history of the Potteries, has just given another typical example of his kindly thought for others by taking the whole of the employees of his pottery for a day's outing at Blackpool. The occasion served the double purpose of commemorating the alderman's mayoralty, and also of celebrating his business jubilee, just fifty years having elapsed since Mr. Edwards began his career as a pottery manufacturer at Longton. A company of 530 persons left the Potteries by special train on the morning of May 18. A free breakfast was provided on arrival, and, after a morning's enjoyment, another generous spread was prepared at the Winter Gardens at midday. When the tables were cleared the guests had an opportunity of expressing their gratitude to their host, which they did by presenting him with a costly diamond ring as an earnest of their feelings. Ald. Edwards was given a hearty ovation when he rose to respond. He spoke of his early business struggles, and he claimed that he had always paid "good from hand," and that the wages paid in his business averaged £1 per head for every man, woman, and child in the place. Then he complimented his workpeople upon the way in which they performed their duties. After the speaking was finished, the company again dispersed in search of pleasure. Tea was provided at six o'clock and at a quarter past nine the return journey was commenced, the company reaching home again at 12.30 a.m.

The Daylight Saving Bill, for which one of the North Staffordshire M.P.'s (Mr. Robert Pearce) is the Parliamentary sponsor, seems to be meeting now with the support of numerous prominent business men, and though at first everyone scoffed at it, and refused to regard it in the light of anything else but a joke, it seems to stand more than a remote chance of becoming law. So far as the Potteries is concerned, manufacturers have not given much attention to the proposals of the Bill, and they seem, for the most part, indifferent whether it passes or not. The workpeople seem disposed to welcome the measure on the ground that it will give them increased facilities for getting out into the fresh air after they have ceased work during the summer.

The constitution of the Committee which the Home Secretary has appointed to consider the use of lead in the manufacture of pottery is announced in another column of this issue, with the terms of reference, which are exceedingly wide. The anxiety created in the ranks of manufacturers when it was announced that the Committee was to be appointed, has been considerably allayed by the knowledge that Mr. Wm. Burton and Mr. Bernard Moore are to sit upon the Committee. These gentlemen are thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the lead and dust questions, and manufacturers, while fearing that the Committee means "more trouble" for them, are satisfied that their side of the case will, at any rate, receive fair consideration when the Committee comes to prepare its report. Any proposal to restrict the use of lead beyond present limits will be resisted by the trade to the utmost, but, short of this there is a general consensus of opinion that every possible step within the limits of reason should be taken to reduce the evil of plumbism to a minimum.

An inquest of more than usual interest was held on May 14, at Stoke-on-Trent, as to the death of Fred. Moulton, aged 33, a glost placer. The man had been admitted to Stoke Workhouse Infirmary on May 6, "suffering from dropsy, the result of chronic inflammation of the kidneys." An exhaustive account of the deceased's mode of life and work was given before the coroner, and Dr. Longford, who made a post-mortem examination, said death was due to kidney disease. Dr. Arlidge agreed with the evidence as to the post-mortem examination, and in answer to the Coroner, said: Had the man suffered from lead he considered there would certainly have been some symptoms in life which could not have been overlooked. The verdict of the jury was that "the man died from kidney disease, but the cause thereof we do not know."

Much progress has been made with the arrangements for the Federation of the Pottery towns within the past few weeks. The Provisional Order of the Local Government Board, which is practically identical with the draft order—has been received, and the Bill for its confirmation has already been introduced into the House of Commons and read a second time. It is now to come before a Parliamentary Committee, and here the real tug of war commences, for it would be idle to ignore the existence of a powerful opposition—not to federation as a principle, but to the scheme by which the Local Government Board proposes to bring it about. It would be well if the representatives of the towns would put their heads together, and, in a spirit of fair negotiation and conciliation, endeavour to arrive at a mutual arrangement so as to shorten the Parliamentary proceedings, and save as much in legal expenses as possible. Whether there is a fight or not, Federation seems bound to come in one form or another.

The new offices of the Pottery Workers' Society, at Hanley, were formally opened by Miss Bennett, on May 11, in the presence of a large number of members and friends. The whole of the work has been carried out under Trade Union conditions. Mr. J. Lovatt, the General Secretary, presided, and after a congratulatory speech in which he expressed the hope that the Pottery Workers' Society had "come to stay," he introduced Miss Bennett. That lady delivered a short address, and then opened the door of the new premises with a key that had been presented to her for the purpose, and the company at once assembled in the new Board Room. A vote of thanks was passed to Miss Bennett, and the members adjourned for a social gathering in the Temperance Hall.

The funeral of the late Mr. John Copeland, one of the proprietors of tho New Hall Pottery Co., Ltd., Hanley, who died shortly before our last issue went to press, took place at Shelton Cemetery, and was very largely attended, though the weather was most inclement. A party of employees of New Hall Co., Ltd., acted as under bearers, and others present in the funeral procession included Mr. Robert Audley (the deceased gentleman's partner), Mr. W. H. Ramm, Mr. G. Glover, Mr. E. Hammersley, Mr. R. Judd, Mr. T. Hulme, and Mr. R. J. Audley. The first portion of the funeral service was conducted at Shelton Parish Church, and the Rev. E. A. Phillips officiated at the subsequent Committal. Many beautiful wreaths were sent, including a magnificent one from the employees of the company, and others from the deceased's Masonic friends and the local Licensed Victuallers' Association, of which Mr. Copeland had, for many years, been the Secretary, having at one time been engaged in the licensed trade himself.

In speaking last month of the success of Mr. E. Brain (Foley China Works), at the Fenton Urban District Council Election, he was referred to as being the President of the English China Manufacturers' Association. This, of course, should have been ex-president. Mr. Brain resigned the presidency of the Association recently with a view to bringing other leading members of the trade to the front and the post is now occupied by that popular gentleman, Mr. S. L. Plant. Mr. Brain is now the treasurer of the Association.

It is good news to hear that Mr. Cecil Wedgwood, who has been seriously ill, has now recovered, and is again able to attend to business.——Many philanthropic causes in the Potteries have lost an active worker by the sudden death of Miss Louie Rivers, daughter of Mr. L. Rivers, of Hanley, the representative of Harrison & Sons, potters' colour manufacturers, of Hanley.——An outbreak of fire occurred on May 1 at Messrs. Collingwood's china manufactory, in Clayton-st., Longton. Fortunately it was discovered in its incipient stages, and was quickly extinguished, very little damage being done.——At the Fenton Wesleyan Church, on Saturday, May 16, when Mr. A. J. Hines, third son of Mr. J. Hines, china manufacturer, of Fenton, was married to Miss Kate Heal, eldest daughter of the headmaster of the Queen-st. Council schools.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, May 18.

REPORTS from Ontario and the Canadian North-West continue to give promise of the greatest wheat harvest Canada has ever produced. A Canadian Northern Railway official estimate of the increased wheat acreage in the North-west is 1,000,000 acres. With an average crop this means at

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least an addition of $15,000,000 to $18,000,000 to the annual revenues of the West—a pretty prospect, truly! Thousands of United States farmers are still streaming in from the adjacent states of Michigan, Illinois, and Nebraska, with their families, stock and implements. They are past-masters in the science of farming as it is conducted in North America, and if Canada were to search the wide world for the ideal settler for the vast agricultural areas of the Great West, none could be found to excel those who make up the train loads that are daily pulling out of the Western States en route to this country. A further gratifying characteristic of this emigration is that each man is independent, self-confident, and becomes an immediate productive citizen. There is no bonus paid by the Dominion Government per head for this class, no "rake-off" for Salvation Army or transportation agencies; but merely a gigantic trek of wide-awake, industrious, and thoroughly equipped agriculturists to a land of greater promise than the country they are leaving. The Salvation Army erred grievously in assisting and encouraging the emigration of Englishmen to this country who have been brought up in the large cities. Nine'y per cent. of those who are accustomed to the lights and sounds of a big city resolutely refuse to go into the country, and those who do try to adapt themselves to the rural conditions here are not familiar with farm work and cannot command satisfactory wages. The great majority, therefore, come only to congest the cities of older Canada, where there is at no time a scarcity of mechanics. The British mechanic does his work more thoroughly than does the Canadian workman, but the latter accomplishes much more in the same given time, and, too often it is the quantity rather than the quality of the work which governs the contractor in determining the usefulness of his employees.

This question of widely different training applies to other pursuits. Even pottery salesmen who have been seduced by the extravagant representations of emigration literature and agencies to quit good positions in the Mother Country and emigrate to Canada, find conditions here most unpleasantly different. Business methods are dissimilar, and the salesmen who banks upon his thorough knowledge of potters and potteries to make him a shining and conspicuous light in the colonies, is usually doomed to disappointment and absolute failure until he has become used to the ways of Canadian merchants and adopted local methods. One young Scotchman who came to Canada something over a year ago, with extraordinary recommendations as a competent travelling salesman, was employed in a Montreal warehouse for several months, and felt that that experience qualified him for better things. Late in February he secured a position with a Toronto importer and was assigned to Montreal and the eastern territory. He carried two lines of fine and widely-known English china, and the best he could do in five weeks were orders aggregating £250. He ascribed his failure, in an interview I had with him, to Canadian prejudice against Britons. Unfortunately, there is a modicum of truth in his assertion, but the real cause of his failure was the vast difference in the methods pursued by the Old Country salesman and the Canadian commercial traveller. The latter is a replica of the Yankee drummer. He is a "jollier." He secures his orders by his good fellowship as much as by the quality and price of his wares. Our Scottish friend is eminently qualified to discuss the comparative qualities of English pottery, and is industrious and enthusiastic—but he could not "deliver the goods." However, every Canadian who goes out on the road does not succeed at first, and this young man's next attempt may be a happier experience.

Trade is improving everywhere throughout Canada. Quebec and the Maritime provinces have been slowest to recover from the depression of last fall and winter, but travellers just home from the east report fairly good business in import orders.

Canadian agents of English potteries are showing an increased number of souvenir pieces designed especially for the Canadian trade. The decorations are chiefly of maple leaf designs and the Canadian coat of arms, &c., and the experience of those who first placed them on the market for the summer tourist trade encouraged several houses to prepare exclusive designs for their customers. One enterprising house shows a line of rail plates of Staffordshire manufacture bearing the arms of the United States. The Canadian retail merchant—even in the smaller villages—is learning that there is real money in fancy pottery.

Mr. H. C. Bedlington, whose withdrawal from the managing directorship of Myott, Son & Co. here, as announced in this correspondence last month, has concluded an arrangement with Mr. R. Slimmon, of New York, by which he becomes the latter's Canadian representative, handling well-known English lines. And many of us continue to wonder why the Canadian representative of an English pottery must pay toll to a New York agent of the manufacturers. The British Canadian Crockery Co., and others, are doing the same thing. It seems so utterly absurd that the products of the leading potteries of England should be controlled in Canada by foreign importers and agents. Obviously, the retailer and the consumer have to pay this extra commission, and the merchants are getting wise to the situation. The British manufacturers will realise, perhaps, when French, German and Austrian china have obtained a sound popular footing here, that they would have best served their own interests by taking heed to the rapid expansion of the Canadian market, and get into closer business relationship with the trade in the Dominion.

Mr. R. Hill, of Valleyfield, Quebec, who sold out his grocery and crockery business last fall with the intention of retiring from active commercial life, has reopened with a fine new stock of pottery and glass ware, and has admitted his son into partnership.

Grand Trunk Pacific officials say that upwards of a hundred town sites will be located this summer east of the Rocky Mountains. The region is rich in fur, forest, fish, and mineral resources, and will be quickly populated once transportation facilities are provided.

There were no serious failures in the trade last month, and but few minor changes in proprietorship. Retail merchants are buying conservatively for import, and there is a commendable disposition evident in most of the smaller towns to make more conspicuous displays of pottery and glass.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE retail houses in these trades throughout Scotland during May have had in their favour the drier weather, accompanied, however, by unreasonable coldness, which has had a hindering effect on shopping. On the whole, the turnover has been below the ordinary May average. There has, as usual, been a little doing in the way of selecting and purchasing wedding presents for the annual June demand, but it has been noticeable that the china, crystal, and other ware articles chosen for such purposes do not, as a rule, run to much money. That is to say, the result to the trade sellers is less now than in any year when there is no depression or other trouble about. The present trouble to be contended against consists, first of all, in the general industrial slackness, and in the great scarcity of loose money, or of any money for that matter. Then

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again, there has been the threatened stoppage of work on a wholesale scale in the shipbuilding industry, accompanied by a number of smaller disturbances of like kind, either actual or threatened.

Retail traders in pottery and glass goods during May have, as usual, felt the restricting influence of the half-yearly rent-paying term (May 15), but this was a drawback that they had discounted beforehand. The removal term culminates on May 28, and on this operation our trades always count for some benefit, which, however, does not mature until families have settled in their new dwellings and had time to take stock of the crockery and glass damage sustained. The city houses (retail) begin during May to be sensible of the loss of counter trade caused by the migration of a part of their family custom to the watering places and to other summer resorts, but, owing to the tardiness of the season, this has been but little felt as yet. Owing to this same cause the trade dealers at these resorts, most of whom have already laid in stocks for the expected season, have not a very hopeful prospect before them. All this, of course, would be easily set right were June to open with a burst of summer; but the blank of last year is still too recent for the indulgence of much of fervent optimism.

The drawbacks as above referred to have reacted on the wholesale merchants of our trades, rendering May distinctly quieter than it was expected, and prospects, as regards repeat orders from their coast customers, are now somewhat dim. Of course, as already said, there is yet good time for a retrieval, if summer would come at once, with the fine and warm days to which we were accustomed in the good old-fashioned years.

Of all the reports to be gathered in the field at the present juncture, that coming from the Potteries and the makers is the most encouraging—the least depressing it might more properly be said. The making and stocking of jam jars is going on briskly, and the new rules, as introduced by the recent arbitration decision, are said to be working smoothly on both sides. Fruit crops are of favourable complexion just at the moment, and what with certainty of cheaper sugar and the probability of cheaper fuel, the coming new preserves season is augured as likely to be a good one, and if so, sure to entail on the Potteries an enlarged demand for the supply of jars. Rockingham reports offer no feature that is specially fresh. Movement is moderate, and it is believed that values are being fairly well maintained.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

BOURNE JOSEPH & SON (Jno. Hy. Topham and Joseph Bourne Wheeler), Denby Pottery, Derby, stoneware manufacturers. Sept. 30, 1907. Debts by J. B. Wheeler, who continues. (April 24.)

HANTS ART TILE & POTTERY CO. (David Clough Broadhead, Edwin Page Turner, and Jno. Arnold Robt. de Clermont), Totton, art tile and pottery makers. May 12, as regards D. C. Broadhead. Debts by E. P. Turner and J. A. R. de Clermont. (May 15.)

HARTLEY, WOOD & Co. (Jas. Hartley and Alf. Wood), Portobello Glass Works, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, coloured glass manufacturers. May 9. Debts by A. Wood, who continues. (May 15.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

BRITISH MACHINE BOTTLE CO., LTD. Resolved May 4:—That the company be wound up. F. M. Wickham, 31, Camomile-st., E.C., liqr. Petition presented, May 13, by R. C. Norton & Co., 15, Sunbridge-rd., Bradford, colliery agents and coal factors.

PRESTWICK BRICK & TILE CO., LTD. Claims to F. Rump, Blyth, liqr.

Appointment of Trustee.

THOMAS GRIFFITH and DAVID THOMAS, trading as the Bynea Silica Brick Co., Bynea, Carmarthen, brick manufacturers. Trustee, G. B. Bowen, Salubrious-passage, Swansea.

Notices of Dividends.

COX EDWD. I., trading as Danl. C. Ritchie, 38 and 40, Golden-lane, E.C., glass merchant. Supplemental, 7½d., at Saker & Davis', 95-97, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., May 11.

HASLIP KATE, 48, High-st., Dover, china and glass dealer. First and final, 7¼d., at O.R.'s, Canterbury, May 5.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

FINNEY VINCENT J. and EDMUND F. FINNEY, trading as Finney Bros., 6 and 8, St. James'-walk, and 1 and 2, Suffolk-st., Clerkenwell, Staffordshire warehousemen. Claims to G. G. Poppleton, 4, Charterhouse-square, Aldersgate-st., E.C.

SAVAGE JOSEPH E., 57, Devon-st., St. Helens, glass dealer. Claims to F. Gittins, Liverpool, O.R.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is necessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

BLAKE WALTER GEE, 234, Freeman-st., Great Grimsby, glass and china merchant. Dated April 25. Filed April 27. Liabilities unsecured, £158. Property, after deducting secured claims, £45. Tr., G. J. Wray, 6, Albion-terrace, Great Grimsby, accountant. The following are creditors:—G. Pistor, London, £14; H. Price & Co., London, £11; Gibson & Sons, Ltd., Burslem, £11; R. A. Blake, Cardiff, £35; Scottish Widows' Assurance Co., Leeds, £35; McLardy & Co., Manchester, £17; Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £12; A. Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, £12. Secured creditors, £30.

SNOW JNO., 12, Wellesley-st., and JONATHAN SNOW, 119, Ashford-st., and trading at Pyenest-st. Works, all Hanley, earthenware manufacturers. Dated May 8. Filed May 15. Liabilities unsecured, £633. Property, after deducting secured claims, £45. Tr., R. E. Clark, Hanley. The following are creditors:—Parkyn & Peters, London, £11; Aderton Canal Co., Ltd., Etruria, £12; Harrison & Sons (Hanley), Ltd., Hanley, £34; Brick & Mart Co., Ltd., Hanley, £13; F. Pointon, Hanley, £48; North Staffordshire Economic Building Society, Hanley, £1,100; Annie D. Porter, Hanley, £52; E. A. Snow, Hanley, £25; A. Snow, Shelton, £330; J. Best & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent, £32; Potter's Mills, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £53; H. Warrington & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent, £446; James Williams, Stoke-on-Trent, £13; J. H. Reece, Stoke-on-Trent, £42; North Staffordshire Railway Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £21. Pike Bros., Wareham, £32; Rates, £23. Secured creditors, £1,897. Bankers' claims, £165.

TROTT SIDNEY JNO., 94, Boutport-st., Barnstaple, and Market-place, Bideford, china merchant. Dated May 9. Filed May 14. Liabilities unsecured, £570. Property, after deducting secured claims, £230. Tr., H. Barrett, 19, Cross-st., Barnstaple. The following are creditors:—Jonas Lang, London, £24; Emanuel & Co., London, £12; E. Enderlein, London, £17; A. Bradford & Sons, Barnstaple, £34; G. Griffin, Barnstaple, £100; Barnstaple Municipal Charities, Barnstaple, £14; A. Oppenheim, Berlin, £22; C. Osbourne, Birmingham, £10; Hyredman Bros., Birmingham, £12; Bovey Pottery Co., Bovey Tracey, £24; Pountney & Co., Bristol, £12; Brown & Steventon, Burslem, £10; J. Sadler, Burslem, £17; S. W. Dean, Burslem, £10; Methven Davis, Kirkcaldy, £17; Wild Bros., Longton, £22; Bridgwood & Sons, Longton, £18; A. B. Jones, Longton, £15; Cartwright & Edwards, Longton, £27; G. Jones, Stoke-on-Trent, £16; Barket Bros., £14.

Private Meeting.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

BENNOSON JULIUS (trading as J. Bennoson & Co.), glass and bottle merchant, 46, London-rd., Clapton, E. A meeting of the creditors herein was held on May 18, when the statement of affairs presented disclosed liabilities amounting to £704 5s. 4d., to meet which there were assets estimated to realise £42 8s. 1d. In the result it was resolved that the estate should be realised. The following are creditors:—Bennoson J. sen., London, £122; Cama, Moola & Co., London, £46; G. Davidson & Co., Gateshead, £46; DeGrelle, Houdret & Co., London, £29; Dornberger & Co., London,

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New York Agent, Edward Butler, 45, Warren Street.

Australian Agent, Neal Harrison, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Paris Agent, M. Mitaine, 39, Rue Paradis.

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£15; Gilbert & Co., London, £92; Greener & Co., Sunderland, £10; Green & Co., Burton-on-Trent, £10; M. & J. Guggenheim, London, £23; H. Johnston & Co., London, £32; Jonas Lang & Co., London, £32; Le Personne & Co., London, £124; LeMay & Co., London, £22; Moore & Co., South Shields, £14; B. Peacock & Son, Castleford, £20; Sowerby Ellison Glass Works, Ltd., Gateshead, £10; Wisthoff & Co., Glasshutten, Germany, £13; Windart & Co., Ltd., London, £10; — Yates, London, £12.

Order Made on Application for Discharge.

Bedford Edward Thomas, glass and china dealer, 692, Fulham-rd., S.W. The order of adjudication in this case was made in January, 1897, and the bankrupt applied on May 6, at the London Bankruptcy Court, to Mr. Registrar Giffard for his order of discharge. Mr. E. Leadam Hough appeared as Official Receiver, and reported that the liabilities amounted to £1,070, in respect of which proofs of debt had been admitted for sums amounting to £760 11s. 8d. A proof of debt for £279 had also been lodged by the bankrupt's wife in respect of money lent and interest, but it had been postponed under the provisions of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882. The assets, which were estimated to produce £200 14s. 10d., had realised £91 1s. 1d., the difference between the two amounts being due to the bankrupt's estimate of his stock and fixtures having been more than double the best price obtainable. Nothing further was likely to be received in respect of the estate, and a first and final dividend of 9d. in the £ had been paid. In Dec., 1892, the bankrupt began business as a china and glass dealer at 692, Fulham rd., S.W. He had £230 capital, which he said was a loan to him from his wife, and he traded at that address until the date of the failure. From April to Dec., 1896, he also had a branch business at 3, High-st., Fulham. He was compelled to close that business, as his effects were seized and sold for rent. He attributed his insolvency to loss in trading, but it appeared to the Official Receiver that, according to his yearly accounts, the debtor had made during the three years prior to his bankruptcy a small profit each year, which, however, was insufficient to meet his household and personal expenses, amounting to rather more than £150 a year. The bankrupt admitted that he knew himself to be insolvent in Sept., 1893, when he was compelled to make a private arrangement with his trade creditors, to whom he paid 5s. in the £, leaving certain private debts outstanding. All the trade liabilities returned in the statement of affairs were subsequently contracted. The bankrupt kept the usual and proper books of account, and yearly balance sheets and profit and loss accounts were prepared until June, 1896. As offences, the Official Receiver reported that the bankrupt's assets were not of a value equal to 10s. in the £; that he had continued to trade after knowing himself to be insolvent; and that he had on a previous occasion made an arrangement with his creditors. His Honour upheld the report, and suspended the order of discharge two years.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

Bennett Herbert Edgar, trading as Bennett & Sons, 23, York-place, Brighton, china and glass dealer. R.O., May 16.

Dickins Joseph George, glass and china dealer, 108, Hoe-st. Walthamstow, and late of 373, High-rd., Leyton, E. The debtor filed his petition on April 16, and the statutory first meeting of his creditors was held on May 5, at the London Bankruptcy Court, Mr. Daniel Williams, Assistant Receiver, presiding. The chairman reported that, according to debtor's statements, he began business as a china and glass dealer in Aug., 1905. He had a borrowed capital of £25, and took premises at 119, Hoe-st., Walthamstow. He subsequently borrowed a further £20, and raised £100 on his interest under his father's will. He traded at those premises until March, 1906, when the business was removed to 108, Hoe-st., where he had since continued it. In Nov., 1906, he also began to trade at 373, High-rd., Leyton. He remained there for two months, when, in consequence of the premises being infested with rats, he was compelled to close the business. In October last he took premises at 27, Winchester-rd., where he had also carried on business as a china and glass dealer until the date of the receiving order. The debtor added that for the last twenty years he had also been engaged as a clerk with a firm of produce brokers in the city, and from that source was now in receipt of a salary of £200 per annum. A private meeting of his creditors was recently held, and he then offered to execute an assignment of his property in favour of a trustee, but that proposal fell through. His failure was due to bad trade and insufficient capital. A statement of affairs had been filed showing liabilities £839 12s. 2d., of which £296 12s. 2d. were returned as unsecured, and estimated net assets £82 6s. 9d., a deficiency of £214 5s. 5d. being accordingly disclosed. There was no offer of composition before the meeting, and it appeared that the debtor was adjudged bankrupt on April 16. No resolution was passed, and the case consequently remained in the hands of the Official Receiver as trustee for summary administration. The public examination is appointed for May 28. Appended is a list of the principal creditors:—W. Begeraie, High-rd., Leyton, £37; W. R. Bertie, Clissold Park, £10; M. S. Dickins, Highams Park, Chingford, £14; M. & J. Guggenheim, Fore-st., E.C., £14 17s. 9d.; Light's Stores, Grosvenor Park-rd., Walthamstow, £13 14s. 4d.; Murray, James & Co., Bartletts Buildings, E.C., £51 10s.; J. Rotherham & Co., Ltd., Shoreditch, E., £20 15s. 6d.; Shorter Bros., Crispen-st., Spitalfields, E., £11 5s.; Schutze, Steffans & Co., Fore-st., E.C., £28 10s. 5d., Ludlow, R. & Sons, Adelaide-st., Burslem, Staffs., £11 5s. 9d.; Simmons & Co., Webster-rd., Leyton, N.E., £11 11s. 4d. Fully secured: Provident Association of London, Bishopsgate-st., E.C., £405; Yorkshire Insurance, Princes-st., E.C., £100. Preferential: J. Bowers, Sydney-av., Bowes Park, N., £10; D. Lewis, Hoe-st., Walthamstow, E., £17.

Pearson Harry (trading as H. Pearson & Co.), glass manufacturer, Round Oak, Stafford. In this case the first meeting of the creditors was held on May 21, at the Dudley Arms Hotel, Dudley. There was said to be a deficiency of £4,538 on liabilities of about £5,508. It appeared that the debtor and his father started trading as glass manufacturers in 1894. In November, 1900, the father died, and under his will, the debtor was appointed an executor and was entitled to a tenth share of the residuary estate. He afterwards agreed with the executors to pay £1,800 for his father's interest in the business, and since then he has continued the business alone. In November, 1905, an action was commenced in the Chancery Division by one of the beneficiaries under the will for the payment of the £1,800, and last February an order was made for this amount, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum, amounting in all to £2,246 to be paid within a week. Subsequently an order was made against him and his brother Ernest W. Pearson (the surviving executors of their father's will) for payment of a further £1,346, being an amount shown on the accounts filed as cash in hand. Debtor said, however, that this money was not in hand, and the item appeared in the accounts by mistake. He attributed his failure to this action, heavy breakages, bad trade, and high price of fuel and materials. It was decided that the matter should remain with the Official Receiver, to be dealt with in the usual way.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

China Glazing Machine, No. 8,238.—J. Stubbs. Machine or apparatus for glazing flat or hollow ware of earthenware china or other material. April 14, 1908.

China Shaping Machine, No. 9,538.—W. Hill, Ltd., and R. C. Lindop. Improved machine for use in shaping circular and oval articles in china and earthenware. May 2, 1908.

Earthenware Pipe Joint, No. 8,674.—L. Oxford. Tongues and grooved joint for earthenware pipes. April 21, 1908.

Feeding Bottles, No. 7,873.—J. A. Baine. Improvements in feeding bottles. April 9, 1908.

Flower Pot Stand, No. 9,421.—W. R. Ball and T. L. Ball, trading as Ball Bros. Improved saucer or stand for flower pots and the like. May 1, 1908.

Glass Bottle Blowing Machine, No. 9,783.—A. Beverley. Improvements in machines for blowing glass bottles, jars, and the like. May 5, 1908.

Glass Withdrawing Device, No. 9,689.—H. Severin. Device for withdrawing determinate quantities of glass from glass furnaces. May 4, 1908.

Hot Water Bottles, No. 8,846.—J. B. Brooks. Improvements in or relating to hot water bottles and similar receptacles. (Date applied for under Rule 13, July 31, 1907.)

Lavatory Sinks, No. 9,511.—E. E. Ingram. Improvements in and connected with lavatory sinks and the like. May 1, 1908.

Melting Pots, No. 8,838.—C. W. Thomas. Improved method of constructing pots or vessels for melting the materials used in glass-making. April 22, 1908.

Pail Drainer, No. 9,617.—Emma Thurgood. Sanitary drainer for housemaids' chamber pail. May 4, 1908.

Pottery Decoration, No. 8,049.—T. Ford, Sen., T. Ford, Jun. and T. Hill. Improved process of and means for the decoration of pottery, earthenware, china and similar ware. April 27, 1908.

Teapot and Cup, No. 8,359.—Francis E. Rendel. Combined tea-pot and tea-cup. April 15, 1908.

Transferring Machine, No. 7,642.—G. Hassall. Roller print rubbing and transferring machine for earthenware, china, glass, iron and similar goods. April 7, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

9,394.—Schofl, Trautmann & Mayer. Process for the manufacture of fire-resisting porcelain.

11,956.—Berry. Chimney pots.

12,195.—Taylor. Combination plate and saucer.

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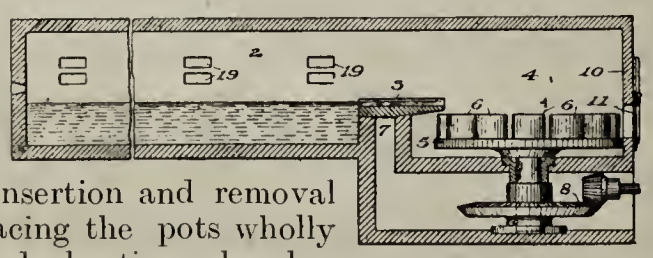
8,704.—Lindermann & Lindermann. Glass or vitreous substances and the production and the use thereof.
16,736.—Bastian, Calvert & Sanders. Method of melting or fusing glass or like vitreous material around and on to electric conductors.
23,308.—Stewart & Cameron. Cups and saucers.
24,214.—Anthes and Edwin Lloyd, Ltd. Reproduction of images on glass, porcelain, ceramic, metallic, or other surfaces.
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A HOME OFFICE COMMITTEE ON LEAD POISONING.

As announced in a former issue of The Pottery Gazette, the Home Secretary has appointed a committee to make a thorough inquiry into the use of lead in the manufacture of earthenware and china. The following is a list of the members of the Committee, and it will be noticed that all classes interested in the subject are represented on it. The chairman is Mr. Ernest Frederick G. Hatch, formerly Conservative member for the Gorton division of Lancashire. The other members are :—

Mr. Wm. Burton, F.C.S., director and manager of Pilkington's Tile and Pottery Company, Clifton Junction.

Mr. Noel Buxton, J.P., deputy chairman of Essex Quarter Sessions.

Mr. Bernard Moore, consultant potter, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mr. Noah Parkes, secretary of the North Staffordshire Trades and Labour Council.

Mr. George Reid, M.D., medical officer of health for Staffordshire.

Miss Grace Tuckwell, the well-known advocate for the improvement of the conditions in women's work.

Mr. Augustus Vernon Harcourt, F.R.S., vice-president of the Chemical Society.

Mr. John Ward, M.P., for Stoke on-Trent.

The following are the terms of the references to the Committee :—

(1) To consider the dangers attendant on the use of lead in the various branches of the manufacture of china and earthenware, and in the processes incidental thereto, including the making of transfers, and to report how far these can be obviated or lessened.

By improved appliances and methods in the lead processes, or

By conducting any of those processes in separate rooms, or

By limitation of the use of lead, or

By substitution of harmless lead compounds for raw lead, or

By substitution of other materials for lead, or

By controlling the employment of susceptible persons in lead processes, or

By precautions for detection of lead poisoning in the earlier stages,

Or otherwise, and how far such precautionary measures are reasonably practicable generally and with regard to the several branches of the said manufacture.

(2) To consider whether the danger or injury to health arising from dust or other causes in the said manufactures can be further obviated or lessened, and by what means, and how far such means are reasonably practicable generally, and with regard to the several branches of the said manufacture.

(3) To consider the existing special rules for the manufacture and decoration of earthenware and china, and the making of transfers, and to report what amendments, if any, are desirable for the better protection of the workers from lead poisoning and other diseases.

(4) And to consider and report what modifications, if any, are desirable in the application of the said special rules, so amended, to particular branches of the manufacturers named above, in the form of regulations under section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Correspondence on the subject may be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. E. A. R. Werner, Factory Department, Home Office, Whitchall, S.W.

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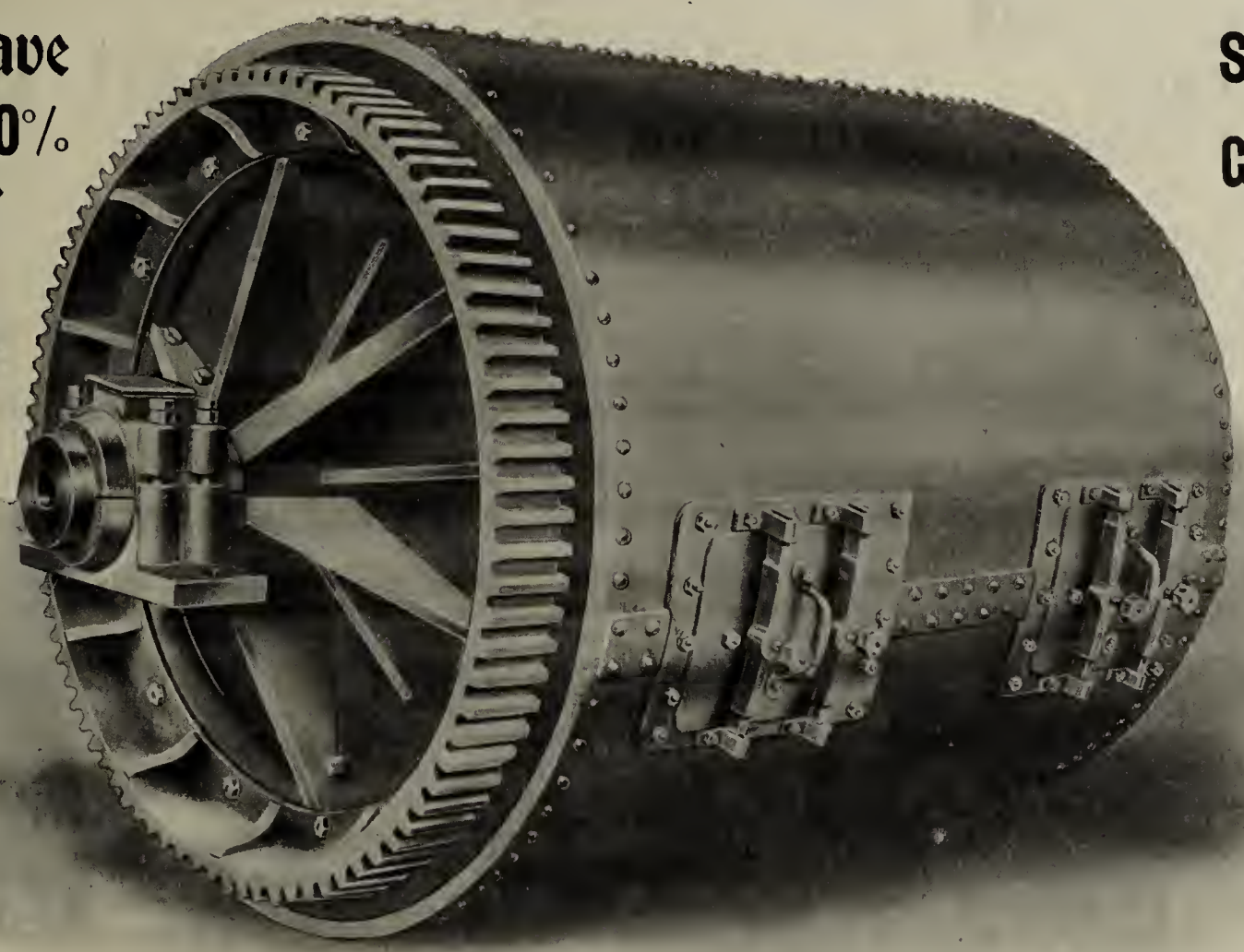
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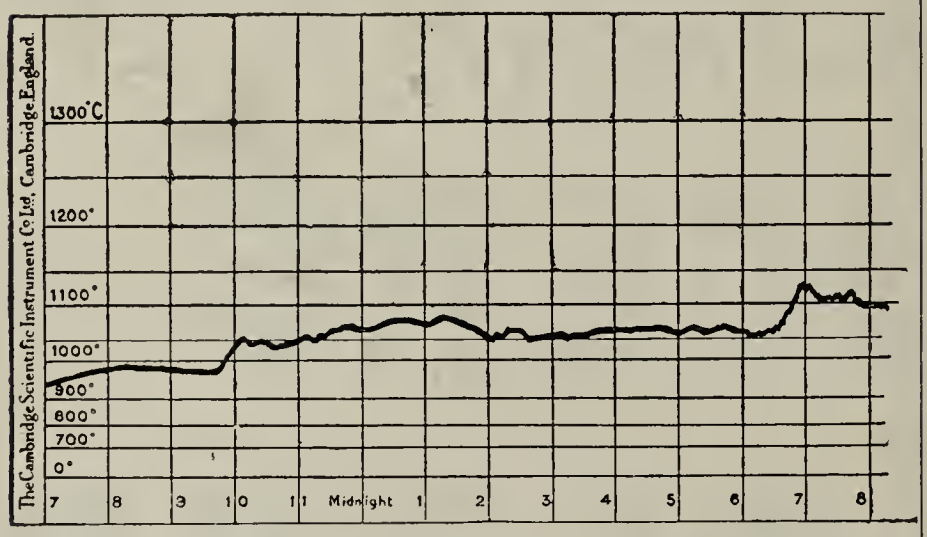
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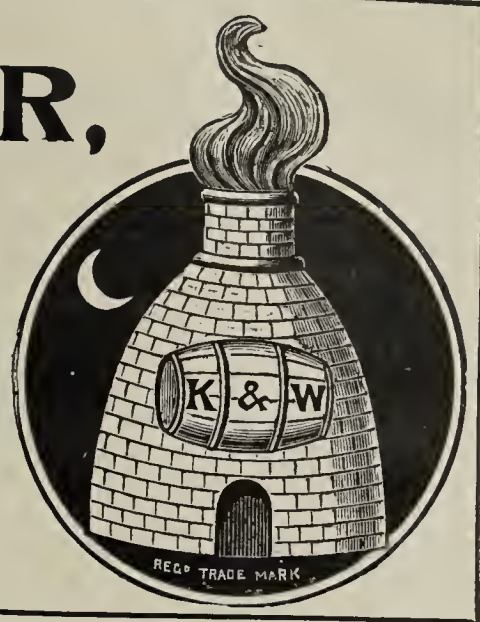
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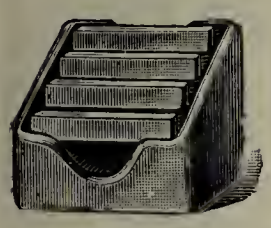
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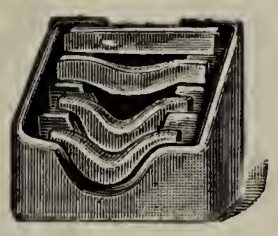
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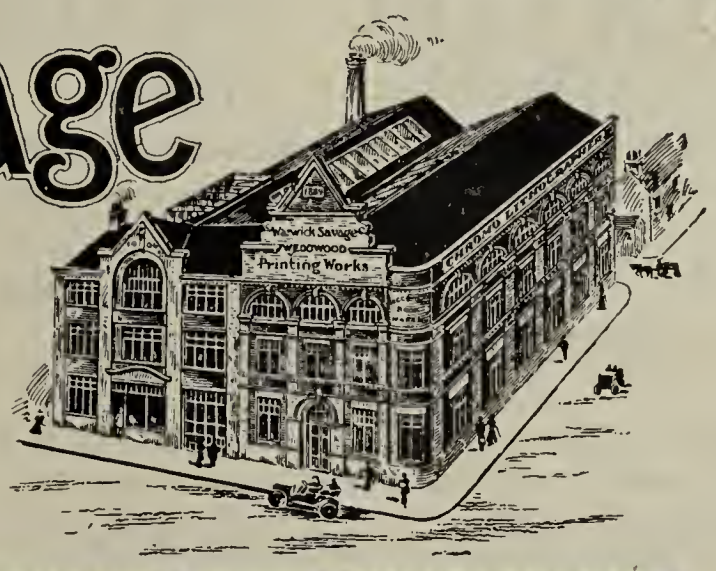
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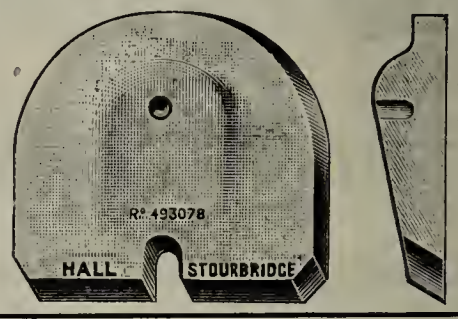
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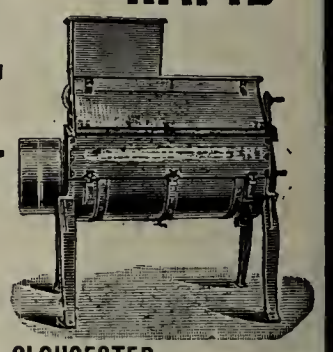
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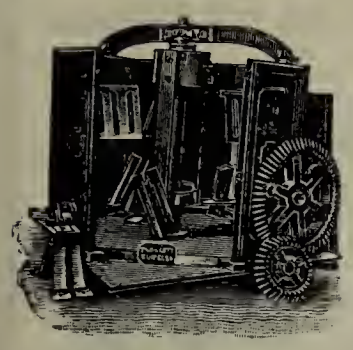
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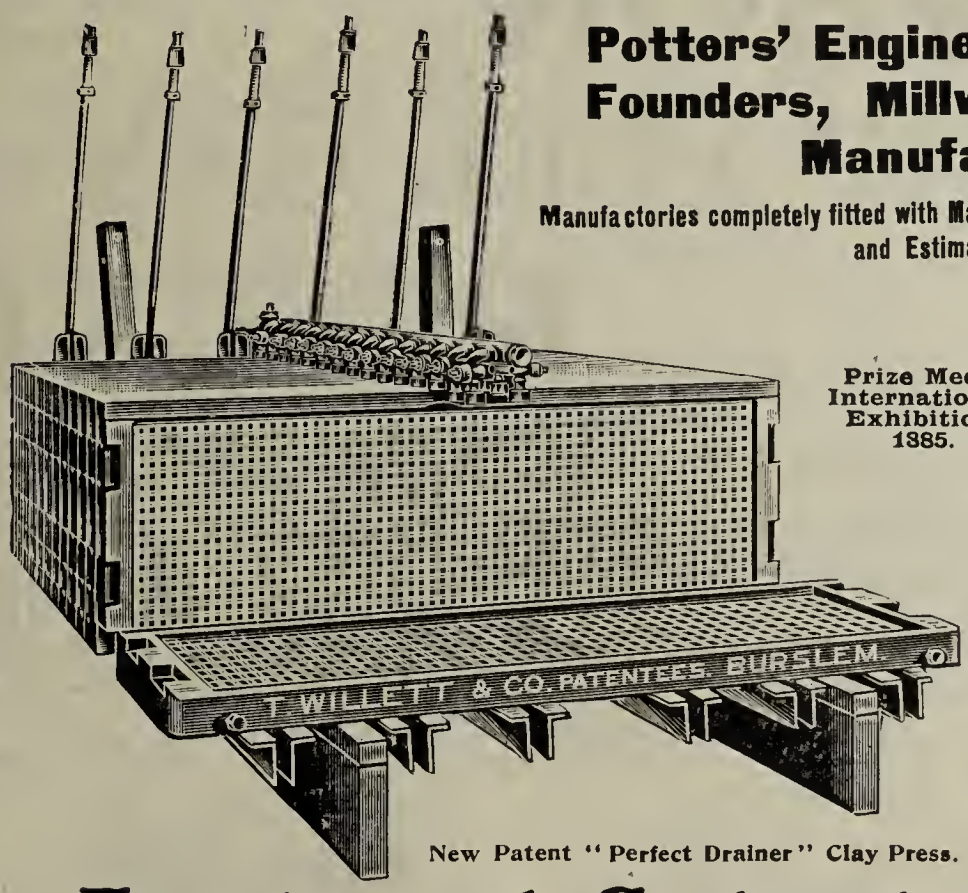
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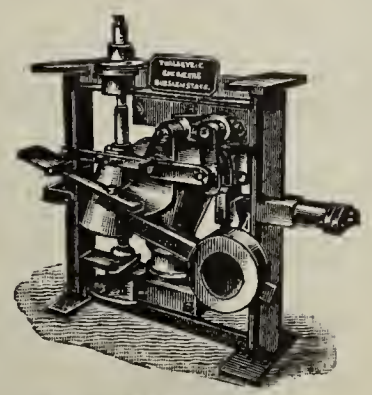


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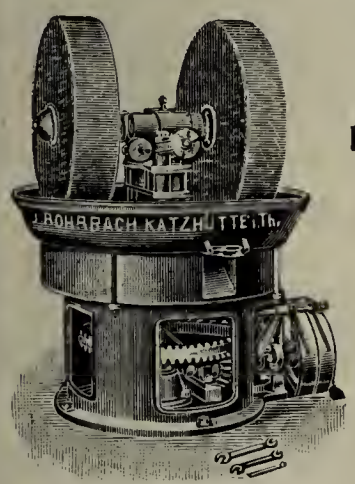
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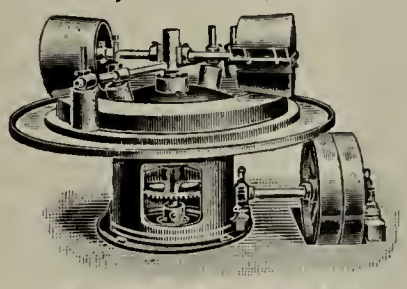
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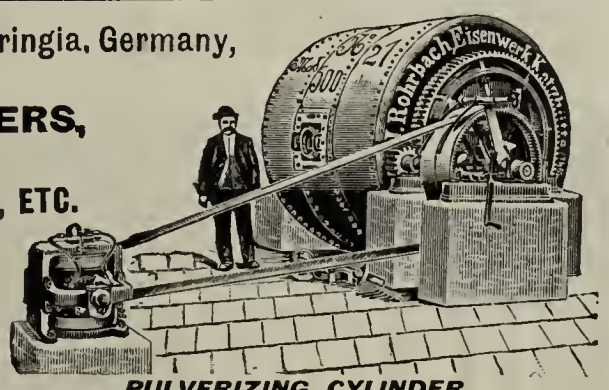
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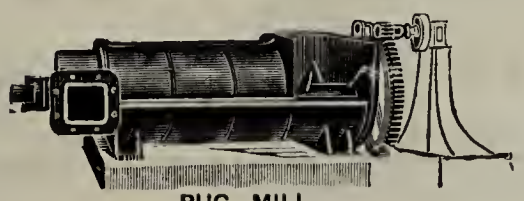
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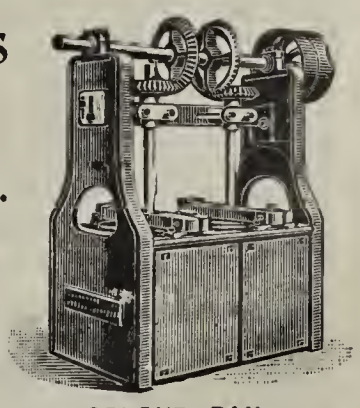
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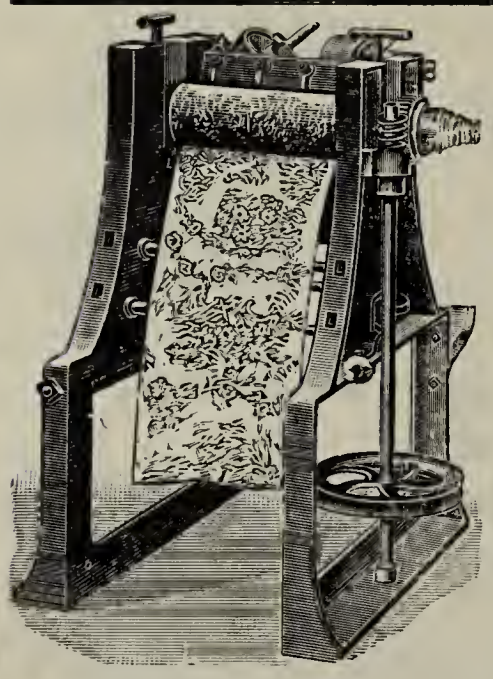
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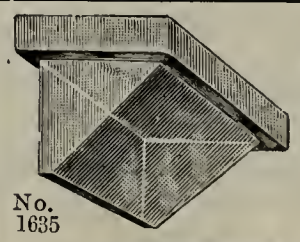
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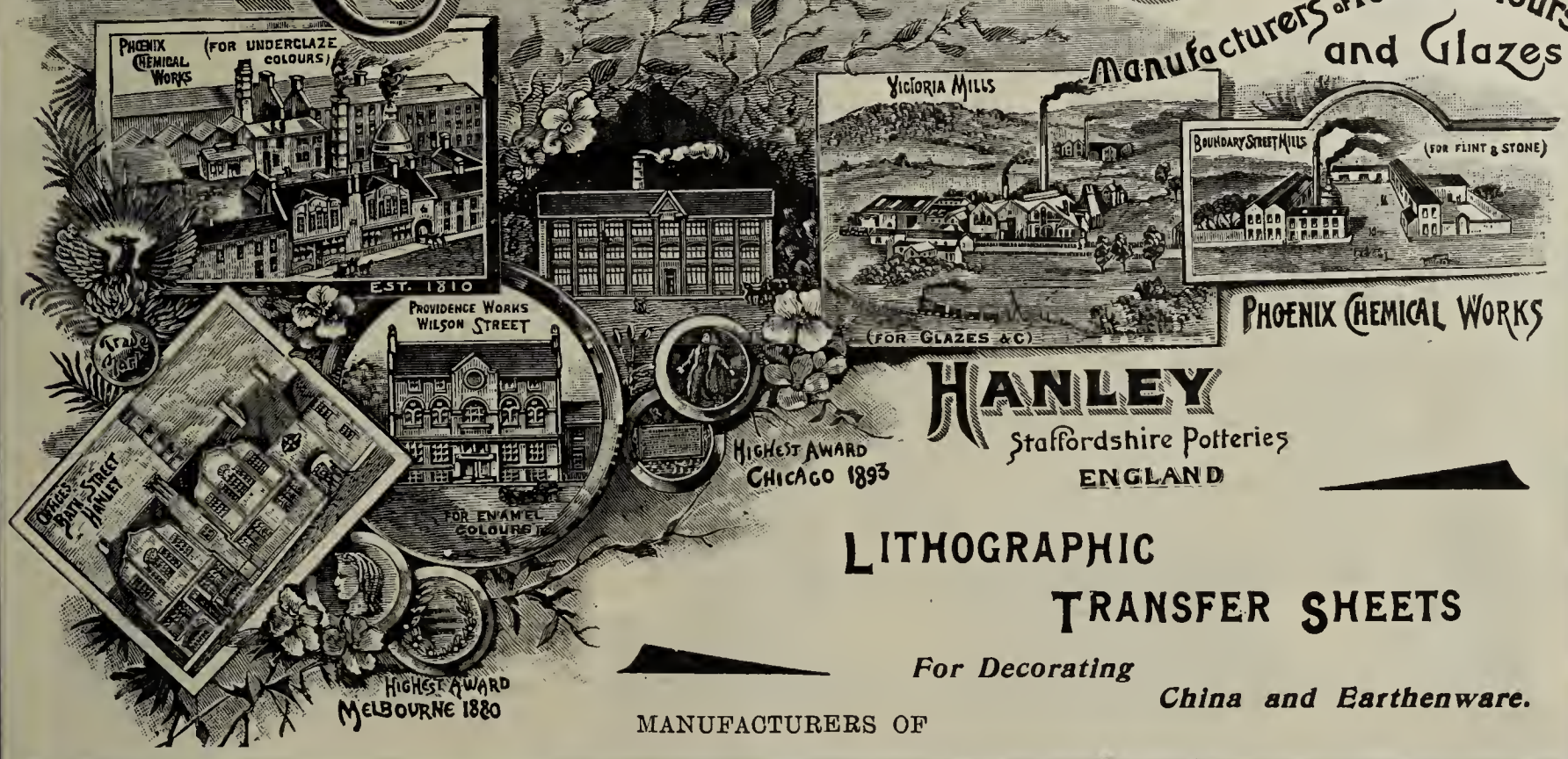
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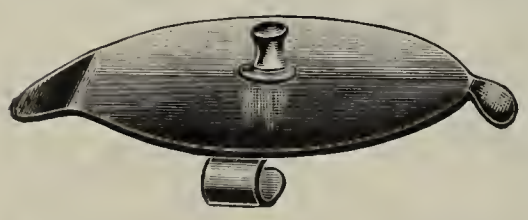
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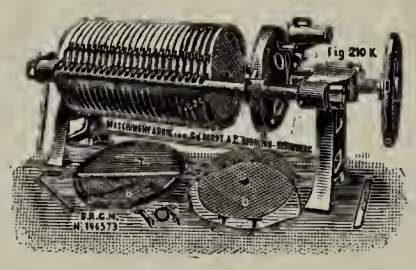
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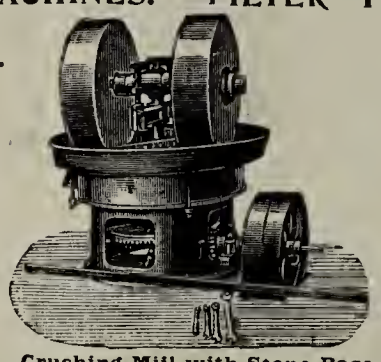
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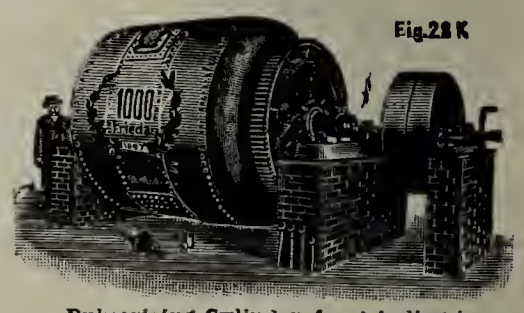
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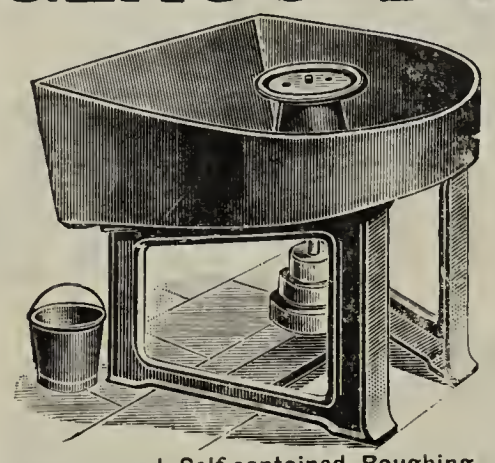
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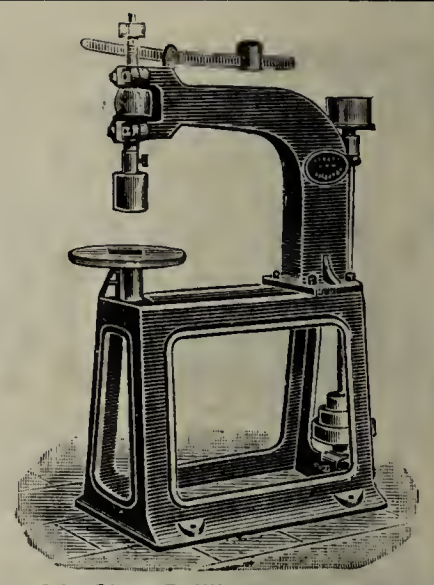
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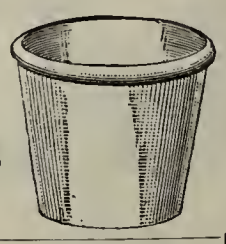
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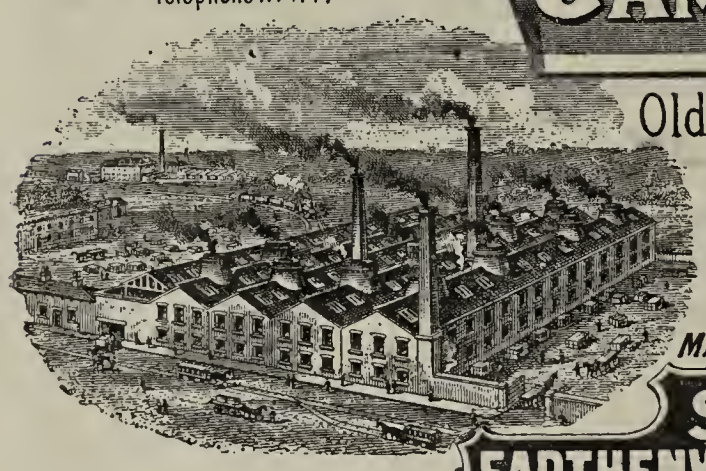
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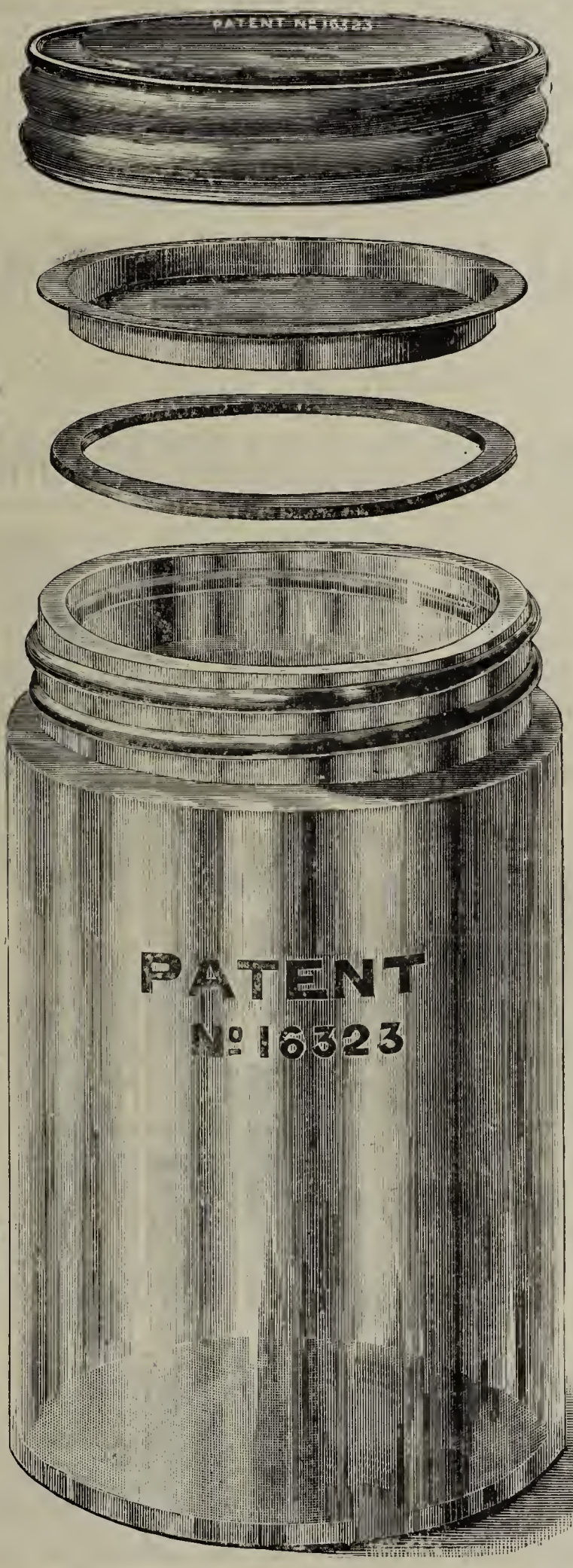
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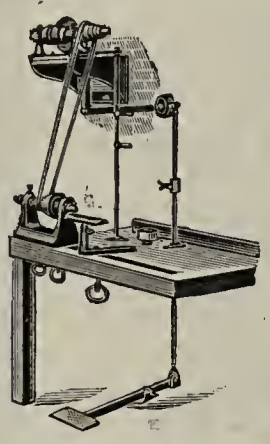
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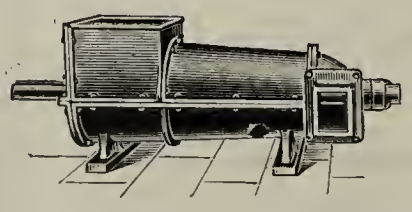


Potter's Lathe.

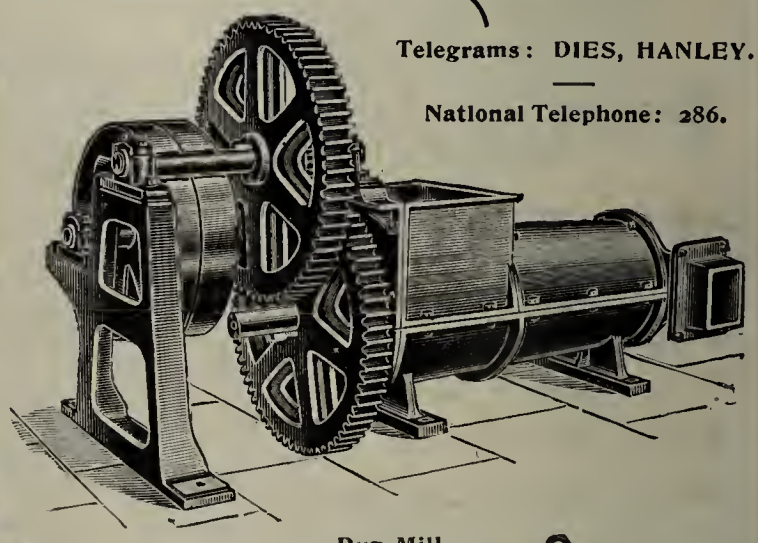
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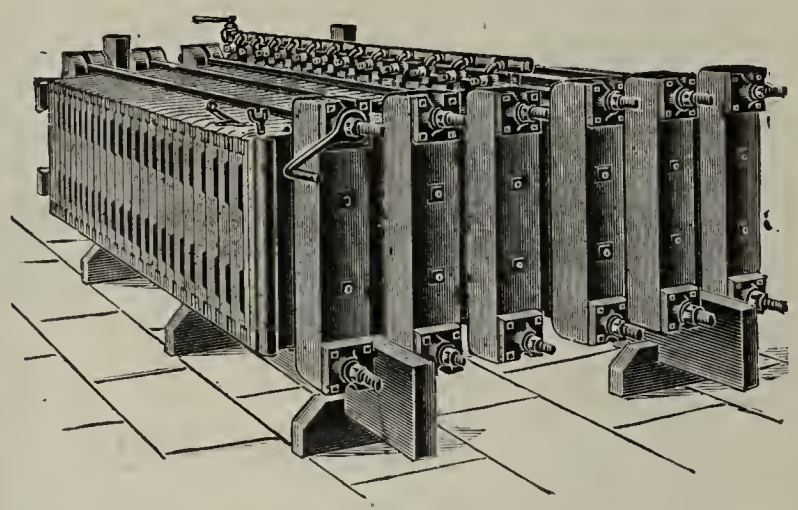
Telegrams: DIES, HANLEY.

National Telephone: 286.

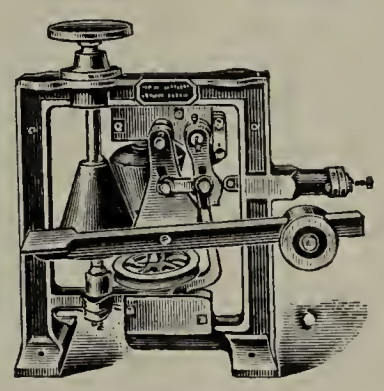


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



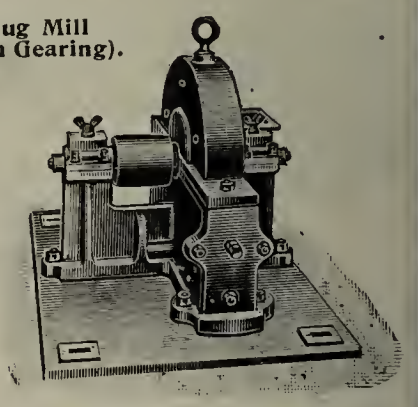


Filter Press.

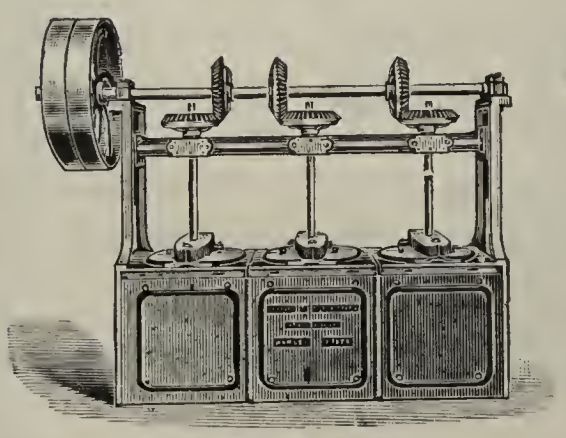


Throwing Wheel.

Pug Mill (with Gearing).



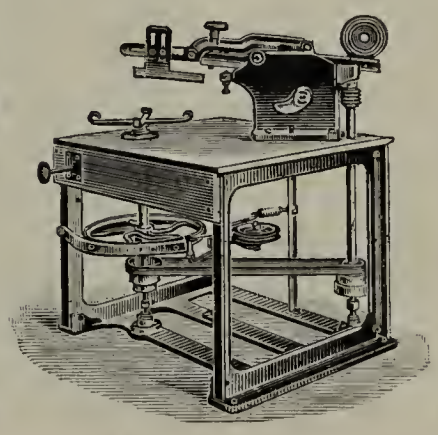
Damped Clay Disintegrator or Dust Mill.



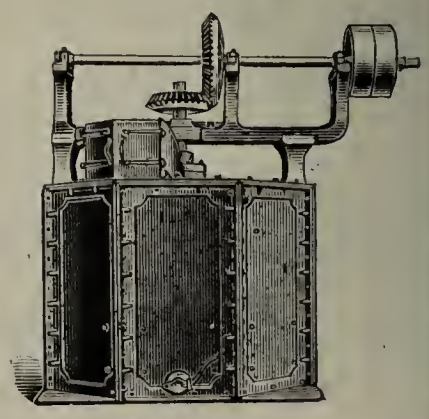
Colour and Enamel Mill.



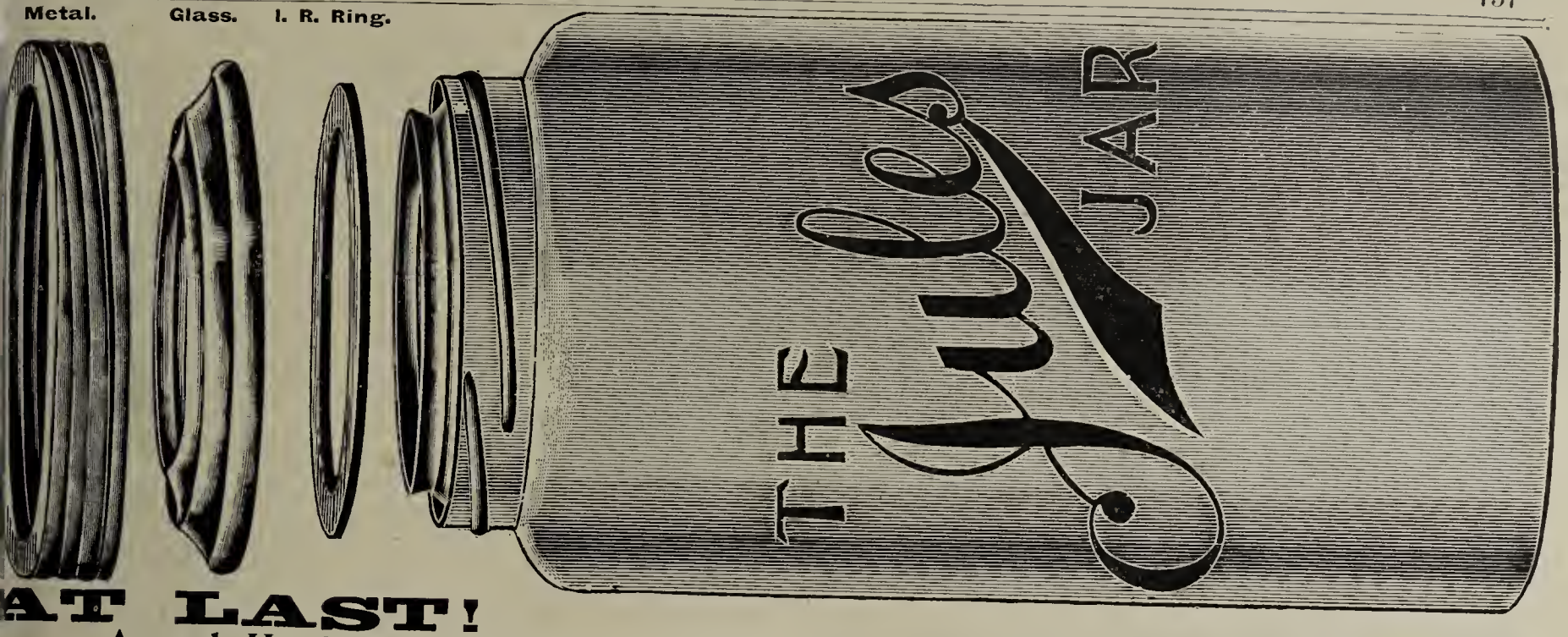
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All alterations for August issue must reach us by July 25th.

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All announcements for this Heading for August issue must reach us by July 29th.

SPECIAL TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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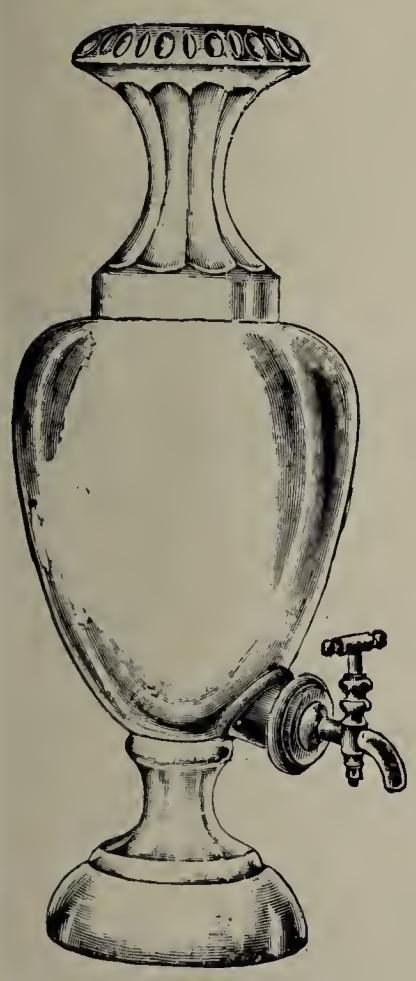
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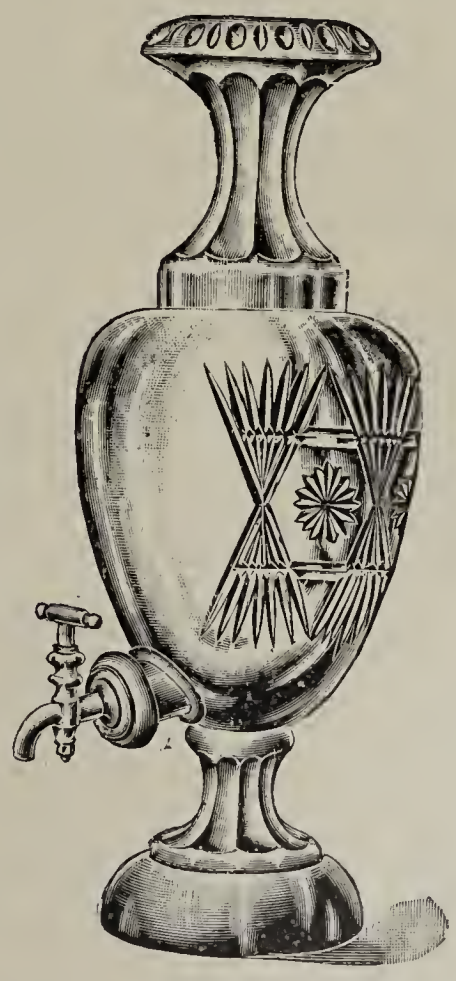
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Special Trade Announcements—
continued from page 738.

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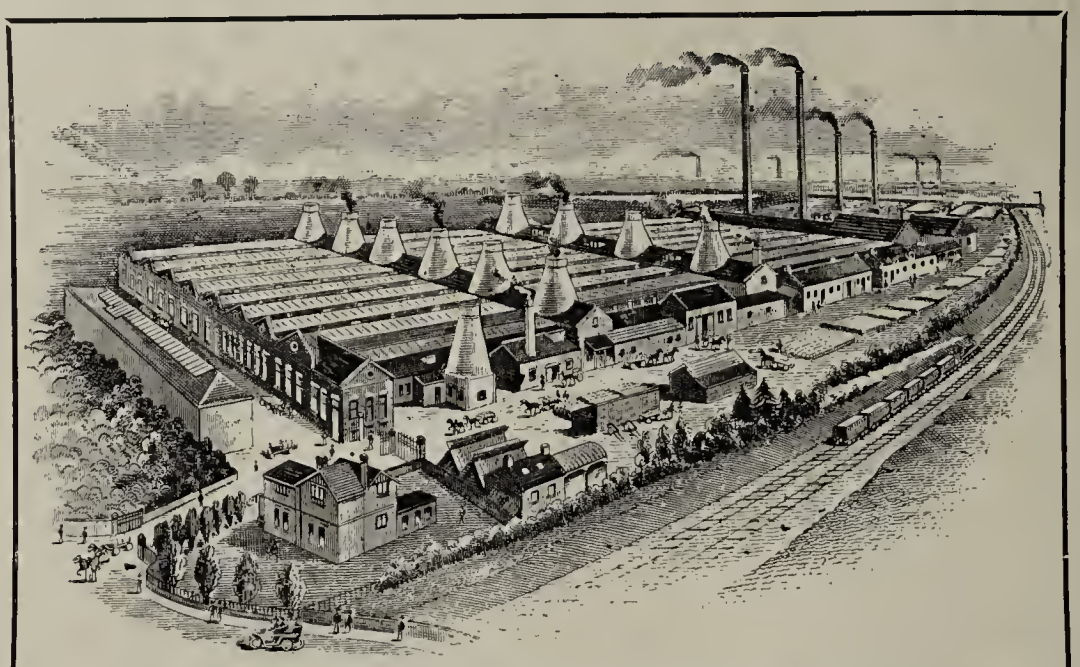
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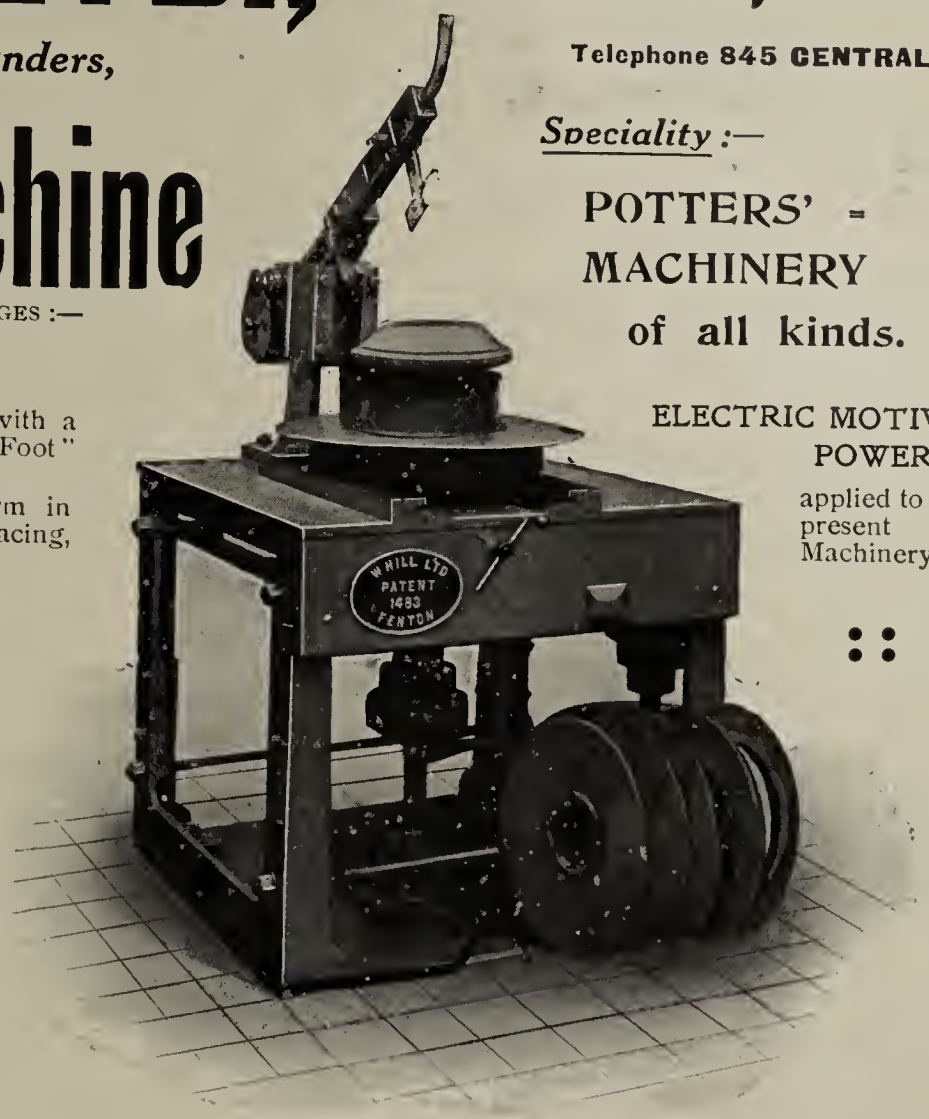
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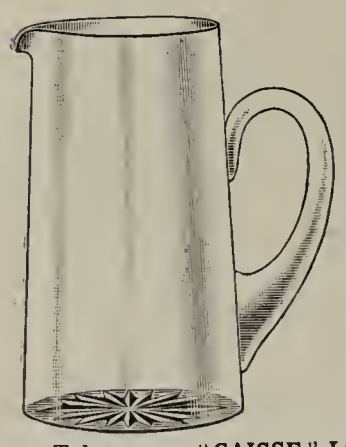


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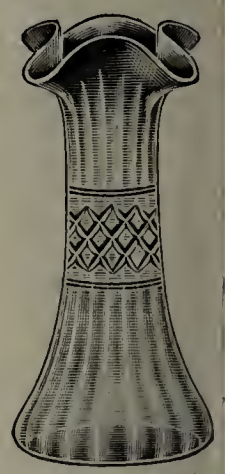
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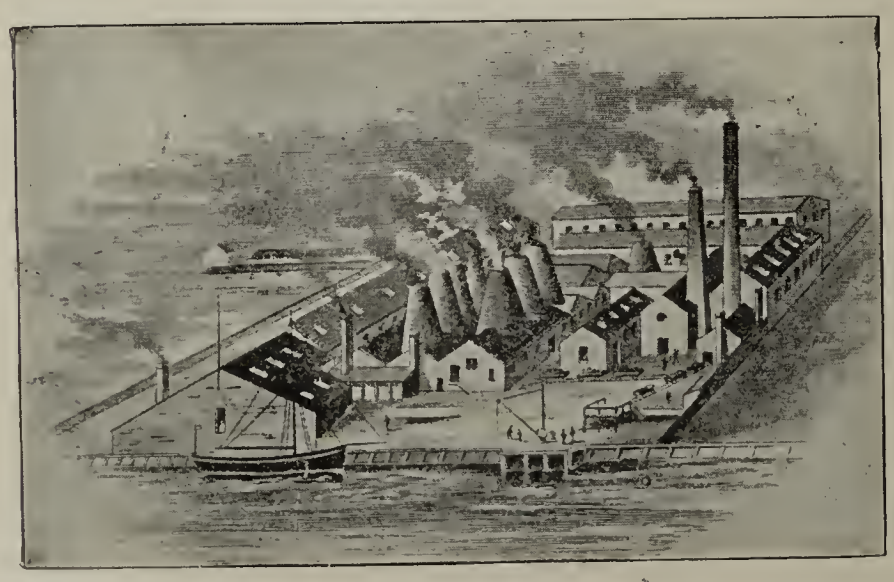
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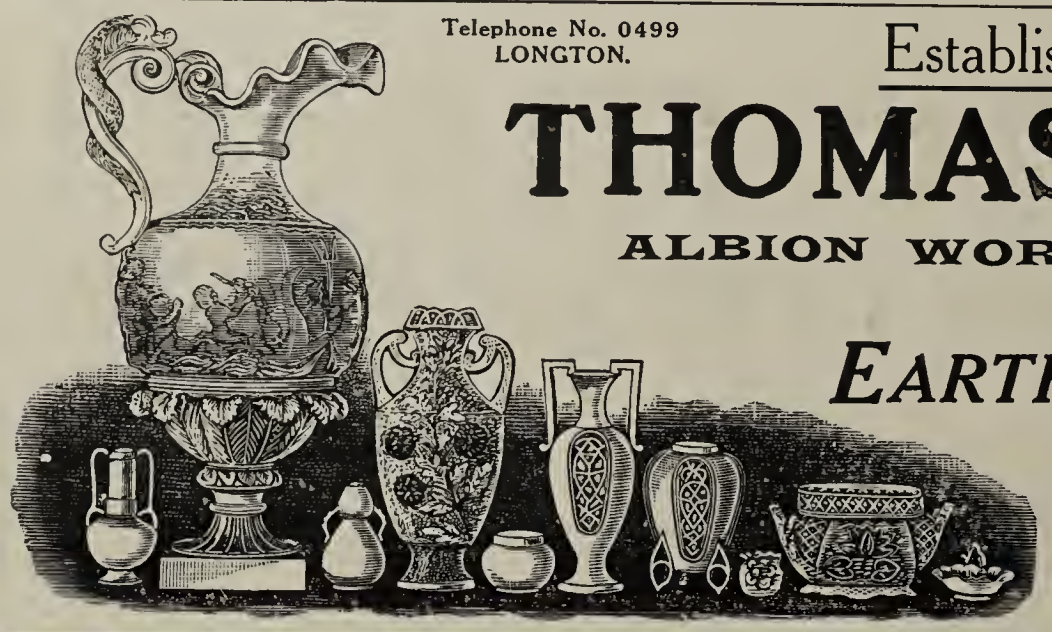
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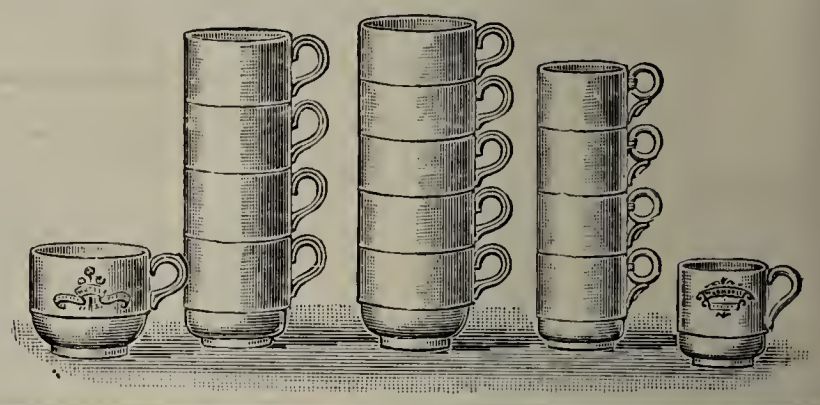
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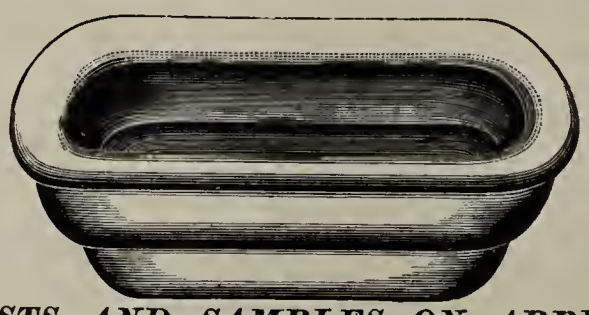
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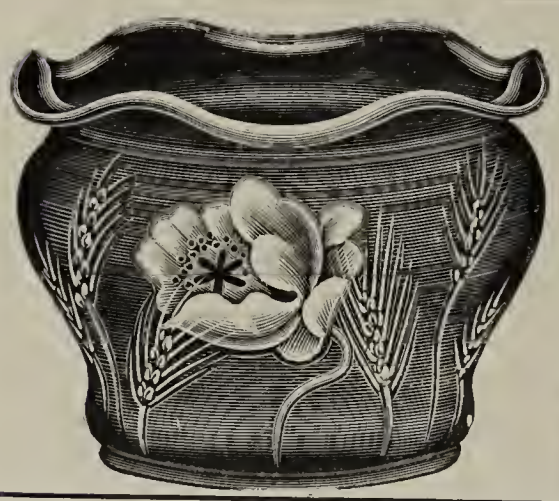
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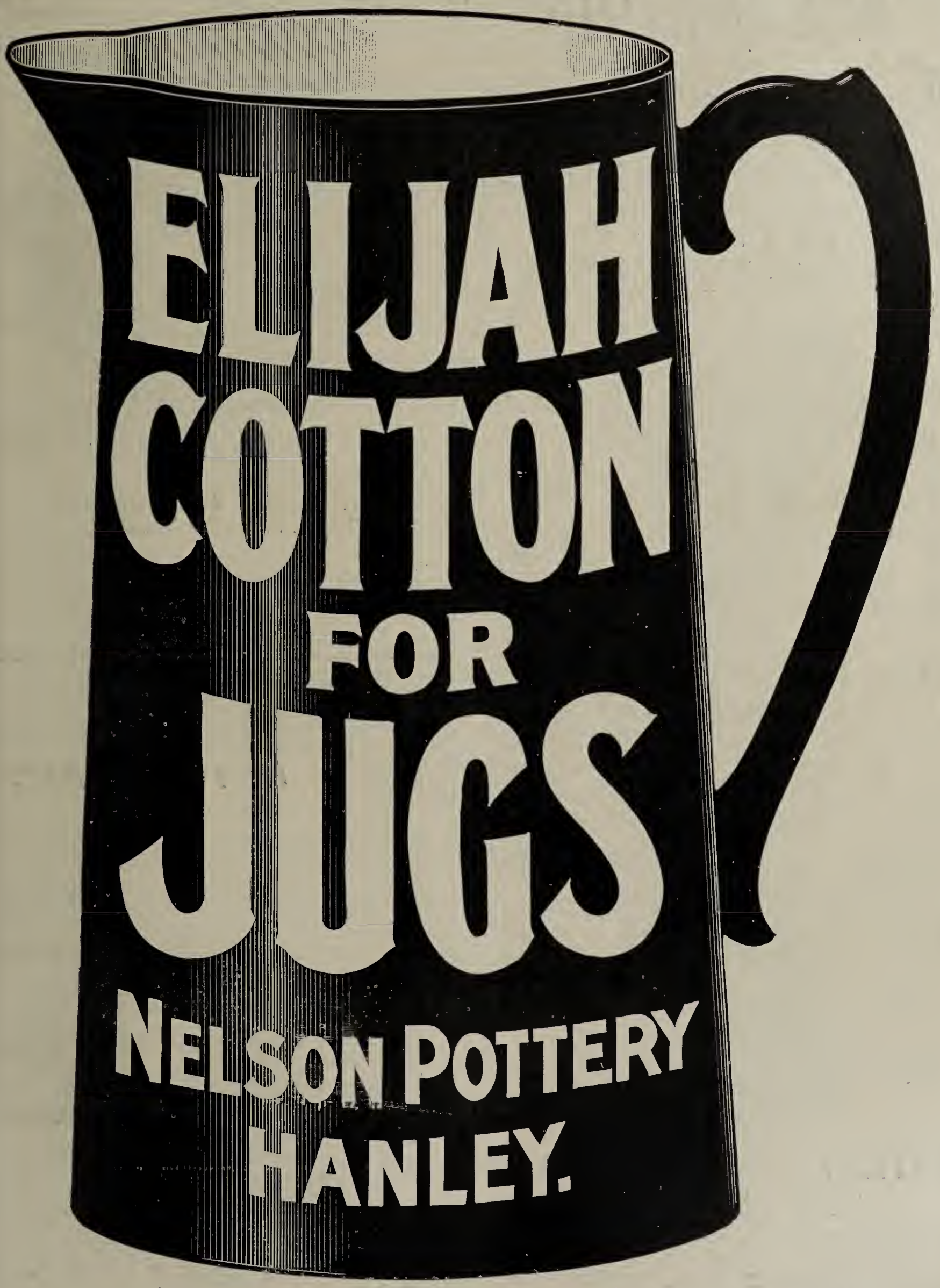
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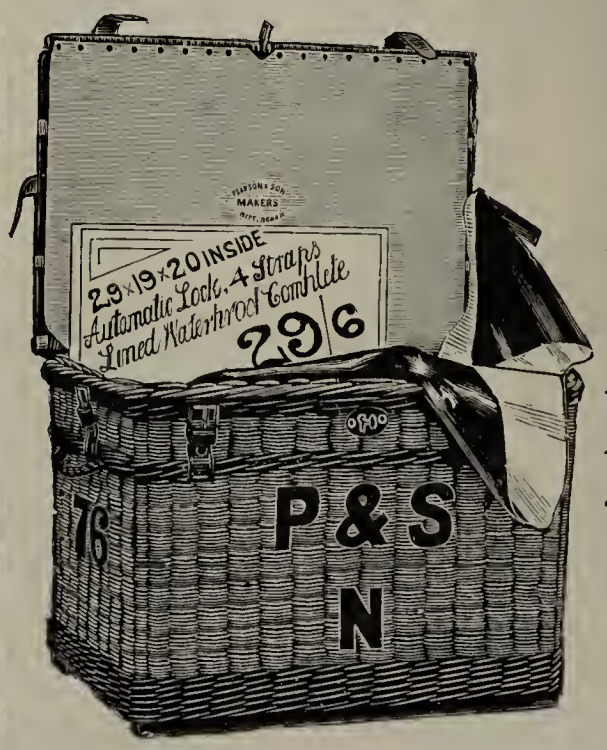
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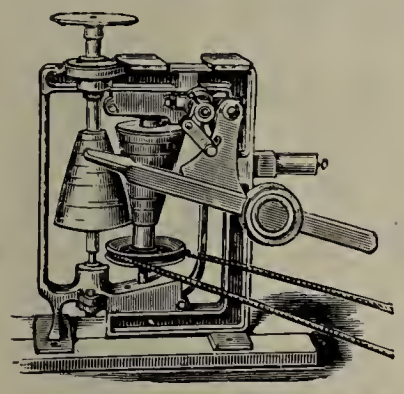
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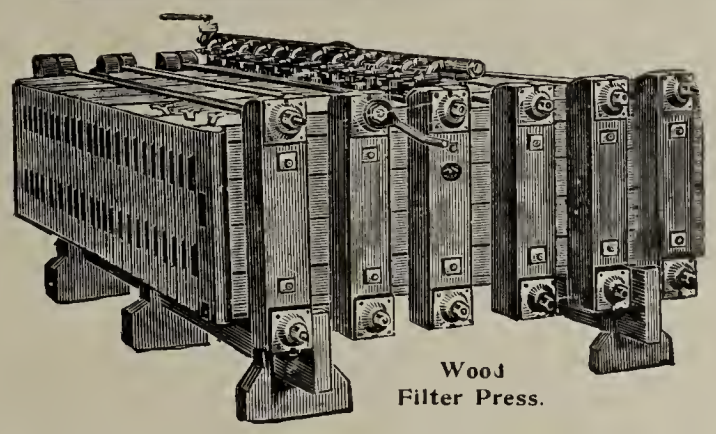
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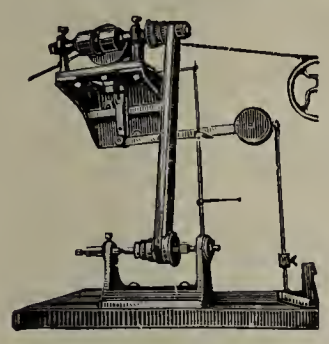
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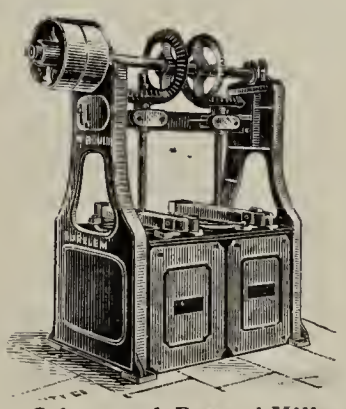
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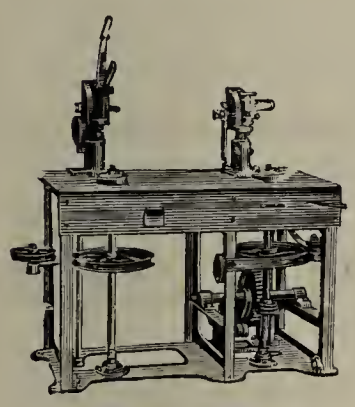
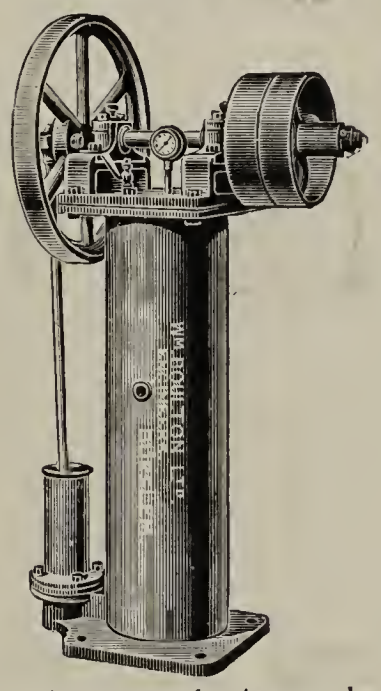
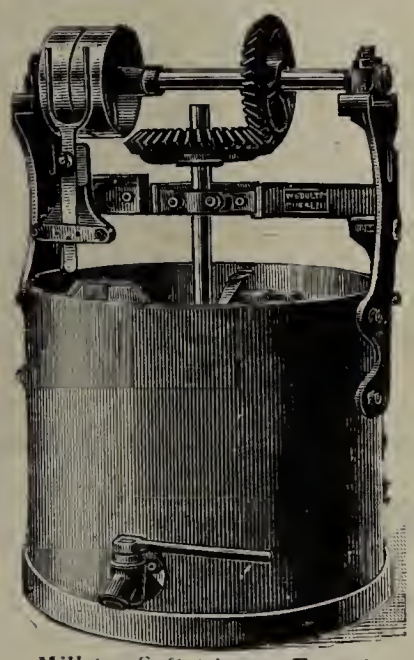


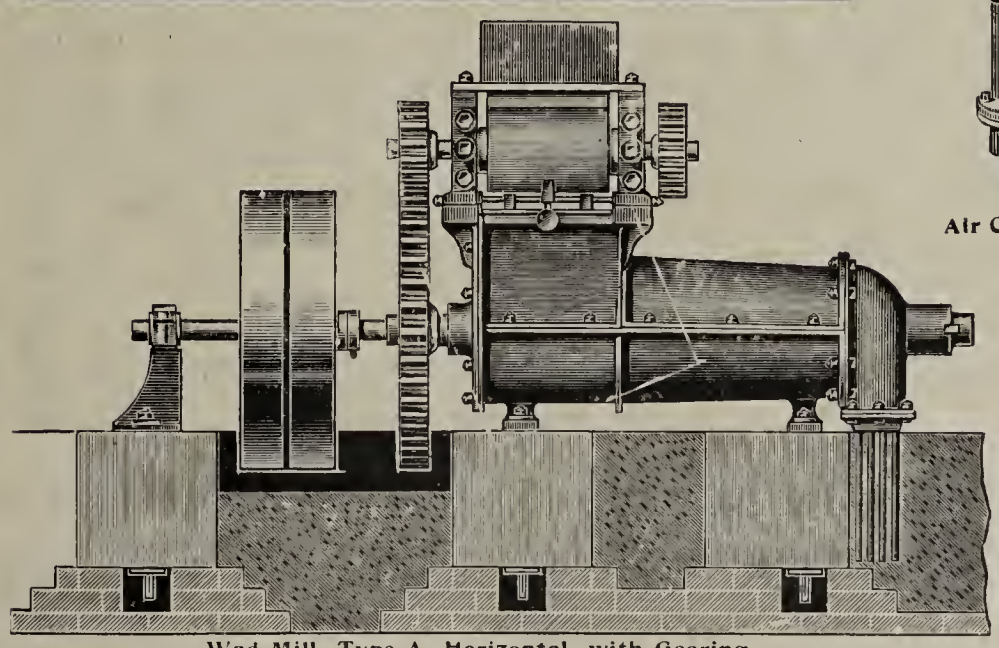
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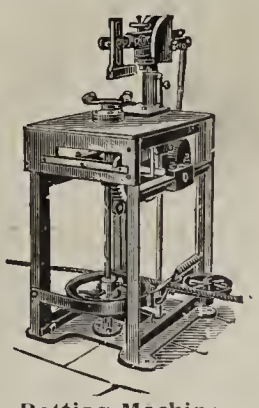
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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

THE POTTERY GAZETTE

Diary and Trade Directory

For 1909

IS NOW IN PREPARATION,

and in order that copies of this Diary may reach subscribers in Australia, New Zealand, South America, and other distant parts well before the end of the year, it will finally

CLOSE FOR PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 12th.

☞ **ADVERTISEMENTS AND ALTERATIONS SHOULD REACH THE PUBLISHERS DURING JULY OR AUGUST.**

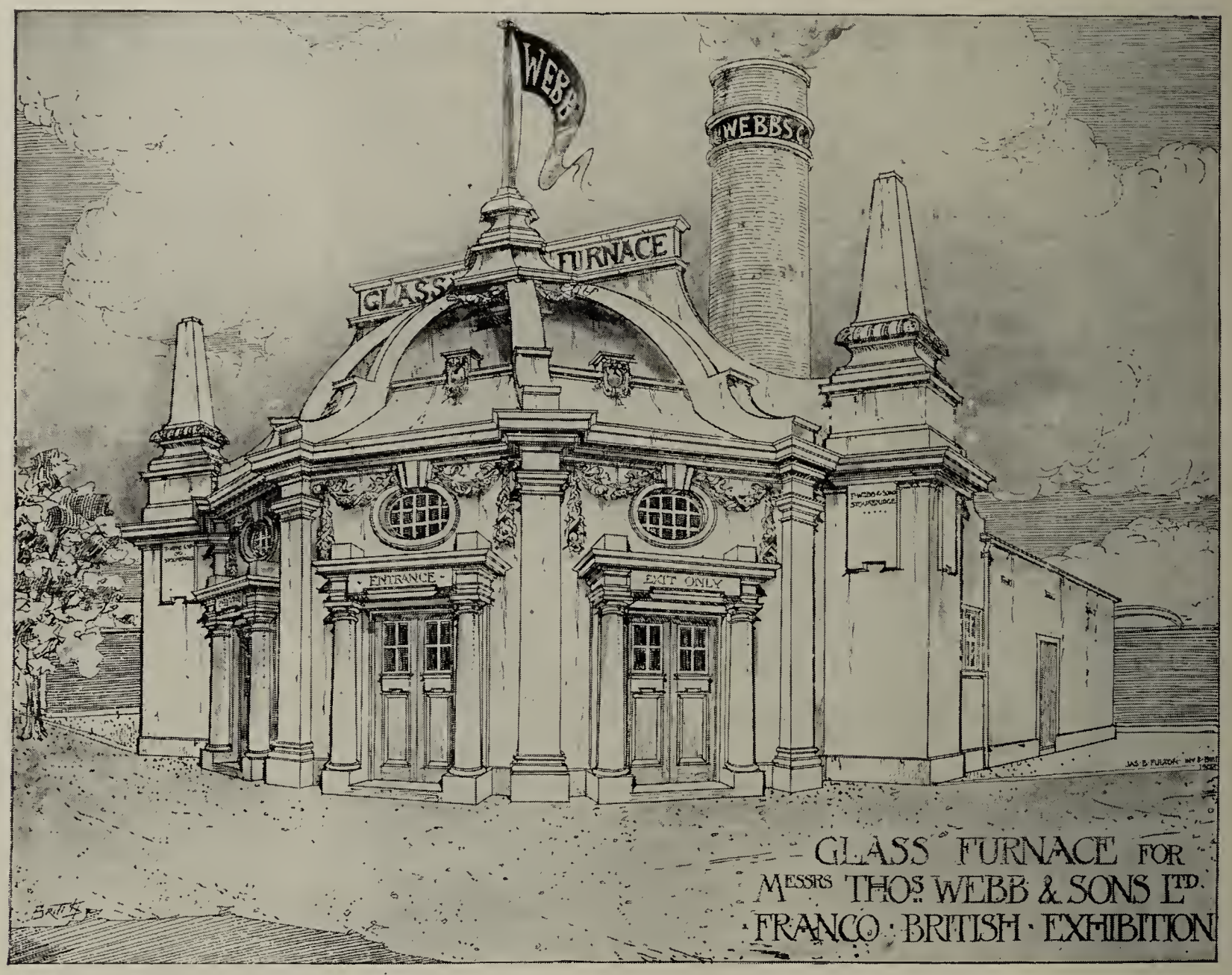
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Editorial Notes.

IN SUPPORT OF ENGLISH GLASS.

WE are pleased to see that the Executive Council of the National Flint Glassmakers' Society is making an effort to induce consumers to give the preference to English-made glass. This is not only an interesting, but a very natural movement on the part of the representatives of glass workers. As to the causes which have led to the enormous importation of foreign glass into the country, we will not stop to inquire now. What we and the glass workers have to face at the moment is the fact that in certain of the cheaper grades of glassware, the trade of this country is practically ruined. Less than fifty years ago we supplied half the world with glass. In the Dudley district, where the Glassmakers' Society recently discussed the subject, glass-making was once a most flourishing industry. There were seven or eight glass houses employing hundreds of men, and consuming fuel obtained in the neighbourhood. Now there is but one glass-making house in the town. From the account of the recent meeting of glass makers which will be found in another column it will be seen that the executive of the Society has entered upon a mission to convince large consumers that they can do better by using English in preference to foreign glass. They have commenced with the brewery companies, and the result of their interview with one of the partners in a large one, seems to have been very satisfactory. The company use £3,000 worth of glass a year, the orders for which were placed through a factor, as they did not stock glass at the brewery. The firm frankly gave the deputation the prices they were paying, and Mr. Bradford was able to show that they were paying 2d. a doz. more for pressed glass tumblers than could be charged for tumblers supplied by English makers. We notice with satisfaction that the partner in the brewery company assured the society that whenever it was possible to substitute British for foreign glass, it would be done. The glass workers, however, must remember that price is not now the only consideration, though it is an important one. The foreign makers are now supplying much thinner glass in the cheaper grades than they did twenty years ago. English glass, however, is still the best, and we hope glass-makers and glass dealers will continue to impress this fact on consumers.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AT STANDARDISED PRICES.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper has just been issued which contains a series of tables showing for each of the years 1900-1907 the estimated value of the imports and exports of the United Kingdom at the prices prevailing in 1900. The object of this return is to eliminate, as far as possible, the effect of the fluctuation of prices and so secure a basis for a closer comparison between the volume of imports and exports in each year. The figures very clearly indicate that the effect of the general rise in prices which prevailed in 1906 was continued in 1907, the increase in the estimated values at the prices of 1900 being in all three branches of trade less than the increase in declared values, and the average values of imports,

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exports, and re-exports alike being greater than in 1900 or any subsequent year. Even allowing for changes of price, however, the volume of our import and export trade in 1907 was substantially greater than in 1906, and nearly every important group of manufactures shows an increased volume of export in 1907. During the seven years the volume of imports has increased from 523 to 600 millions, that of the exports of United Kingdom produce and manufactures from 291 to 417 millions, and that of the re-exports from 63 to nearly 79 millions. When we eliminate the effect of price variations, imports are seen to have increased in volume by 15 per cent. in seven years, exports of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom by 43 per cent., and exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise by 25 per cent. The declared values have increased in the same period by 23 per cent., 46 per cent., and 44 per cent. respectively. The following are some of the figures for the two main classes in which our readers are interested :— EARTHENWARE AND GLASS.—Imports: value in 1900, £4,129,000; value, declared, in 1907, £4,052,000, estimated on average value in 1900, £4,600,000. Exports: value in 1900, £898,000; value, declared, in 1907, £377,000; estimated on average value in 1900, £479,000. Re-exports, value in 1900, £212,000; value, declared, in 1907, £201,000; estimated on average value in 1900, £161,000.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF POTTERY WORKERS.

THE Home Secretary's reply to questions asked in the House of Commons on this subject, will be found in our Parliamentary Intelligence. Sir Charles Dilke made some very pertinent inquiries as to the medical examination of work people in dangerous trades, and particularly in the potting trades. The last of the series of questions was "whether, in the case of lead poisoning, he (the Home Secretary) will allow the matter to be considered by the Department Committee." We are rather surprised that Sir Charles should have asked the question, but we are still more surprised that the Home Secretary should have said in reply to it that "the question would be outside the scope of the reference to the Lead Committee." We do not think the members of the committee will agree with Mr. Gladstone's view. The committee are "to consider the dangers attendant on the use of lead . . . in the manufacture of china and earthenware. . . . and to report how far these can be obviated or lessened." And among several means for obviating or lessening these dangers suggested for the consideration of the committee, are these :—"By controlling the employment of susceptible persons in lead processes," or "by precautions for the detection of lead poisoning in the earlier stages." We submit that these two suggestions cover the whole field of medical examination. Notwithstanding the Home Secretary's expressed opinion, we trust the committee will deal with the question. It is very desirable that examinations should be rigorous. Hitherto the workers have objected to too close medical inspection, although the object of it is to preserve their health. On the first appearance of the effects of lead in a worker, he or she should be suspended from working in it. This may seem hard, but it is kinder than to permit the risk of health and possibly life. Medical inspectors of employees should be above suspicion of partiality. For this reason, the responsibility for their selection, and for their remuneration should be assumed by Government. The committee will probably make a suggestion on this point, and also on the conditions under which, and the places in which, medical inspection should be made.

"TIED HOUSES."

IN a letter bearing upon the treatment of travellers by buyers in the pottery and glass trades, which appeared in our last issue, "An Agent" put the question in a very concrete form. After pointing out that many London buyers seldom visit the show rooms of any but their particular friends, he tersely remarks, "not only in the licensing trade, but in the pottery trade also, there are tied houses and tied buyers." In effect this has been said before, but never so plainly, never so truly. Under the heading of "Travellers and Buyers," several letters have already appeared on this subject, all showing that the evil is a real and a serious one. All buyers are not "tied." Happily there are many who do their duty to their employers by buying the most suitable goods offered. These gentlemen treat manufacturers' representatives as gentlemen. They get better served in the end and are respected as well. We heard a London agent say a few months ago (speaking of a particular buyer for a large firm), "I would almost rather be refused an order by him than have one given me by ——." But, unfortunately, there is a sufficient number of "jacks in office" amongst the buyers to make the duties of travellers who have to call on them very uncomfortable. The annoyance is, to our knowledge, so great in the pottery and glass trades that some steps should be taken to remedy it. If the same annoyance exists in other trades, we think we see a way out of the difficulty. The "buyers" have an Association—why should not the "agents" have one? If the Commercial Travellers' Association could be induced to take up the question of the unfair treatment of commercial travellers some good would result. Will some member of the Travellers' Association ask if this is within the scope of the organisation? If it is not, then why should not the agents (in all industries) unite to secure fair treatment. The question concerns the principals of the offending buyers quite as much as the offended agents. By placing orders only where they get the most favours shown them these "tied buyers" cannot do their employers justice. Some of these employers are limited companies, and others are co-operative stores. There are probably shareholders in the first, and members of the latter, who know something of the current pottery and glass trade. Let them look round the stocks of stores where they are part proprietors, and they will probably find popular selling lines not there. They may do good service by ascertaining *why* those goods are not there. Having commenced the campaign against injustice and incivility, we hope the agents will go on with it.

SHIPPING RATES.

THIS is a question that prejudicially affects many manufacturing industries. It is, unfortunately, particularly detrimental to our export pottery trades. It happens to be one of those questions that individual firms are unable to cope with. A single manufacturer has no chance whatever in resisting what he considers an unfair proceeding on the part of a shipping company. Chambers of Commerce seem the most likely authorities to assist manufacturers in getting the anomalies in shipping rates removed. At a meeting of the North Staffordshire Chamber on June 18, the preferential rates given by the shipping companies for foreign goods as against English goods were referred to. We are troubled enough with foreign competition in our home markets. It is becoming even more serious in some foreign markets. It is well known that the companies give a through rate from Continental ports via London, lower than the rate charged for British goods shipped

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from London. An instance was given in which British goods were charged at the rate of 35s. per ton to a particular port, whereas German goods, carried in the same vessel, were charged 27s. 6d. This is very unjust to British trade. The Chamber resolved that the matter should be brought before the autumnal meeting. We hope it will be tackled in earnest then. The North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce is an energetic body, and is quite equal to a question like this. It is very hard lines that what amounts to a 10 per cent. tariff against British goods should be imposed by British shipping companies.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

RAILWAY CHARGES AND BREAKAGES.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Your correspondent W. R. has evidently not taken any legal advice on the question whether railway companies are entitled to refuse to pay more than the invoice price for goods broken or lost in transit. Some years ago I fought one of the big companies on this point. A crate was lost, and they refused to pay more than the bare invoice price; I refused to accept and put it into court; but they immediately paid into court the value of invoice, the amount of carriage, and 10 per cent. profit besides costs. The law on the matter, I believe, you will find is that "they are responsible for the cost of goods damaged or lost, plus the carriage whether it has *been paid or not*, plus importers' profit." Of course the most difficult question is, What is importers' profit? In my own case, whilst I claimed the usual 33⅓ our trade must get to live, I accepted their 10 per cent., rather than add to the costs by fighting the case further.

May I suggest that your correspondent W. R. (if not already a member of the Glass and China Dealers' Association) joins us. He and others will find that questions of this sort, if sent to the secretary, Mr. Neaverson, will receive prompt attention and the best advice possible, and if of sufficient interest to the trade in general I have no doubt the Association would be prepared to fight his case for him; but in matters of this kind it is knowledge which tells, and if he were to attend one of our committee meetings he would be surprised what a lot of information on these points is forthcoming. What one does not know another does.—Yours, &c.,

16, King Edward-st., Leeds, A. H. YOUNG.
June 1, 1908.

TRADE MARKS IN AUSTRALIA.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—In connection with the registration of trade marks in the Commonwealth of Australia, we have recently been petitioning in several interesting cases. The outcome of them is a confident assertion that any trade mark that has been continuously used in Australia for a period of five years or more can be registered even though identically the same trade mark may have been registered and used by another. The Registrar will respect and preserve any rights or reputation that have been acquired by a constant and honest concurrent user. The requirements necessary in Australia to constitute an ordinary registrable trade mark are almost exactly similar to the essentials required in England, though should a trader have used a mark that fails to contain any one of the prescribed essentials for a period of five years or more he is entitled to registration of such a mark under Section 9 of the Act. Registration is only obtainable by procuring and filing affidavits or statutory declarations by four or more reputable, disinterested members of the trade in Australia to the effect that they have known the trade mark to have been continuously used in some part of Australia for at least five years, and that they know the mark to have become distinctive of the goods for which registration is sought. Registration will only be granted for the goods to which the mark has actually and continuously been applied during the years mentioned. Should a trade mark be already registered in Australia under a State Trade Marks Act (now out of operation), or under the Commonwealth Act, it will not prove a preventive or bar to the registration of an identical mark by another applicant who can prove honest concurrent use by declarations similar to those described to the effect that the mark has been used for over five years and has become distinctive of the goods of the applicant. In this case registration will be limited to those of the States in which such concurrent use can be clearly proven. Whilst these rulings are interesting to intending traders possessing trade marks lacking in the necessary requirements or essentials, but which have acquired a reputation by use, yet they are also a warning to registrants to take early steps to protect their marks from infringements.—Yours, &c.,

PHILLIPS ORMONDE & Co.
533, Collins-st., Melbourne, Australia, May 2, 1908.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

South London.—The manufacturers are right. You are clearly responsible for the mistake.

D. L.—No good purpose would be served by inserting your letter, and perhaps harm would be done.

A Beginner.—The report of the meeting of the China and Glass Dealers' Association, given last month, will answer your question.

H. N. D.—The business was wound up and the works closed some time ago. The shapes were evidently not of sufficient merit to induce any other manufacturers to purchase the moulds.

Durham.—Some industries (the textile, for instance) are well represented at the Franco-British Exhibition. There are, however, comparatively few exhibits of pottery or glass, French or British. What there are, are good.

X. L., Staffs. [728].—A label may be entered at Stationers' Hall providing the matter is simple letterpress or an artistic design, but not if there is anything in the shape of a coined word on it. The words "Registered Label" would probably be looked upon as deceptive and lead to trouble. The proper wording should be: "Copyright. Entered at Stationers' Hall."

J. T.—You ask, "What is the custom when a dealer orders 'cups and saucers'? Should a manufacturer send tea cups and saucers, or breakfast cups and saucers?" There is not, as far as we know, any "custom" in the matter. A dealer of experience seldom uses the word "cup" in communicating with manufacturers. The custom in the trade is to speak of "teas and saucers" and "breakfasts and saucers." Of course, if he wanted cups only, a dealer would say "tea cups" or "breakfast cups."

CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRY.

K. asks for name of maker of pattern with a decoration known as "Goldfinch's wing."

C. T. MALING & SONS,

TRADE MARK C T M ESTAB^D 1762.

Ford Potteries, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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France.—H. Mulotte & Cie, 14, Rue de Paradis, Paris. | **Australasia.**—Berryman & Co. (Mr. A. E. Potts), Sydney & Wellington

Country Representative.—Mr. C. G. Probert.

LONDON SHOW ROOMS—18, CHARTERHOUSE ST., E.C. MR. J. E. HEATH. *Telephone: 928 CENTRAL.*

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Parliamentary Notes.

(FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.)

Penny Postage to the United States.—In the House of Commons on June 3, replying to a question put by Sir William Holland, Mr. Sydney Buxton, Postmaster-General, made the following statement :—The question of Anglo-American penny postage has been under the consideration of the Postmaster-General of the United States and myself, and I am glad to be able to announce that I have now received a telegram from Mr. Meyer, stating that he is prepared to accept the proposal I made to him for the establishment of penny postage between the two countries. Certain arrangements have to be made before the change comes into force, but on and after October 1 next the rate of letter postage to the United States will be the same as that to the colonies — i.e., a penny per ounce throughout the scale, instead of 2½d. as at present.

Certifying Surgeons in the Potteries Districts.—In the House of Commons, on May 29, Sir Charles Dilke asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether his attention had been called to the apparent inconsistency of surgeons appointed by the Home Office to official positions, as, for example, those of medical referee or certifying surgeon, holding at the same time positions in which they had to represent an interest sometimes at variance with their official functions ; whether in consequence the same surgeon often had to act judicially and also to be called as a witness by a litigant in the same case ; whether the certifying surgeons in the Potteries districts held appointments from the Potteries Insurance Company ; whether such certifying surgeons investigated on behalf of the insurance company cases of suspected lead poisoning first diagnosed by the medical attendant of the workmen and attended the directors' meeting to be consulted by the insurance company upon cases in their respective districts ; whether a workman could only receive compensation for disablement from a scheduled disease if he first obtained a certificate, while in the event of appeal against refusal of a certificate the certifying surgeon was often retained by the insurance company or employers to represent them in appeal ; whether he would consider the possibility of providing in future appointments for a greater separation of duties, and, in the case of lead poisoning, whether he would allow the matter to be considered by the Departmental Committee. Mr. Gladstone, in a printed answer to the question, which was issued on June 3, stated :—In the case of medical referees under the Workmen's Compensation Act, it is, with few exceptions made a condition of appointment that the referee shall not hold any position such as that of a works doctor or medical officer of a workmen's club, or any regular employment from an accident insurance company, which might cause him to be regarded as representing the interests of any party in cases arising under the Act. The case of certifying surgeons, who are primarily appointed for duties under the Factory Act, stands on a somewhat different footing, and no similar condition is imposed. I have made inquiries, however, of the certifying surgeons in the Potteries district, and am informed by them that they do not hold appointments from the Potteries Insurance Company, and do not investigate on behalf of the company cases of suspected lead poisoning or attend the directors' meetings. It appears that in pursuance of an arrangement made before the passing of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, in connection with the scheme of insurance in the special rules, the certifying surgeons have made weekly examinations of operatives who had been suspended by them under the rules and furnished the worker with a certificate of his condition. There have been very few appeals so far against the determination of certifying surgeons, in the first nine months 10, of which 2 only referred to lead cases, and I cannot say whether the certifying surgeon has appeared before the referee or not. The certificate of the surgeon which is appealed against has, under the Secretary of State's rules, to be submitted to the referee, who is also required to consider any statements made or submitted by either party. If either party wishes to submit any explanation by the certifying surgeon of the grounds for his decision, I do not think that could properly be prevented. As regards the point raised by my Right honourable friend in the penultimate sentence of the question, this is already provided for, as above stated, in the case of medical referees, and as regards certifying surgeons it has not escaped my consideration. It would not, however, be possible to lay down a strict rule, because in industrial districts it is often difficult to find a well-qualified medical man who does not hold some appointment from employers or associations of workpeople. The question would be outside the scope of the reference to the Lead Committee, but I shall be happy to inquire into any case of grievance which may have come to the notice of my Right honourable friend.

FEDERATION OF GLASS WORKERS.

WE mentioned some months ago that there was a movement for the federation of all sections in the glass industry, and our correspondent refers to it in his notes on the Stourbridge, Birmingham and North of England glass trades in this number. From a circular since issued we gather that the matter will soon assume definite shape. The circular gives particulars of the proposals presented to a meeting recently held at Nottingham, when the general federation of Trade Unions was represented by Mr. W. A. Appleton and James Holmes. The following were also present. From the Lancashire Glass Bottle Makers, Mr. Hunter, district secretary, Mr. Cole, president, and Mr. F. Anders. Decorative Glass Workers, Mr. R. Gunn, president and Mr. H. Scragg, secretary ; National Glass Bottle Makers, Councillor W. Milnes and Mr. F. Swann, financial secretary ; Glass Bevellers, Mr. R. Wacey ; London Glass Blowers, Mr. J. Stokes, president, and Mr. J. Burrows, trustee ; National Flint Glass Workers, Mr. J. H. Walker, secretary ; Manchester district, Mr. J. Bell, president of the E.C., and Mr. John Husselbee, general secretary.

On the motion of Mr. J. Stokes, seconded by Mr. R. Wacey, the delegates agreed to form a federation, and resolved themselves into committee for the purpose of formulating rules. It was agreed the following be submitted to the various societies :—

That the Federation be termed the National Federation of Glass Workers and Kindred Trade Unions, and that it consist of all properly constituted trade unions connected with the industry.

To combine for trade purposes and to secure unity of action amongst the various unions forming the Federation. To resist encroachments upon the rights, the privileges, and the activities of the unions affiliated.

To prevent as far as possible the occurrence of strikes and lock-outs ; to deal with disputes arising between societies affiliated to the Federation ; and to encourage the settlement of strikes, lock-outs, or disputes by amicable means. Where amicable means fail to secure the settlement of strikes and lockouts the federated unions shall consider the wisdom of joint offensive action.

To establish a central fund for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing objects, such fund to be raised by each society contributing 3d. per member per quarter on 90 per cent. of its membership ; superannuated and honorary members excepted.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the General Federation of Trades Unions, and to Messrs. Appleton and Holmes for their efforts to secure unity amongst the glass workers, and for the tact and patience which had characterised each step towards the establishment of the new federation. A further conference will shortly be held at Manchester to elect officers of the new Federation.

China clay to the weight of 8,432 metric tons was imported into Dunkirk last year. The figures are 1,497 m. tons above those for 1905, but 271 m. tons below those for 1906. The United Kingdom is the sole source of supply.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

"Alexandra" Porcelain Works, Turn-Teplitz, Austria, have their London show-rooms at 155–156, Audrey House, Ely-place, E.C., and are represented in London by Mr. W. M. Schofield. The products of these works are as varied as they are interesting, and include pottery of almost every description. The samples on show in the London rooms consist of fancy china ; china tea and breakfast sets, dessert services, and dinner ware, terra cotta, and art pottery. Mr. Schofield has recently received a number of novelties and specialities for the home and colonial markets. The company have the reputation for high class productions. They are maintaining this, for the new samples are works of art, beautifully modelled and tastefully ornamented. These are not expensive when the artistic labour bestowed on them is considered, but they do not meet the requirements of the ever increasing number who want things tasteful but at moderate prices. Mr. Schofield says dealers who are acquainted with his company's specialities in figures require to be reminded that they also make a great variety of medium price and cheap lines: by the latter I mean a number of pretty small pieces, known in the trade as 6d. lines. They are also showing some excellent china tea and breakfast sets, and an assortment of useful miscellaneous table ware, including jugs, trays, vases, dishes, sardines, pot pourri jars, &c. Buyers who want a very varied selection of domestic china—useful and ornamental—will find it at medium prices at Mr. Schofield's rooms. But the special feature of Alexandra Porcelain is its ornamental ware, and particularly figure subjects. Their excellent figures in terra cotta are now well known in the British market. There are some original artists at Turn-Teplitz, and their conceptions are as striking as they are original. Historical and military subjects have frequently been dealt with, but I was shown a new and very bold departure in an equestrian group, of which an illustration is given. An Indian warrior on horseback is alarmed at the sudden stoppage of his steed. The horse has stopped instantly, with the forelegs straight and firm, and the feet in line. Its head is inclined to one side, and its gaze fixed with horror on a snake in the roadway, with head erect and fang extended as though about to dart on the horse. The rider, leaning to one side, realises the position, and his look of horror and the pose of the whole group is exceedingly natural. The headdress of the warrior, his costume, and the trappings of the horse, and the animal itself, make up an effective colour scheme. Many other large models are shown, and a great number of figure subjects of all kinds. There are some beautiful figures in china as well as in faïence. Some quite new models in flower pots are shown with raised ornamentations. One vase has squirrels and nuts outside. Jardinieres in many shapes are shown, including a nicely modelled shell shape in several sizes. There are portrait figures of many notabilities, and a large number of well-executed groups. One very finely modelled group has a female driving a shell chariot, with sea-horses on either side. It is in the style in which Boadicea is often depicted, only the British warrior-queen handled land, and not marine, forces.



[*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."*

"Alexandra" Porcelain Works.

Mr. John Sadler, Central Pottery, Market-place, Burslem, is represented by Mr. Thomas J. Usher, Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C. Mr. Sadler is a manufacturer of jet and Rockingham tea-pots, &c., for home and foreign markets. He has also a good variety of white decorated tea-pots, in many pleasing shapes. Samples of all his goods are on show at the London rooms.

George Procter & Co., china manufacturers, High-street, Longton, have their London show rooms at Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C., where their agent, Mr. Thomas J. Usher, has always on show a full line of their samples. Their chief line is tea ware, and in that they are very strong. They make general lines for the home trade in great variety, and specialities for the Colonial markets. In tea and breakfast sets there are new shapes and patterns, in addition to many established favourites. Amongst the latter may be mentioned a number of rich Japan decotions. View and present ware are lines in which they show good taste, and they have a speciality in ivory arms ware. Badges and monograms for hotels, clubs, schools, &c., are lines to which they give special attention. Mr. Usher has a good display of their queen white china.

The Soho Pottery, Ltd., High-street, Tunstall, are represented in London by Mr. H. C. Bennett and Mr. Thomas

J. Usher. They have excellent show-rooms in Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C., where samples of most of their productions of general earthenware in fine semi-porcelain, are on view. The principal lines are dinner ware, tea ware, toilet services, and jugs, and in each of these they have a good variety both in shape and decoration. Some new samples just received are of an interesting character. The new dinner shapes include the "Venice." It has an oval vegetable dish with sunk lid, a pretty outline, and is treated in several decorations. It makes a handsome set with the new "Daisy border," a very pleasing treatment in two colours. The simplicity of the pattern is its charm. It is seen to advantage on the edges of the dinner plates. This is likely to become a popular decoration, the company are applying it to their semi-porcelain generally, tea and breakfast ware, tea pots and jugs, and it looks well on all. They have just made further additions to their already large variety of toilet services. The "Doric" shape has a tall ewer with embossed design, and a deep round basin, flanged, with scalloped edge. It is shown in some pretty shaded decorations, and a very rich pattern in blue and gold in which the embossments show up with good effect. Another new shape is the "Antique" toilet service. This has a squat ewer, and a deep round basin. It is decorated in the "daisy" pattern to which I have referred, the decoration being applied both inside and outside the basin; the plain surface of the metallic-shaped ewer suits this pleasing ornamentation exactly. There is a new "Doric" shape in cheese-stands and jugs: both have various pleasing decorations. A special line with the Soho Pottery is cobalt-blue band, and gold lines. A good display of it in tea ware is made at the London rooms. A new departure is a toilet service, the "Prince" shape, decorated with a Persian pattern in leadless glaze. This is quite new for the Soho Company, and they announce that they are prepared to supply any of their decorations in leadless glaze by request. We give illustrations of the two new toilets, the "Prince" and the "Antique" shapes.



[*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."*

THE SOHO POTTERY, LTD., TUNSTALL.

F. Winkle & Co., Colonial Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, manufacturers of general earthenware, are represented in London by Mr. John Porter, at whose fine show rooms, 13, Charterhouse-st., E.C., I have just seen a number of new samples that will prove interesting to the trade. They are pleasing and original designs in dinner, toilet, and suite ware. Mr. Winkle is one of our most enterprising and progressive potters. He has had a long and varied experience, but he does not believe in running in a fixed groove. His experience has taught him that the taste of the public, both at home and abroad, for pottery, has considerably changed in the last few years, and that it is likely to continue to change. What he has not observed in this direction, his representative, Mr. Porter, has, and has doubtless conferred with Mr. Winkle on the subject. Manufacturers have not so many opportunities of noticing the trend of public preferences and prejudices as their representatives have. In the case of the Colonial Pottery, however, the principals and their agent appear, between them, to have judged public requirements in particular lines with considerable accuracy. The new samples of dinner, toilet, and suite ware that were shown me only a few days ago are "up-to-date" in every sense. In dinner ware, I noticed a line that seemed to force itself on my attention, before it was pointed out to me. It was of such a striking character that I imagine it will attract the notice of buyers as quickly as it did mine. That it will attract the notice of the public when it is displayed in the retailer's window seems equally certain. This is a new dinner service, the "Lowestoft." It is a reproduction of old Sèvres shape and pattern. It has a round, old-fashioned cover dish and the pieces have gold "dontil" edge and coloured line with Sèvres sprays. The ware is well made, and the decoration carefully added, and the effect is heightened by the lightness of the pieces. I do not remember ever to have seen an exact reproduction of a Sèvres decoration on earthenware before. Another new dinner service is the "Lorraine" shape. This has an oval vegetable dish, and is shown in several acceptable and new decorations. One is a neat floral design, with pink roses, green blossoms, and brown and green leaves. The same shape has another neat decoration—green leafage with roses and lovers' knot "tie-up" in blue. These new dinner patterns are specially interesting by reason of the carefully engraved and new designs. The detail work is executed with very considerable ability. The result is that the patterns are very pleasing. I have kept the most interesting of Messrs. Winkle's new developments to the last. I allude to

their "Whieldon" ware, a group of which is given in the accompanying illustration. This distinctive name is given to a variety of artistic ornamentations on art forms. Some of the decorative schemes are on familiar lines, others are quite new. The introduction of an art section (for "Whieldon ware" is artistic) into a factory that had limited its productions to useful domestic goods, shows the resources of the Colonial Pottery, and the practical knowledge of the principals. Having had experience as a working potter himself, Mr. Winkle knew exactly how far it would tax the resources of the works to introduce a new line. It is well known that they have extensive premises, and that their plant is thoroughly up-to-date, so that being assured there was a demand for art forms with artistic ornamentations, they proceeded to produce them, and a full range of samples is now on show at the London rooms. Vases and fancy pieces of all kinds are decorated in various ways. Some very striking effects are produced in what may be termed the "flambé" school. If this is not the best way to describe the recent reproductions of old Chinese effects, the trade will know what is meant. As to form, the pieces are perfect in outline. They are simple, and are adapted for the application of the old-feeling style of decoration now in vogue. They are inexpensive lines, but are artistic in every phase all the same. Another range of "Whieldon" ware is called "Twilight" effects. The subjects are sky and landscapes in the evening, in brown shades. There is ample variety in this "Twilight" series, and the decoration is shown in many shapes. Another series of "Whieldon" ware has the old-pheasant decoration, in bright colours on white ground. This is quite in the style of old Bow, and one of the shapes to which it is applied is very like a sexagonal "Bow" shape. There are other varieties of Whieldon ware, all pleasing and all inexpensive. The pheasant pattern is also applied to dinner ware, toilet ware, and to miscellaneous table ware en suite. The firm are making a special feature of decorations en suite, and some very pleasing patterns are shown. There is a splendid show of dinner ware. As to number of shapes and decorations, and also as to the quality of them, the firm have never had so fine a show in London.



"Whieldon Ware": F. Winkle & Co. [*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette"*

H. M. Williamson & Sons, china manufacturers, of the Bridge Pottery, Longton, have this year attained their business jubilee, a fact upon which they will be congratulated by their numerous customers and other friends. Just fifty years have elapsed since the late Mr. H. M. Williamson established the firm, and the business has ever since been conducted on so sure, sound and progressive a basis that to-day it holds a deservedly high and honourable position among the great manufacturing concerns of the Potteries. Messrs. Williamson are signalising the happy event to which we have made allusion by carrying out a happy and, we believe, an unique idea in china decoration, namely, the application of ancient Egyptian designs to charming shapes in tea and breakfast ware, and all manner of other articles in everyday use for the table. The productions are not only attractive in themselves, but each separate decoration has—like one of Flaxman's figures—a romantic "story" attached to it. The ware is to be known as "Nile Lotus" ware, and in a very handsome catalogue which Messrs. Williamson are just publishing in connection with the new departure, full importance is attached to the ancient and mythological significance of the subjects treated, a most interesting descriptive sketch being included in the catalogue, which retailers will probably find it of advantage to cut out and display in their shop windows, In fact, if we might make the suggestion, it might be even better to reprint the sketch in such a form that a copy could be given to each purchaser of a service of "Nile Lotus" ware. The sketch in question reminds us that the various dynasties of the ancient and mysterious Egyptian empire adopted distinguishing signs which were supposed to typify their spiritual natures and descent. Thus the earliest dynasty had a hawk for its symbol, and later a winged sun, to indicate its descent from the sun god. The worship of vultures, serpents, and the sacred beetle were also beautifully symbolised in Egyptian art, these objects recurring frequently in their sculptures, jewels, and paintings. It was a study of ancient Egyptian records which first gave Messrs. Williamson the idea for their new ware, and once the scheme had been conceived they found no lack of subjects suitable for ceramic treatment. For instance, there was the famous lotus, or white lily of the Nile. What more beautiful subject for the decoration of a tea service could be imagined than this? Messrs. Williamson have used it liberally in their new ware, and most effective is the result. The lotus, as the catalogue reminds us, figured prominently in all Egyptian decorative schemes; it was worn at feasts and ceremonies; kings offered it to the gods; it was employed in the decoration

of thrones and palaces ; it was, one might say, the "rose" of Egypt, and was often made into garlands to be placed on the heads of women or to be carried in the hand. It was introduced into the capitals of columns and into the prows of boats. As the emblem of fertility it decorated the heads of the idols Isis and Osiris. It was used as a food from remote antiquity—its seeds, more delicately flavoured than almonds, its farinaccous roots, its leaf stalks and flower stalks, all being eaten. Homer, in the "Odyssey," tells us of the lotus eaters who fed on its roots, which were supposed to impart languid ecstasy and forgetfulness to all who partook of them, so that they forgot their friends and homes and lost all desire to return to their native land—an idea which Tennyson has also immortalised. The sketch in Messrs. Williamson's catalogue tells us of all these things, but it omits to mention how Lotis, daughter of Neptune, fleeing from the sensual Priapus, was transformed into a lotus ; nor does it tell us how the Egyptians used to "cast their bread upon the waters" by enclosing lotus seeds in balls of clay and throwing them into the Nile. The seeds would then take root in the bed of the river and grow up, and thus the "bread" would return to the sower "after many days." Much more might be said of the wonderful story of the lotus, but this is not the place. Suffice it to say that the lotus decoration on Messrs. Williamson's ware is charming, and its legendary associations make it unusually interesting. There should be a ready demand for tea and breakfast ware decorated in this style. Then, too, the sacred beetle (the scarab, or scarabeus) has been employed to excellent effect as a decorative medium. This beetle, so greatly venerated by the Egyptians, was copied in the form of gold brooches, pendants, and amulets, which were worn as charms against ill luck and the "evil eye," and were also placed on the breasts of the dead. The beetle itself was often embalmed after death, and its shape was frequently sculptured on Egyptian monuments or cut upon precious stones. The mysterious and immutable Sphinx provides another subject for the firm's artists, forming part of the trade mark stamped upon each piece. Altogether, we think that when retailers have had the opportunity of examining the ware for themselves, they will agree that Messrs. Williamson have created one of the most novel and saleable ceramic decorations of the season. The "Nile Lotus" designs are applied to the firm's well-known "Heathcote" high class china body, and the shapes are no less admirable than the decorations. Apart from the "Nile Lotus" ware, Messrs. Williamson have just produced several other novelties. Among them is the "Gainsborough" ware—a pretty green or art blue trellis design, with tinted pink roses. This is already meeting a big demand in the London "stores" and leading retail houses. and it is to be had in teas, breakfasts, after dinner coffees, teapots, coffee jugs, and other articles in daily use. A revival of the old Chelsea "scale" pattern in green, finished off with neat sprays of birds and flowers, is another excellent new line, as is also the old Indian tree, treated in quite a new style The firm, it need hardly be said, are also constantly bringing out novelties in their well-known "Novem Artem" china. Copies of the handsome illustrated catalogue just published may be had on application to the Bridge Pottery, or at the offices of the firm's London agent, Mr. J. Brock, 25, Thravics-inn, Holborn, E.C. In addition to the novelties already mentioned the firm are just introducing some attractive hand painted tea and breakfast ware at moderate prices.

Earthen, Stone and Chinaware to the value of £12,043 was exported from the United States to Hawaii during the last fiscal year. The trade shows a large increase, the value for the preceding year being only £5,882.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN MAY.

The Pottery Trade.—Employment in Staffordshire and elsewhere was slack on the whole, and short time was worked in many factories. It was fair in Devonshire, at Bristol, at Swadlincote, and at Newcastle-on-Tyne. In Scotland it was generally moderate, with some short time. It continued slack with earthenware makers in the Potteries and dull in the South Yorkshire and Aire districts. In the insular trade in the Potteries, employment was bad. It was dull with tobacco-pipe makers at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment on the whole continued fair, but was not so good as a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,464 workpeople in the week ended May 23, and paying £10,309 in wages, showed an increase of 1·5 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 1·4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 3·3 per cent. in the numbers employed and of ·46 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Employment with glass bottle makers was generally moderate in Yorkshire, but rather better than a month ago ; it remained good at Bristol and moderate in the North of England and in Scotland. Employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers employment was good at Rotherham and moderate at Leeds. With flint glass makers employment was fairly good at Birmingham, in the Wordsley district, and in Yorkshire. It was good at Edinburgh and fair at Glasgow. Employment was generally fairly good with flint glass cutters. With London glass blowers it was fairly good. With plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham employment remained bad. It continued fair with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear it continued bad, with short time general. Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on pay day in the week ending May 23 :—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,598	£7,104
Plate Glass	734	821
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,753	1,924
Other Branches	379	460
Total	8,464	£10,309

Number of persons employed in each district, and the amount of wages paid them on pay day in week ending May 23 :—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	783	£895
Yorkshire	4,620	5,816
Lancashire	645	750
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,230	1,466
Scotland	860	1,060
Other parts of United Kingdom	326	322
Total	8,464	£10,309

Output of British Minerals.—The following figures for 1907, with those for 1906 in brackets, are taken from a summary given in Part I. of the Home Office Report on Mines and Quarries, which deals with district statistics, and has just been issued. Barytes, 41,794 tons (35,745) ; bauxite, 7,537 tons (6,654) ; chert and flint, 53,664 tons (68,209) ; clays and shale, 14,827,895 tons (15,291,352) ; fluor spar, 49,962 tons (41,849) ; lead ore, 32,549 tons (30,795).

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

II.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

(*Continued from page* 687.)

THE opinion we expressed in our last issue, that the Exhibition opened a month too soon, is more than confirmed by the fact that several of the important palaces are not yet completed, and that many exhibits are not yet displayed. However, it is the fate of all great exhibitions to be opened before they are quite ready for inspection, so we are willing to make many allowances for the management of the present gigantic undertaking. The original idea of it was both felicitous and ambitious. Following the exchange of friendly courtesies established by King Edward, the French Ambassador in London submitted to the French Government a scheme for holding a mutual exhibition, with the idea of increasing the commercial intercourse, and of materialising the friendly relations between the two countries. The happy conception was quickly seized upon in both countries, and influential organising committees in both were appointed to carry it out. In the Hon. President, the President, the Vice-Presidents, and members of the various executive committees for Britain, we have some of our most prominent men in science, art, and industry. The announced object of this committee was to show in the Metropolis of the Empire the progress made in every department of human invention and industry within the last half century. It is because we realise the appalling magnitude of this task that we willingly make allowance for the delay in carrying it out. But we are accustomed to huge undertakings in these days, and even the above ambitious programme is not too great for modern ingenuity, skill, and enterprise. The political and social advantages of this joint exhibition will, we feel sure, be many and lasting. But these questions we must leave to the politicians and the publics of the two countries. We of the POTTERY GAZETTE are only called upon to deal with the more prosaic—that is to say—the industrial and commercial features of the Exhibition.

We confess that we expected great things from this Franco-British Exhibition. It will be visited by thousands from all parts of the world, and the opportunity of displaying the best productions of the two countries before the citizens of other countries is a unique one. It was the promise of this opportunity that led us to expect so much from the Exhibition of 1908. In the original prospectus issued by the influential executive of the British Section to which we have referred, we find the following authoritative statement :—

"British manufacturers and producers will be afforded "the opportunity, which they have not enjoyed since "1862, of being able to show in the Metropolis of the "Empire the progress which has been made in every "department of human invention and industry since the "middle of the last century, and they will for the first time "be able to exhibit with the aid of an organisation "similar to that enjoyed for many years past by French "exhibitors, so that the display made by the United "Kingdom will be presented in such a manner that the "attention of visitors will be drawn to its excellence so "irresistibly that they will be tempted not to leave it "without a thorough examination."

Later on, the prospectus says, "Persons attracted to any particular exhibit will be able to obtain at once all the information available about it."

We will not express any opinion on other industries, but we are obliged to say that, as far as pottery and glass are concerned, manufacturers have not been encouraged to assist in attaining the objects said to be aimed at by the Executive. From information in our possession, it would almost seem that the high ideal embodied in the prospectus had been abandoned. That the Exhibition will be a financial success (given fair weather) seems assured. With its magnificent white buildings, its delightful gardens, its superb bands, its interesting and instructive working exhibits in the grounds, and its novel and attractive recreations, it will attract tens of thousands of visitors from all parts of the kingdom, and many other parts of the world. They will go to see the beautiful palaces and grounds, to admire the gardens, to hear the music, and to spend an enjoyable day—and they will not be disappointed. We take no exception to this—but there are thousands of visitors who, having read the early announcements of the executive, will take the Exhibition seriously, and will go to observe the progress made in science, art, and industry. We cannot help the conclusion that the interests and convenience of the latter have become a secondary consideration in comparison with the enjoyment of the former. The classification of the exhibits is bad—the location of them is perplexing, and the catalogue is badly arranged, incomplete, and faulty. We do not expect the first edition of a catalogue of a "Great Exhibition" to be complete. That it seldom is is more frequently the fault of the exhibitors than of the authorities. But a little ordinary foresight would have seen that the catalogue was indexed, that the stands were numbered, and that the entries in the catalogue had numbers corresponding to those on the stands. Probably a revised and corrected edition of the catalogue will be published by the time this notice appears, but a very little thought for the convenience of visitors, and the expenditure of a little labour, would have avoided the defects we have referred to, even in a first edition.

THE EXHIBITS.

We propose to deal with the British exhibits first. The iron and steel, shipbuilding, textile, and chemical industries appear to be fairly well represented, but we can only refer to the exhibits of pottery and glass. It seems almost incredible, but to the best of our knowledge (and in the absence of an index to the catalogue to check us) there are only three exhibits of British glass, and only seven of British pottery. (One of the latter we cannot find, though it is mentioned in the catalogue.) This is most disappointing, having regard to the promise held out that "the science, arts, and industries of the two countries were to be exhibited side by side in their respective buildings." Our manufacturers hailed this offer of comparison with our good friends the French, with the greatest pleasure, and we hasten to say that it is no fault of theirs that this comparison is not presented at Shepherd's Bush. In our May issue we said our manufacturers had been treated with scant courtesy by the Exhibition authorities. We are quite unable to say why this is so, unless, as has been more than hinted, the later acting executive officers have abandoned the lofty aims set out in the original prospectus, and have decided that the recreative features of the Exhibition are likely to pay them better than the artistic and industrial.

The aggregation of magnificent buildings, delightful gardens, and varied amusements is a grand one, and has probably never been equalled. But as far as the industries we represent are concerned, the promise made over the names of the Duke of Argyll, the late Earl of Derby, and a hundred others of our leading men, has not been fulfilled. It was said that British manufacturers and producers were to have such an opportunity of exhibiting their goods in London as they had not enjoyed since 1862. They have been denied that opportunity. It will be patent to everyone who thinks, that there must be strong reasons why firms who have gone to exhibitions in the most distant parts of the world are not exhibiting in

London. It is greatly to be regretted that the opportunity of making a full display of high-class British pottery and glass has not been afforded them.

We have before us the reasons why many of the leading firms in our trade are not exhibiting. One firm says, "The terms were too high and the conditions most unreasonable. We offered the authorities more than we have ever paid at any exhibition, but we could not make arrangements." Another firm says, "We were prepared to take considerable space and asked what position we could have. We were told no positions could be guaranteed. Ultimately we were told, if we sent in an application with 50 per cent. of the cost of space, and mentioned certain spaces, we should like, they would do the best they could for us. So we mentioned a number of spaces, but to our surprise were told they could not promise any of the spaces selected. We decided to have nothing to do with the matter. We found that the best spaces in the Central Avenue had been allotted to French exhibitors." Another one says, "The authorities applied to me. I found their charge was exorbitant, and that only side spaces were offered, as all the lots in the main avenue had been let to French exhibitors, both on the French and on the English side. For these reasons I declined."

We give these particulars because it is due to our national reputation that it should be known that it is not through any lack of enterprise on the part of our manufacturers that so little British pottery and glass is shown at this Exhibition. We really regret having to make this protest, and are glad that now our duty becomes an agreeable one.

The only British Pottery and Glass exhibits, so far as we discovered, are those of Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge; the Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester; the Pilkington Tile and Pottery Co., Clifton Junction, Manchester; Pilkington Bros., Ltd., sheet and plate glass manufacturers, St. Helens; Sir E. H. Elton, Bart., Clevedon Court, Somerset; Geo. Schenck, Nursery-rd., Mitcham; Wm. Howson Taylor, Oldham-rd., Smethwick; E. Breffit & Co., glass bottle manufacturers, Castleford, Yorkshire; and a few pieces of Belleek pottery in the Irish Village. Wengers, Ltd., Etruria, exhibit specimens of pottery, but only to show the results obtained by the colours and materials they supply for potters' use. Six of these are in the Palace of Decorative Arts; one is shown in a loan collection of furniture; one is in the "Women's Section" and another in the Palace of Various Industries. In a list of 50 varied exhibits which the catalogue says are in "the grounds," is included one of Mr. W. L. Baron's Barnstaple art pottery. We traversed the greater part of the 140 acres covered by the Exhibition—some portions many times, but we did not see anything of Barnstaple art pottery.

It will be a matter of great regret for many years to come, that so many branches of pottery for useful and ornamental purposes, in which British manufacturers excel, are not represented here at all.



Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."

THOMAS WEBB & SONS, LTD.

In the first side avenue on the left, leading out of the main avenue of the Palace of Decorative Arts, Thomas Webb & Sons have a display of high-class English hand-made glass that is worthy alike of the reputation of the house and the fame of its artists. We are sure that other manufacturers of English glass, who "for reasons" are not exhibiting, will join us in a feeling of pride at the way in which Thomas Webb & Sons have demonstrated the possibilities of Stourbridge glass. The company have had regard to the fact that this is not a trade exhibit (though every member of our trade may study it with interest and advantage), but an object of useful interest to the public at large. The idea of the company (and it is a sound

one) is that the better the public become familiarised with good table glass, the more they will desire to possess it. Of course, in a special exhibition like this, prominence is given to the finest examples of the glass decorator's art—rich cutting, cameo work, engraved and "intaglio" glass and richly gilt and enamelled pieces, and these are expensive. But Thomas Webb & Sons manufacture, and are showing, good English hand-made table-glass at moderate prices. This is made of precisely the same superlative metal, as the artistic glass, but it is inexpensively decorated. Indeed, even when quite plain, the superiority of English hand-made glass is self-evident. The public do not read our GAZETTE, but dealers will help their own trade, and do something for the glass trade of the country, if they will explain this fact to their customers, and recommend them, when at the "Franco-British," to inspect Webbs' exhibits. What is true of Webbs is true of other makers of Stourbridge glass. The perfection of Webbs' productions is due to three causes—the materials employed, the methods made use of, and the skill of the operatives. Dealers should take pains to explain to their customers the brilliancy of English glass, and the bell-like ring it gives out when struck. The accompanying illustration shows the extent of this marvellous exhibit, and gives a partial idea of the beauty of it. Though an old established firm, the productions shown are quite up to date. There are Chippendale, Adam, and Empire styles in cutting, finished by the cutter as far as the tools he uses will permit him to go in the form of design aimed at. The intaglio cutter and the engraver then add their quota to the more elaborately finished examples. In these examples employment is thus found for three departments of decorators, in addition to the skilled work which belongs to the higher branches of glass making. This combination of decorative effect is quite new, but some remarkable results of it are exhibited. Mr. John A. Service, the company's Exhibition representative (himself an artist of no mean ability) kindly pointed out these details to us, and we feel sure he will to others who seek information. At present only special forms and of elaborate design have been produced on these lines, but it is intended to apply the scheme to table services, the few wine glasses experimented upon having demonstrated its suitability for that purpose. Heavily cut vases and bowls for roses and other long stem flowers are exhibited. They have a novel arrangement for carrying a plentiful supply of water in a separate vessel, without the water coming in contact with the vase at all. Amongst novel exhibits are two cut-glass cannon, models of the famous gun used by Baden-Powell in the defence of Mafeking. They are remarkable as specimens of the glass makers' ingenuity and the glass cutter's skill. The cameo plaques seen in the illustration, like many pieces in the collection, are the work of Mr. George Woodall, the incomparable artist whose sculptured glass we have so frequently admired, described, and illustrated. The company exhibit glass medallion portraits of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert (the Prince Consort), which, we understand, were first seen at the Great Exhibition in 1851. It is impossible to describe in detail even all the principal pieces shown. If we described the most prominent exhibits to-day, visitors might not recognise them next week. Mr. Service changes the disposition of his pieces frequently. We have necessarily made many visits to the Palace of Decorative Arts, but on each occasion we have seen "something new at Webbs'." The table-stand in the centre of the exhibits is where the changes are most frequent. There are several large, costly, and unique pieces that are of course always on show. Amongst the many features that will commend themselves to all lovers of good glass are several very rich and effective designs n bowls and vases. They have large lumps of metal (glass) irregularly placed over the surface, and then worked up by the cutter or the engraver (or by both) into beautiful flowers or fruit, or perhaps in imitation of rolling waves in rock crystal effects. The popular taste for old styles is met by a fine assortment of decanters and bowls in "Queen Anne" style of cutting, and in Georgian and Early Victorian forms. Mr. Service has arranged some heavily and exquisitely cut decanters on black carved wood stands. This is an object lesson to the house-wife, who will at once see in them fine sideboard specimens when the dccanters are not in use on the table. Amongst fancy and novel pieces (and they are always looked for at an exhibition), there is a sportsman's champagne set, with game birds in raised gold, and delicately formed and richly decorated bonbonnière for the dinner table. The ornamentation of these is very effective. There is a pleasing novelty in gold and enamelled decorations. In this the fruit is in natural colours—semi-transparent, with the foliage in raised and chased gold. The electric lighting arrangements are made to exhibit what the company are doing in this direction. The very pretty glass accessories serve as examples of the combination of art and utility. They are shown complete, in position and actually in use. We consider it is not only a misfortune for the trade, but almost a national misfortune, that so few of our pottery and glass manufacturers are exhibiting. If only half a dozen others of our manufacturers of high-class glass ware had made a display on the lines adopted by Webbs, what an impressicn it would have made, not only on our own people, but on the people of other countries.

Thomas Webb & Sons have erected a glass-furnace in the grounds, where they daily demonstrate the methods of manufacturing English hand-made glass.

PILKINGTON'S TILE AND POTTERY CO., LTD.

In the Palace of Decorative Arts the company have one of the most refined displays in any section of the Exhibition. "Lancastrian Pottery," the comprehensive name which includes all the productions of the works at Clifton Junction, presents the latest developments in artistic glazes, while it retains the pure, artistic charm in form which was so characteristic of the work of great potters of the past. The application of modern methods of production, in which mechanism exerts so strong an influence, is not conducive to artistic taste and feeling. Those modern methods are not made use of at Clifton Junction, except in the production of tiles and bricks, where uniformity in size and shape is an essential. In addition to tiles the exhibits consist of faience, mosaics, and artistic pottery. In the latter the artistic perfection of each piece has been aimed at, rather than mechanical uniformity in numbers. The versatility—always artistic—of Lancastrian Pottery could not be better illustrated than it is at this Exhibition. The art forms shown, of course, are "Lancastrian," but so is the building in which they are displayed. This structure is a very material part of the exhibit, the artistic unity of which is preserved throughout. The two illustrations we give, though only in black and white, suggest this, but the perfect harmony in the tones of the original confirms it. The building itself is in the form of a mosque of the Byzantine period, the dome of which is lined with fine turquoise mosaics, divided into sections by narrow bands of silver lustre encircling the dome at regular intervals. The walls of the interior are covered with Persian and lustre tiles, in the production of which the company excel. The lustres are rich, and the patterns include foliage and ornamented flowers, more or less natural, scroll, and geometrical designs. The decoration of tiles by metallic lustres has been practised for many centuries, and it is brought to a high state of excellence in the present one. Many special designs in tiles, friezes, dado-

patterns, and decorative figure panels are shown, mostly the conception of, and all executed by, the company's own artists, amongst whom ladies are prominent. The fireplace and hearth with the three semi-circular recesses in place of an overmantel, all in Lancastrian lustre pottery, show the artistic utility of the ware. The conception imparts a quiet, reposeful feeling, and we could understand the beautiful dome inspiring even a devotional spirit in a devout Oriental. On each side of the fireplace there is a recess, fitted with shelves and glass doors, in which are specimens of vases, cups, bowls, and other art forms in various styles of ornamentation. On each side of the opening near the front are tall cases of glass and ebony containing rare and unique pieces of Lancastrian ware. The front of the building—we must not say "stand"—is constructed of coloured glazed faience in Messrs. Pilkington's special Parian — white relieved by green. This is a good object-lesson in the use of this Parian for constructive purposes. The company have produced a durable and impervious glaze for outside work, without the strong reflected glitter which on extensive wall surfaces is sometimes more distressing than pleasing.



Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."

PILKINGTON'S TILE AND POTTERY CO., LTD.

Regarded as a whole, the dome, the lustre-tiled walls, the mosaic floor, and the collection of examples displayed form a charming picture. They speak for themselves as the results of the researches of the modern scientific potter, and show some of the possibilities of the judicious use of the resources at his command. One fact is made clear by a careful consideration of this exhibit—namely, that "Lancastrian Pottery" is not an accident. Some of the beautiful effects may, perhaps, be accidental variations of results intended, but graceful forms and artistically beautiful colour schemes are not produced by chance, but by the exercise of patience and intelligent skill. Most of the effects here shown are the outcome of years of labour on the part of the famous chemist-potter, Mr. William Burton, M.A., F.C.S. (whom we take occasion to congratulate on the academic distinction recently conferred upon him), and of his talented brother, Mr. Joseph Burton.

As to the vases and other art forms exhibited, we can safely say that they present such a range of artistic effects in glazes and lustre designs as no potter in the world ever achieved before. In glazes there are splendid and variegated effects recalling ancient Chinese efforts, but there are others, such as the crystalline, lapis-lazuli blue, fruit skin, and orange vermilion, that are the company's own discoveries, and are only made by them. Important as these are, however, "Lancastrian Pottery" does not rest its claims to distinction solely on glazes. The simplicity and refinement of the shapes alone demand, and are receiving, attention and appreciation, as well as the fact that all that can be are thrown on the potter's wheel. Amongst the beautiful lustre pieces, the "Valkyrie Vase" in silver and ruby lustre, on a ground of sapphire blue, designed and painted by G. M. Forsyth, is deserving the special attention of visitors. The large vase with powder-blue ground bearing a modelled design of "Saint George for England," and enriched with silver and ruby lustre, is also the design of Gordon M. Forsyth. There are several admirable designs of fish and seaweed by Richard Joyce. Those in which the lustre is produced on green grounds of delicate tone will not only be appreciated by connoisseurs, but will be objects of more than usual interest to potters. So far as we know, no potter has ever produced lustre on a green ground before. There is an increasing demand just now for small pieces of sterling merit for presentation purposes. The company are meeting it in a liberal manner, as will be seen by the little jewel-like pieces, the trinket boxes, bowls, and other articles designed and painted by the lady artists, Miss Jones, Miss Dacre, and Miss Rodgers. Dealers who do a high-class trade should label these beautiful examples "Women's Work." Not that they need any adventitious recommendation, for as works of art they will commend

themselves by their merits to all persons of refined tastes, but there are many who are specially interested in the work of lady artists. Space will not permit detailed reference to the numerous beautiful glazes shown, but we may, in conclusion, direct the attention of visitors to the purple glazes and to the flashed or flambé pieces in which beautiful reds are shown, where the colour is splashed, streaked, or veined with grey and with purple, after the manner of some of the rarest productions of the ancient Chinese kilns.

THE WORCESTER ROYAL PORCELAIN CO., LTD.

"Worcester China" is amongst the most highly prized pottery productions of the United Kingdom. It is well known and highly appreciated in all parts of the world. In the British colonies especially, where all links with the mother country are cherished, the housewife is always proud of her Worcester tea-set or dessert service. Collectors value a genuine "bit of old Worcester" as greatly as any of their possessions. From the establishment of the works in 1751 the productions of the Worcester factory have always had definite characteristics of their own. In the early days Chinese and Japanese styles were studied, and no doubt influenced "Worcester" productions, but there was no slavish imitation. Many of the early productions of the works (and, as some connoisseurs think, some of the best of them) were not inspired by the goods from other factories. Chemistry is giving us some of the most charming effects in pottery ornamentation to-day, and it is worth recalling that it is to that branch of science that the Worcester factory owes its existence. Dr. Wall, a clever chemist and an accomplished artist, succeeded in producing a beautiful soft porcelain, and, like a sensible man, immediately proceeded to turn it to commercial advantage by founding the factory which has since developed into the Royal Worcester Porcelain Works of to-day. Our present duty, however, is not to speak of the works, but of their productions. Perhaps the finest collection of them that has been made for many years past is that which is now seen in the Palace of Decorative Arts at the Franco-British Exhibition. We give an illustration of this magnificent display, reproduced from a photograph taken for the purpose by our own artist. The specimens have been most admirably arranged by Mr. John Haywood, the gentleman from the works who is representing the company at the Exhibition. In case some of our readers, on visiting the Exhibition, may not find the stand exactly as we have depicted it, we must mention that Mr. Haywood re-arranges his specimens two or three times a week, so that those who make repeated visits (and there are many Colonial and foreign visitors who do) may see something



[*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."*

PILKINGTON'S TILE AND POTTERY CO., LTD.

fresh—though it is always "Worcester." At the left end of the large enclosure there is a grand display of vases of all sizes. They are in apple green, with painted flowers on white panels and gilt. The table in the centre of the enclosure has a selection of rich dessert ware and tea ware set out on a white cloth. The large oval jardinière in the middle of the table is a remarkably fine example of the arts of both the potter and the decorator. It is a beautiful model, part of a dessert service in the style of the "Worcester" of the Chamberlain period, with rich green grounds and beautifully painted fruit and flowers in full centres with chased gold band and white and gilt embossments. Many shades of the Old Worcester Greens are shown, and the specimens of vases and ornaments, dessert and tea services in these colours form a very attractive feature of the exhibit. Royal Blue has been a feature in Worcester ware from the earliest period, and is so to-day. There is a splendid collection of it shown. It is admitted vase similar in its perfection as a model and in its decoration. It is 33 inches high, with green and gold mounts, and a decoration of boldly painted peonies by F. Roberts.

Salmon Scale Blue is a traditional decoration of Worcester, and is well represented on the stand. The pieces show that the decoration is as perfect as it can be. For excellence in workmanship in its handpainting and gilding, in the depth and beautiful tone of colour, this scale blue equals anything shown in the exhibit. There is a variety of beautiful vases and ornaments and small cabinet specimens, with dessert and coffee services in the same treatment. Among the vases is one which has elicited general admiration. It is the handsome "Imperial" vase, emblematic of the British Empire. It bears portraits of their Majesties the King and Queen in their Coronation robes. There are some fine specimens in the company's "shot silk" or iridescent decoration. There is a case of specimens of finely perforated porcelain,



Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."

THE WORCESTER ROYAL PORCELAIN CO., LTD.

that the quality of the early Worcester blue and white has not been excelled. The shapes of the period were plain, but in good taste. The principal articles were services, dishes, bowls, and jugs, and the chief decoration an underglaze deep cobalt blue, with a special glaze, neither too bright nor too transparent, which gave to the ware a character and charm of its own. This "charm" is sought for by collectors to-day. In this beautiful colour the exhibit contains a magnificent range of vases in all sizes, with panel paintings of fruit, flowers, landscapes, figures, shells, &c., richly gilt, some with flat and others with raised gold, scroll, and band work round the panels. The groundlaying of this blue is considered a triumph of ceramic decoration. A fine specimen of this class is a large vase 33 inches high, with panel of fruit and flowers, painted by W. A. Hawkins. This is as remarkable for its potting as for its decoration. There is also another large the work of Mr. G. Owen, an artist who specialises in this work. We have always regarded the work of the fine china perforator as on a par with that of the cameo-glass cutter—both tax the care, skill, and patience of the operator to the utmost. The perforation of fine china is all hand work, and necessarily the work on each piece must be done by one artist. The beauty and value of perforated porcelain are, of course, enhanced by the time and skill required for the work. Charming variety is given to the display by the exhibition of some beautifully painted porcelain plaques, framed in dark oak. These include three figure subjects by W. A. Hawkins, the fine detail work in which is exceptionally good. Although we have specially mentioned the more ornamental pieces, the exhibit is a comprehensive one of the Worcester productions, and includes breakfast, tea, dinner, and dessert services in fine porcelain, Royal Worcester vitreous ware

for dinner services, a large variety of vases, and objects of art in numerous styles and decorations peculiar to Worcester, many being reproductions of the styles of the Worcester patterns of more than a century ago.

Webb's Glass Furnace.

In our preliminary notice of the Exhibition last month, we briefly mentioned that Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., of Stourbridge, had erected a glass works in the grounds of the Exhibition, and were making glass in the presence of the public. The opinion has often been expressed that one cause of the decline in the output of good British hand-made glass has been due to the fact that the public have, to some extent, lost their appreciation of good glass. It is the experience of dealers all over the kingdom that people do not take the pride in the pottery and glass used on their tables that they once did. This is proved to be true by the preference given to foreign-made glass, because it is lower in price. It will be admitted that even in respectable middle-class families to-day, the table glass is inferior in quality to what it used to be. Of course, the craze for "cheap" wares has much to do with this. Lower priced glass has been persistently offered to the public, and, with the ever-increasing indulgence in holidays, recreations, and amusements, the offer has been accepted in order to provide funds for the indulgence. But another view of the position is that people who are not tempted by a small reduction in price are buying foreign-made glass from sheer indifference, if not from ignorance. They have ceased to take pride in the beauty of the glass they use, and have no interest in, probably no knowledge of, the better qualities of table glass made in their own country.

Thos. Webb & Sons evidently believe that, if people knew more about English hand-made glass, they would give it the preference. With the view, therefore, of making the British public better acquainted with the methods of manufacturing British table glass, the company have erected a glass furnace at the Exhibition, and all day long, and in the presence of visitors, their workmen from Stourbridge are busy showing how glass is made, in the most practical way—that is to say, by making it. We believe the company are right, and we endorse the opinion that when the beauty and the quality of hand-made glass are understood, preference will be given to it by hundreds who, at present, think of nothing but price. Now, we want our dealers to take the same view, and to lend their aid, and to use their opportunities in educating the public on this question. It is reasonable to assume that hundreds of dealers who have never seen glass made will be coming to the Exhibition. We suggest that they make a point of seeing for themselves how glass is made, and that then they make it their business to explain the superiority of English hand-made glass.



Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."

Webb's Glass Furnace: Exterior.

We have seen glass made at many places, but were none the less interested in what we saw at Webb's glass furnace at the Exhibition. Mr. Wilkinson, the manager in charge, kindly gave us all the information we desired as to what he and his men are doing. The visitors (who, by the way, are numerous) follow with deep interest all the operations. Four men and four youths are in constant work, and some of the products of their labour are sold as souvenirs. Glass making is a useful industry, like printing, weaving, book-binding, and many others; but it cannot be illustrated as they can, in any hall at a few hours' notice. It is a

beautiful art that requires an elaborate and costly plant of substantial character to demonstrate it. Comparatively few of our forty-two millions ever have the opportunity of visiting a glass works, but a very large percentage of them will visit the Franco-British Exhibition, and Thomas Webb & Sons are doing them a service in erecting a glass works there for their information and pleasure. It is a handsome building on the artistic lines of all the beautiful white palaces in the grounds as will be seen from our illustrations which are from photographs specially taken for us. It is fully equipped in every detail. Visitors can see the furnace and the method of taking the glass from the pot (or crucible) ("gathering it," the men call it). Experienced glass makers may be seen at work any day making small dishes, vases, bowls, or sundry curiosities, such as fowls, "jumbos," and pigs. These, of course, please the young visitors and also many of the older ones, but on the other side of the furnace the more serious work is also in progress, and flower vases, wine glasses, &c., are produced from start to finish, in full view of the visitors, who are ranged round the workmen. A barrier (not shown in our illustration) separates the visiting public from the workers, but does not impede a full view of all the operations. The visitors commence their inspection when the melted glass is ready for working. In order to get it ready, the component parts of English glass—white sand, red lead, refined ash, and saltpetre, have been mixed in proper proportions and put into the pot or crucible, which is subjected to an intense heat for 48 hours, by which time the contents become fused into molten glass, which the workers call metal. These pots rest on a platform of fire-brick, and are enclosed in brickwork called the "Furnace"—the structure in the centre of the illustration. A full-size furnace will contain 12 of these pots, each holding about a ton of "metal" (molten glass). The pot is kept sealed up while the contents are being melted, and when they are ready for working the mouth of it is uncovered. At the time of our visit, the men were making the company's beautiful "fir-cone" wine glasses. (There is no "make-believe" about the glass-making at Shepherd's Bush. The men are in earnest, making wine glasses that will be sold. The glasses the visitors see made are of the same high grade as those made at the Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge, and may possibly be sold together with them.) Visitors see a workman insert a hollow iron blow-pipe into the mouth of the pot, he collects sufficient "metal" to form the bowl of the wine glass, and takes this lump of metal to a polished table on which he rolls it to give it a smooth even surface. He then blows down "the blow-pipe" till the metal expands to the size and shape required. (In this case, he places the metal in a brass mould and then blows it.



Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."

WEBB'S GLASS FURNACE : INTERIOR.

This mould imparts to the bowl a beautiful surface marked in imitation of the many marks on the fir-cone. This is not done to shape the glass by the mould—but only to very slightly impress its surface. When making a quite plain glass there is no need to use a mould.) He then gauges it with callipers as seen in the illustration, to see that the dimensions are correct. He then hands it to another workman who adds sufficient metal to form the stem, which he cleverly fashions with iron tools. This completed, he adds metal for the foot, which he shapes with a pair of wooden boards, or "clappers," as they are called. He then marks a ring round the bowl with his compasses to show where it must be sheared off to form the top of the glass. When this shearing is accomplished, the workman again heats the glass, so as to melt the rough edges left by the shears, and opens out the top of the bowl to the required size with special wooden tools. The glass is then measured to ascertain that the height and diameter are correct. This is rapidly done by a "measure-stick." The workman then releases the glass from the tool in which he has held it, and a boy carries it on the end of a forked stick to the "Lehr," or annealing oven, to be annealed.

The production of a wine glass is much more speedy than a verbal description of it would indicate. The men work in groups of four. (A group is known in the trade as a "chair.") Each member of the group is seen by the visitor engaged upon his own particular portion of the work. The men acquire great rapidity by practice, but, more than this, they acquire that remarkable skill which enables them to obtain the correct shapes and sizes at once. It is very rarely that a glass does not pass the measuring-stick. The strength which characterises hand-made glass is due to the gradual shaping and expanding, heating and reheating, to which it is subjected in the process of manufacture. The visitor will notice that the English workmen rely on the accuracy of the eye and the dexterity of the hands. These are cultivated to a high state of perfection in the Stourbridge district, and the ability to cultivate them seems to be hereditary. The art of glass-making can be acquired by skilful men, but its best exponents have been those "born to it." Continental manufacturers shape their articles almost entirely by moulds, and this reduces the number of skilled workmen required, and so reduces the cost of production. Foreign mould-made glass is cut off at the top with a diamond, instead of being sheared by hand, as in England. It is much more liable to chip and split when in use, and is never so pleasant to the mouth. If English hand-made glass does cost a little more in the first instance than foreign mould-made glass, it is more agreeable in use, stronger, and therefore more durable and more economical in use. These facts Thomas Webb & Sons are bringing home to the public by letting them see how glass is made, and which dealers should take every opportunity of impressing on their customers. We do not know to what extent the patriotic and sentimental aspects of the question may be urged in business, but surely every thoughtful person would be pleased to know that the glass he uses was produced by well-paid English workers rather than by foreigners. If the public would only cultivate this feeling, and act up to it when shopping, the British glass trade would be one of the most flourishing instead of one of the most depressed industries.

The famous Dennis firm are to be congratulated on the spirited effort they are making to encourage this feeling.

(To be continued.)

Bankruptcy Statistics.—During the month of May, 1908, two china, glass and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales. No one engaged in these trades was gazetted during May, 1907.

LOWESTOFT CHINA.

A LONDON evening paper has the following :—"At the end of the North-parade, Lowestoft, is the Warren House—a place of great interest to connoisseurs of china. It was here, in the eighteenth century, that a discovery of fine clay was made, which eventually led to Lowestoft manufacturing the china which is now so rare that it is almost priceless. A well known authority, writing upon the subject, says :—Initial experiments, made by Hewlin Luson, Esq., of Gunton-park, near Lowestoft, with some fine clay discovered accidentally on his estate, resulted in complete success, and ultimately led to the opening of a factory at Lowestoft in 1756 for the manufacture of fine earthenware and porcelain 'soft paste.' In 1775 a finely glazed and decorated 'hard paste' was introduced, the efficiency and beauty of which betokened a brilliant success for the proprietors. Contemporary evidence indisputably shows that from 1770 to 1800 the Lowestoft works were at the zenith of their fame. Owing, however, to the enormous expenses and difficulty incurred in procuring china clay from Cornwall and elsewhere (after the original clay was exhausted), and the rapidly increasing competition of other makers, its prosperity waned ; the collapse came, and the works were closed in 1803."

[It has been authoritatively and repeatedly stated that there is no record of "hard porcelain" having ever been made at Lowestoft. For a long time there was great doubt whether porcelain of any kind had been actually manufactured there, but local tradition was clear and strong to the effect that it had been. But, interviewed half a century ago, the then "oldest inhabitants" were unanimous in saying the factory was only a small one, with one biscuit oven and one enamelling kiln. Even this was disbelieved until 1903, when some alterations were made in the kiln used by Messrs. Morse for drying malt. Under the floor several moulds and fragments of china were found, and confirmation was given to the tradition that the kiln used by Messrs. Morse was the actual kiln in which Lowestoft ware was fired. It is, however, absurd to speak of the "zenith of the fame" of this one-oven factory, and to attribute its decay "to the rapidly increasing competition of other markets." The original owners of the pottery were shipowners, and the accepted theory is that they imported Oriental porcelain on a large scale and sold it as "Lowestoft." They opened a warehouse in Queen-st., Cheapside, London, where they offered "a large selection of Lowestoft china," and they also had a warehouse at Rotterdam. One of their ships, loaded with porcelain, was wrecked on the way to this country, and the French army burnt their warehouse at Rotterdam. This was the cause of the collapse—and not foreign competition.]

Crockery Smashed on a Cunarder.—The Cunard liner "Lusitania," which left New York on June 18, for Liverpool, was obliged to haul-to for twenty minutes in the narrows just outside New York Harbour, because a sham battle was in progress. So great was the concussion of the firing that very heavy damage was done on board the liner to window glasses and valuable crockery, and the loss is estimated at fully $20,000 (£4,000).

The City and Guilds of London Institute.—The Department of Technology have just issued the programme for the session 1908–9. The dates fixed for the examinations in pottery and porcelain and glass manufacture are : Preliminary, April 26 ; ordinary and honours, April 28. Applications for the registration of classes in technology or for the renewal of such classes previously registered must be received at the offices of the Department of Technology, Exhibition-rd., London, S.W., not later than Oct. 3, 1908.

SOME CHINA AND GLASS SHOPS IN KENT.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

(*Continued from page* 680.)

FOLKESTONE.

FOLKESTONE is one of the best known of the many fashionable summer resorts in the South-East of England. It is an important port of debarkation from the Continent, and by reason of its convenience in this respect, our neighbours, the French, appreciated its beauties, and its healthful advantages, long before the entente cordiale was officially inaugurated. The town and port have many natural attractions, while in the last half century many ments have been improved and extended. It has some very fine thoroughfares running from east to west—Cheriton-rd., Shorncliffe-rd., Sandgate-rd. and (on the Front) Lower Sandgate-rd. These all run into the busy streets of the town, such as Guildhall-st., High-st., Dover-st., and Dover-rd. The eastern end of Dover-rd., one of the widest in the town, is chiefly residential, but the western end contains many handsome business premises. One of the finest shops in the town is that of

H. POPE & SON,

glass and china dealers, 20, Sandgate-rd. This is a very old business, but the premises have recently been rearranged, and the handsome front, of which we give an illustration, is quite new. "Pope of Folkestone" is a very familiar name to manufacturers and their representatives in our trades. I was disappointed to find that Mr. Pope, senior,



[*Photo. by J. Weston & Son, Folkestone.*

A MODEL WINDOW.

others have been introduced by the ingenuity and enterprise of its inhabitants. The steamers that ply daily between Folkestone and Boulogne have done more than diplomatists could have done to promote the good understanding that exists between the inhabitants of the two towns. There are legends of Folkestone in the time of the Saxons and the Danes, and there are remnants of buildings dating back to the Roman occupation. But Folkestone as we know it is really a modern place. In the time of Queen Elizabeth it contained only 120 houses, and there were really very few more until the construction of the harbour in 1809. But it was the opening of the railway in 1844, and the establishment of a regular boat service with Boulogne that led to the remarkable development of the town. In 1871 the population was 12,694, while at the last census it was 30,694. In the last 30 years the whole street arrange-

was abroad at the time of my visit. He has, however, practically handed over the control of the business to his son, with whom I had a pleasant interview. He is still a young man—young to have the responsibility of so important a business—but he is thoroughly equal to it. He has been well grounded in the details of the trade, and I should imagine took to it naturally. I have met older men, with much wider experience, who knew less about the china and glass industries than Mr. Pope, junior, does. When I said I was disappointed at not meeting his father, I did not intend any reflection on him. I remember Mr. Pope, senior, many years ago. He is an interesting personality in our trades, and it was my desire to obtain, if agreeable to him, some account of what has been a useful and successful career, for the information and encouragement of our readers. He is likely to remain abroad for some

ime, but I hope an opportunity for this may yet present tself. Retail glass and china dealing must be hereditary. At any rate it is not difficult to believe that the present proprietor of this interesting business has inherited his capacity for it. It was his grandfather's business, I know, but I am uncertain whether it goes back another generation or not. There have been great developments during the time of his father, who has, of course, carried out the extensive improvements I have referred to. While they stock all the ordinary useful pottery and glass required in the kitchen, scullery, bedrooms, and dining-room of a better class house, they keep also, not merely specimens, but stocks, of the best useful and ornamental porcelain, china, and glass. The business may be described as a high class one. We give an illustration of as much of the interior as the photographer could get in one view. What we show is really a sort of entrance hall into which the street door opens. The opening at the back, up the two steps, leads to a room at the left (not seen), and then a long gallery, lighted from the roof, and with goods displayed on each side, leads to the fine show room proper in the rear. To give anything like an idea of the stock held by Pope & Son would be to give almost a list of the best productions of the best makers. The wares both in china and glass have evidently been selected because of their beauty and artistic merit, and not because "some costly pieces must be kept." Indeed there are goods which are artistic yet are not expensive. I happened to mention that I was always pleased to see a legitimate glass and china business handed down, without the introduction of other goods, when Mr. Pope replied with a fervour and a pride which delighted me, "This has always been purely a glass and china business, and as long as I live it shall continue so." I wish more dealers took pride in their business. It would be better for them, better for manufacturers, and, of course, better for the trade of the country.

PLUMMER RODDIS, LTD., 4, High-street, are general furnishers, with a comprehensive pottery and glass department. What I mean is that they do not content themselves with supplying just such household pottery and glass as are necessary to persons furnishing. They keep a large stock of useful and ornamental requisites, but they have an equally good assortment of artistic and fancy goods. Their ship is in the busiest part of the town, and with the numerous departments of their business, it is a "market" in itself for almost everything a household needs. I do not venture any comment upon the other branches, but they certainly enter with spirit into the china and glass trade.

GOSLING'S STORES, LTD., also have extensive premises in High-street. They have very good displays of pottery and glass in their windows, and in their fine show rooms, They have departments for ironmongery and groceries, but the china and glass department is an important one. The manager of this branch shows considerable taste and ingenuity in the arrangement of his rooms. He makes judicious use of tall stands, about two inches wide at the top, but sloping down to about eighteen inches wide at the bottom. On each side of these stands he shows flat ware, and also cups and saucers. The stands have evidently been constructed to suit the conformation of the room, and are much more serviceable where they are than flat tables, or the familiar pyramid stands would be. It is very easy to understand how stores like Gosling's build up a glass and china department. Their vans are calling upon families almost daily for orders for groceries, provisions, bottled ales, mineral waters, and other things in constant demand, so that the housewife can have oddments in pottery and glass delivered at the same time. An announcement in their shop shows that they feel the effects of London competition. It reads, "London Store Prices Charged." Of course, this will apply to all their departments, and not to our trade specially.



[*Photo. by J. Weston & Son Folkestone.*

H. POPE & SON, FOLKESTONE.

Sandgate and Hythe.—I had been requested to visit these interesting places, but found that there were not many shops displaying china and glass. Sandgate is a pretty town with a motor-bus service from Folkstone. I was admiring the handsome red-brick pile of buildings in the main street. I was told that they were erected a few years ago by a philanthropic gentleman as dwellings for some of the poorer inhabitants who had at the time the choice of very few small houses and cottages. These new buildings are ornamental, and combine the latest sanitary improvements and modern comforts for the tenants. They are not alms-houses—but apartment houses, let at low rents to the tenants, the owner being satisfied with a small rate of interest on his outlay. The population of Sandgate is under 3,000, so that the demand for pottery and glass cannot be great. It is, however, met by two shops. Rowlstone & Co., 33, High-street, are china, glass and earthenware dealers, who stock all descriptions of medium and cheap goods in these lines. It is an old established business, and formerly belonged to Mr. Brown. The company keep what seems to be a large stock for the size of the town, but they supply smaller places for some miles round. Henry Hart & Co., Ltd., have a large shop, 69 and 71, High-st., Sandgate, but they are military and general house furnishers. The large assortment of pottery and glass they keep is therefore more for military furnishing purposes than for a retail trade. They do a local retail trade as well, but their principal business is in contracting for officers' messes, and in loaning all household requisites for officers' quarters. They are thus able to offer the inhabitants of Sandgate a much larger assortment of china, earthenware, and glass, than they could offer if catering for the requirements of the town alone. Hythe, like Sandgate, consists practically of one long street —with a few side ones. It is connected with Sandgate and Folkestone by a motor-bus service. It has a population now of about four thousand, and is widely known by its military associations. It is a very old place, and has a continuous history from the record of it in "Doomsday Book." Its requirements in pottery and glass are well met by Rowlstone & Co. The same firm I have mentioned in connection with Sandgate. Their shop at 53, High-st., Hythe, is a large one, and has a window front which is remarkable for so small a town. The premises seem to have been at one time a large dwelling house, standing back four or five feet from the street line. The door was left as it was, but the space on each side of the door has been covered in by glass, forming two really fine windows. The company's business is much the same here as at Sandgate, but they add furniture, while the shop at Sandgate is devoted to pottery and glass alone. At both places they let out china, glass, cutlery, and other things on hire.

I noticed in Folkestone a movement that seems to be worth the attention of the China and Glass Dealers' Association. In all parts of the kingdom dealers in towns within a radius of five-and-twenty miles from large cities suffer from the keen competition with stores and large firms in those cities. The grocers and provision dealers of Folkestone, Sandgate, and Hythe, are openly challenging comparison of their goods and prices with those of the competing stores. They have issued a circular, signed by all the local dealers, with their addresses appended, inviting the inhabitants to give them a trial and so assist in making their own neighbourhood more prosperous. They appeal to the residents to do what they can for their own town, and point out that there is nothing to be gained —but often much to be lost to the town—by trading with London stores. The dealers add that residents buy from London houses without any thought of injuring the trade of their own district, but that it has that effect. They conclude by inviting the residents to bring their latest store price list and cash, and promising that their orders shall be promptly executed. Perhaps the China and Glass Dealers' Association will make use of this suggestion.

(To be continued.)

IN SUPPORT OF ENGLISH GLASS.

(COMMUNICATED.)

ON May 30, the Dudley branch of the National Flint Glass-makers' Society held a meeting specially to consider the movement by which brewery firms are being asked to support the English glass trade by purchasing British-made, rather than foreign, glass articles. Mr. Hampshire, a member of the executive council of the Society, presided.

Mr. W. Bradford (secretary), explained that, acting on the instructions of the executive, he communicated with a number of local brewery firms, and endeavoured to arrange a meeting with all of them to discuss the question. That was found to be impossible, and the executive then thought it advisable to meet the firms individually. Accordingly they waited upon Mitchells & Butlers, brewers, Cape-hill, and pointed out to Mr. H. A. Butler, who courteously received them, that it was not the high wages the glass-makers received, nor unfair restriction from their organisation, that made their position so serious. It was the factor and foreign competitor who had no responsibility, no anxiety, and no risk of capital, who were their greatest enemies, and whose power they wished to destroy. By dealing direct with British manufacturers, and doing away with the middleman, they would find that British made glass necessary for use in the gigantic business of the brewery firm would cost but very little more than foreign-dumped rubbish that was being supplied by the factor. For instance, a duplex glass lamp chimney was sold in English shops, foreign-made, at 4½d. or 5d., whilst by dealing direct with the English manufacturer they could get it at 2½d. That was only one case out of thousands that might be illustrated, and they appealed as British working men, to English firms to give them their whole-hearted support in that important movement. If they could not, under existing conditions, buy all English-made glass, there were hundreds of pounds spent in foreign glass that might go into the pockets of British manufacturers and workmen, and the use of English glass would be beneficial to the firms from a commercial and business point of view. If brewery companies and local bodies would give one trial to British-made glass supplied direct from the manufacturer, that statement would be proved to be absolutely correct. Foreign glass-makers worked under conditions which would not be tolerated either by employers or employed in this country, whilst the factors or middlemen knew nothing of the manufacturing side of glass-making, or the technicalities of a skilled industry.

Mr. Butler (said Mr. Bradford) pointed out that they did not stock glass at the brewery, but were supplied by a Birmingham firm as the glass was required. He (Mr. Bradford) gave a guarantee that the delivery of a dozen or dozens would be no obstacle in the way of dealing direct with the manufacturer. Mr. Butler very willingly gave them the prices that the firm paid for foreign glass, and to their astonishment they found that for "pressed" glass tumblers, they paid 2d. per dozen more than was charged for similar English-made glasses supplied direct by English manufacturers. Mr. Butler assured them that, whenever it was possible to substitute British for foreign glass it would be done. Seeing that upwards of £3,000 a year was spent in glass by that firm the assurance of Mr. Butler was a great help to them in the agitation for the use of English as against foreign glass. Moreover, the London County Council had now decided that in future all orders for glass should be given to British manufacturers, whilst the Post office authorities had placed manufacturers on the contract lists. They had also met the manager of the North Worcestershire Brewery Co. on the question. The company spent about £800 a year in glass. That they were justified in the course the society were taking was to be seen in the fact of the great decrease in the employment of British glass-makers. In twenty-five years no fewer than 220 sets of men—15 in a set—had been discharged for lack of trade, and this all meant a tax on the funds of the union. Last year £1,100 was paid to men out of work. As a matter of fact, only about 60 per cent. were in employment, and, therefore, it behoved them to do all they could to preserve what there was left of the British glass industry.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bradford.

The executive council of the National Flint Glass Makers' Society have passed a resolution expressing their appreciation of the manner in which their representatives were received by Messrs. Mitchells & Butlers. This, they state, has given them encouragement to go on with their movement, and if successful they would always look upon the company as having laid the foundation stone of success. The firm have replied, thanking the executive for the sentiments expressed.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Wall's China and Glass Stores have been opened at 544, High-rd., Chiswick, W.

Potts & Co., china and glass merchants, have acquired the premises 161, Balham-hill, S.W.

Dean & Clare, china and glass merchants, have opened new premises at 676, Lea Bridge-rd., Leyton.

Mr. Bradley, china and glass dealer, &c., has acquired the premises 702, Lea Bridge-rd., Leyton, E.

Mr. J. Forsyth, china and glass dealer, &c., has taken over the business of Mr. T. W. Gamson, 77, Essex-rd., Islington, N.

Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem, announce that they close for their annual holidays, from June 27 to July 7.

Noel Bros., china and glass merchants, 153, Fore-st., Edmonton, N., have extended their premises by the addition of 151, adjoining.

Mr. A. J. Prickett, of 6, Thavies Inn, Holborn-circus, London, E.C., has resigned the secretaryship of the Buyers' Provident Association.

Mr. A. Jacobs, china and glass merchant, in consequence of the expiration of lease, is holding a clearance sale at his premises 24, Tottenham Court-rd., W.

Tenders Accepted.—For the Paddington Board of Guardians :—J. Defries & Son, 147, Houndsditch, S.E., earthenware £99 19s. 5½d., glass £11 12s. 4d.

A Clay-laden Vessel Ashore.—Our illustration is taken from a snap-shot of the clay vessel ashore in Bigbury



A Clay-laden Vessel Ashore.

Bay, Devon. The Captain, and all the crew (7) were drowned, and her cargo (china clay from Cornwall) spoilt.

Mr. H. P. Munnings, of Hertford, has just opened a large glass and pottery shop in the main street (61, Fore-st.) in place of the one in the Market-place, which he has occupied for 50 years.

Glass eyes for lions are not likely to be in such great demand as to create serious competition. We read, however, that one has been supplied to a lion at Earl's Court jungle.

British Clay Exports during the month of May amounted to 47,167 tons, valued at £47,291, including 4,681 tons of fireclay valued at £2,962. The total is much lower than in the month of May, 1907 or 1906.

New London Bottle Factory.—Hackney Borough Council has sanctioned plans for the erection of a bottle factory on the site of Nos. 166 to 178, Glyn-rd., for Messrs. Sharp Bros., bottle manufacturers, of 178, Glyn-rd., N.E.

Mr. Joseph Bourne Wheeler will carry on the business of J. Bourne & Son, Denby Pottery, near Derby, under the same name as before. The partnership between him and Mr. John Henry Topham has been dissolved by mutual consent.

O. C. Hawkes, Ltd.—The usual dividend of 5 per cent. per annum on the preference shares for the six months ending June 30 has been declared ; also an interim dividend of 5 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the same period.

Liverpool Sandblast, Ltd.—Registered capital £1,000, in £1 shares. Objects : To acquire business carried on by J. Borrill at 2, May-st., Liverpool, and to carry on business of sand-blasters, &c. Registered office, 2, Hackins Hey, Liverpool.

Important Sale of Pottery Works.—We are authorised to announce that the business of Alfred Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, has been sold to Mr. Robert Lewis Johnson, of Johnson Bros. (Hanley), Ltd., for the members of his family, and the works will be carried on as heretofore.

Anthesian Stained Glass Foreign Patents Co., Ltd.—Registered capital £100,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with Edwin Lloyd, Ltd., and to carry on the business of artists in and designers and manufacturers of stained and leaded glass, whether for decoration, advertisement, or otherwise, &c. Reg. office, 65, London-wall, E.C.

James Hancock & Son, Ltd.—Registered with a capital of £10,000 in £1 shares, to adopt an agreement with E. A. Hancock and F. Penny for the acquisition of the business carried on by them at the Ceramic Art Colour Works, Diglis, Worcestershire, as "James Hancock & Son," and to carry on the business of colour manufacturers, &c.

New Terra-Cotta Works.—A provincial newspaper says that Lady Baker, of Ranston, with the view to encouraging the study of terra-cotta work in Dorset and Hants, is having a kiln erected at Burley, on the borders of Dorset, where clays suitable for the purpose are found in abundance. In September she hopes to be able to hold an exhibition of terra-cotta work all locally produced.

Princes' Red Brick and Terra Cotta Works, Ltd.—Registered capital £12,000, in £1 shares. Objects : To acquire the business of a brick and tile manufacturer carried on by James Prince at Connah's Quay, Flint, and elsewhere, and to carry on the business of brick, tile, fire-brick, terra cotta, pottery and earthenware manufacturers and merchants, clay workers and potters, &c.

British Patents and Trade Marks in 1907.—The total number of applications for British patents received during 1907 was 29,040, as compared with 30,030 in 1906. The number of trade marks registered was 6,255, including 31 under class 15, "Glass," and 53 under class 16, "Porcelain and earthenware." In 1906 the number registered in class 15 was 28, and 53 were registered in class 16.

Wm. Gardner & Sons (Gloucester), Ltd., engineers, Gloucester, have now samples of their well-known patent "Rapid" sifters and mixers always on show at Clarence House, 4, Arthur-st. West, London, E.C. These are in the care of Mr. Brougham Young. The specimens include the particular types of sifters and mixers used by pottery and glass manufacturers, and are in various styles for operation either by hand or power.

Chipperfield Lamp Syndicate, Ltd.—Registered capital £10,000, in £1 shares. Objects : To acquire any patents relating to the manufacture of gas or other lamps, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in lamps for lighting, heating, or other purposes, gas or other means, manufacturers of globes, chimneys, stands, shades and wicks, makers and suppliers of incandescent lighting and other apparatus and mantles, &c.

Death of Mr. John Davis.—Mr. John Davis of Wollaston, Stourbridge, was accidentally knocked down by a cyclist and received such injuries that he died on June 14. Mr. Davis was well known in the district as representative for Messrs. Muckley & Co., glass makers, Audnam. He was greatly respected in business and private circles, and will be greatly missed. He was fond of billiards and bowling, and was a prominent member of the Dudley Conservative Club.

Egyptian Antiquities.—The annual exhibition of antiquities from the Temple-sites of Memphis and Athritis found by Professor Flinders Petrie and students of the British School of Archæology in Egypt, are now being shown at University College, Gower-st., London. The exhibition opened on Monday, June 29, and will remain open till July 20. The hours are from 10 to 5 and also in the evening of July 10 and 20, from 7.30 to 9 p.m. The secretary, Mr. H. F. Petrie, will attend daily from 11 to 1. The nearest rail is the Tube station, Warren-st.

New Trade Marks in class 16 advertised for registration during June included the following:—"Twinob," No. 299,573. Porcelain bases for tumbler switches, the said bases being sold separately from the switches. A. P. Lundberg & Sons, Pioneer Electrical Works, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, Liverpool-rd., Islington, London, N.——"Daddy," No. 301,532. Sanitary pipes and fittings, flue linings, tiles, bricks, and chimney pots, all being of earthenware. Joseph Haskins, Warmley Potteries, Tower-rd., Warmley, near Bristol.——"Tegon," No. 294,806. Roofing tiles. The Rosemary Hill Tileries Co., Rosemary Hill Tileries, Silverdale, North Staffordshire.——"All-but," No. 303,110. Porcelain and earthenware. G. E. Wright & Co., 9 and 11, Wilson-st., London, E.C.

The Pottery and Glass Trades Benevolent Institution.—The half-yearly general meeting will be held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, London, E.C., on Thursday evening, July 30, at 7 o'clock. Ronald D. Doulton, Esq., chairman of the Board of Management, will preside. The principal business will be the election of a trustee in place of the late Mr. Charles Webb, and the election of candidates. The board of management announce that two candidates, can be elected, and there are 3 applicants. The candidates are 1 member and 2 widows of members. Voting papers have been sent out to each member, entitled to vote, and the poll will be kept open from 7 till 8 o'clock on the evening named. Members are earnestly requested to attend, but to send in their voting papers before the date of meeting.



[*Photo by Clarke, Cambridge.*
MR. T. B. W. BISHOP.

Mr. T. B. W. Bishop, son of Mr. J. W. Bishop, of Bishop & Stonier, Hanley, has been bracketed 10th Wrangler at Cambridge. He is just about to leave the University to enter the firm. We congratulate Mr. Bishop, jun., on his creditable achievement.

Mr. King's China.—Interest has been aroused by the announcement that the fine collection of Dresden and other china belonging to Mr. H. J. King was to be sold by Christie, Manson & Woods on the 7th and 8th inst. Consequent disappointment is now felt at the later announcement of the auctioneers that the sale will not take place this season.

Recent Company Liens Registered.—Lantern China Clay Co., Ltd. (Liverpool). £1,000 "B" debentures, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, have been registered. ——Diamond Pottery Co. (Hanley). £1,600 4½ per cent. debentures, created and dated April 30, 1908, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled or unpaid capital, have been registered.——Cauldon (Brown-Westhead Moore & Co.), Ltd., porcelain manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent. Particulars of £10,000 second debentures have been filed. The property charged is the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.——Grindley Hotel Ware Co., Ltd., Burslem, £15,000 4½ per cent. debentures, created May 5, and dated June 2, 1908, have been registered. The property charged is the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

Lead Poisoning in May.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Acts during May was 58, and the number of deaths in the same month was 6. In addition to these there were 13 reported cases, but no death, in connection with house painting and plumbing. During the five months ending May, 1908, the total number of cases under the Acts was 261, and there were 14 deaths, as compared with 171 reported cases and 7 deaths in the same months last year. In addition to these there were 75 cases of lead poisoning and 11 deaths among house painters and plumbers, during the first five months of this year, compared with 57 cases and 17 deaths in the first five months of 1907. In the month of May there were 61 reported cases, but no death, in connection with the china and earthenware trades. In the 5 months ending May 31, this year, there were 57 reported cases and 5 deaths connected with our trades, as compared with 28 reported cases and 5 deaths in the same month of 1907.

High Prices for Porcelain.—On June 2, Christie, Manson & Woods sold at their rooms in London, the remarkable collection of fine porcelain belonging to the Earl of Lauderdale. The chief lot was a pair of fine old Sèvres vases, which though slightly damaged, were the cause of keen competition. The bidding began at 500 guineas, and after a spirited struggle, in which many took part, the sale resolved itself into a duel between Mr. Charles Davis and the representative of Mr. Asher Wertheimer. At 3,600 guineas the latter won. Nearly cylindrical in shape, the vases are painted with oval panels of Cupids in a landscape and river scenes on a gros-bleu ground. Between each pair of panels are gilt wreaths of foliage and acorns enclosing an œil-de-perdrix ground. Reliefs of white and gold straps are on the lower parts, with gilt laurel-wreaths around the lips. The pair are 12½ in. high, and mounted on square ormulo plinths, and will make a happy and effective decoration for some splendid interior. The other items sold included a pair of Vincennes cups and saucers made £189 (Hodgkins); a cabaret, painted by Tandart in 1776, £120 15s. (Wills); and another cabaret by Noel, 1775, £110 5s. Several pieces of Chinese porcelain were sold. A pair of famille verte vases, Kangtte, fetched £420 (Thompson); a Kangtte cylindrical vase £273 (Huggins); a Kien Lung cistern, £388 10s. (Levine Davis); and a famille verte oviform vase and cover, £304 10s. (Larkin). The following were mounted with old French ormolu:—A pair of ewers realised £273; a pair of Kangtte pear-shaped bottles, £157 10s. (Durlacher); and a Ming vase and cover, £105. A Dresden dinner service made £651, and a dessert service en suite, £136 10s. (Harding). The total was £9,543 19s. 6d.

Fires.—A fire occurred on June 24 at the premises of W. C. Webb & Co., Ltd., glass manufacturers, Frederick-rd., Salford. The brigade was successful in getting control of the flames before they had reached large proportions, and the main building was left untouched.——The china manufactory in King-st., Fenton, lately owned by Mr. J. Edwards, but now being worked by Dennis & Co., Ltd., of Longton, was the scene of an outbreak of fire

on the afternoon of Sunday, May 31. Apparently the heat from an oven had ignited the woodwork of the floor of the warehouse, which is built around the oven. The Fenton fire brigade was early on the scene, and after a spell of hard work succeeded in confining the damage to a small area. Had the fire extended to the rear of an adjoining workshop considerable loss must have been entailed, as a large quantity of valuable ware was stored in it.——The "Novoe Vremya" reports a serious fire at the porcelain factory of Korniloff Brothers, in St. Petersburg, when considerable damage was done to the works by fire and water.——An advice from Riga states that three furnaces have been destroyed by a fire at the Essen porcclain factory at Muhlgraben. The total loss is estimated at £20,000.

Lead Poisoning in 1907.—From the annual statistics published relating to diseases of occupations it appears that during the year 1907 the number of cases of lead poisoning was 578, being 54 less than in 1906, and 25 less than the mean number of cases for the five years 1903-1907. The percentage of deaths to cases was 4·5 in 1907, as compared with 5·2 in 1906. In addition to the cases of lead poisoning contracted in factories and workshops, 174 cases of lead poisoning affecting house painters and plumbers were reported in 1907; the number of deaths from lead posioning reported among painters and plumbers was 39, a slight increase on the number in 1906. Of the 578 cases of lead poisoning 103 occurred in the china and earthenware industry, 71 at white lead works, and 70 in coachmaking works. Of the total number, 75 (including 51 in the china and earthenware industry) occurred among females, and 483 among males; the mortality of the former being 3·2 per cent., and of the latter 4·8 per cent. Taking the period 1903-1907, the death rate in cases in which lead poisoning was entered as directly or indirectly the cause was highest in the printing trades, where it was 12·4 per cent., followed by file-cutting, 7·4 per cent. In china and earthenware works the percentage was 4·6; and in white lead works, it was 2·4; for all other industries together the percentage was 4·2. The following shows the number of reported cases and the number of deaths from lead poisoning connected with the china and earthenware trades for each of the last five years:—

	Years.				
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Reported cases,	97	106	84	107	103
Number of deaths,	3	4	3	4	9

Contracts Open.—Bottles.—Tenders will be received at the Central Administration, Department of Public Health, Cairo, up to 1 p.m. on July 15, for the supply of 75,000 bottles for serum, in accordance with conditions that may be seen on application to the Director of Stores at Cairo. Tenders should be made upon stamped paper of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W.), and should be addressed to the director-general, Department of Public Health, Cairo, in envelopes marked "Tender for Bottles" in the top left-hand corner. Tenders must be guaranteed by a deposit of 10 per cent. A copy of the conditions and a sample bottle may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall-st., E.C. Porcelain Insulators.—Tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney, until 4.30 p.m. on Aug. 5, 1908, for the supply and delivery at the Departmental stores, Sydney, of 15,000 best white large porcelain insulators. Tender forms and specifications, will be obtainable when received, at the Commonwealth offices, in London, 72, Victoria-st., S.W., where also preliminary deposits may be paid. The shortest time in which delivery would be completed must be stated. Tenders must be addressed to the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney. They may be deposited in the tender-box at the General Post Office, Sydney; if sent by post they must be prepaid and registered. A deposit, or receipt for deposit, of 5 per cent. on the amount of the tender must be enclosed therewith. If, however, the deposit exceeds the sum of £20, payment need not be made in cash, but a banker's certificate should be forwarded by the tenderer to the Deputy Postmaster-General, to the effect that the amount of the deposit is held at the call of the Deputy Postmaster-General.

Estimating Carbon Dioxide in Furnace Gases.—At a meeting of the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry held on June 1, Dr. C. A. Keane and Dr. H. Burrows described their experiments with the "Autolysator," an apparatus for the automatic estimation of carbon dioxide in furnace gases, devised by Strache, Johoda, and Cenzkin, which differs from other forms of automatic analysers in giving a continuous, instead of an intermittent, record of the carbon dioxide content of the furnace and other gas examined. The gases are drawn continuously by water-pump suction through reservoirs containing soda lime, and the diminution in pressure caused by the absorption of the carbon dioxide was recorded by specially constructed differential manometers containing coloured vaseline oil. The results show that the record of the instruments agree within 0·3 per cent. with those obtained by the ordinary analytical methods. Moreover, the instruments respond very efficiently to the changes in the percentage of proportion of carbon dioxide. Experiments were also conducted on the furnace gases from boilers and the conditions of working examined, more especially in regard to the methods of withdrawing the sample and to the life of the absorbent employed. The chairman (Dr. J. Lewkowitsch), Lieut.-Colonel Sir F. Nathan, and others discussed the paper, and Dr. Burrows replied. The chairman referred to the general use of automatic records in America, and to the pyrometers used by Mr. Burton at the works of Pilkington's Tile and Pottery Co., Ltd., of Clifton, near Manchester. Some exception was taken by members to the cost of the apparatus (£25), and to the expense of renewing the soda lime. It was suggested that a potassium solution might serve as a cheaper substitute for the latter. The special applicability of the apparatus to furnaces using mond or produeer gas was touched upon, and an adaptation showing the results on a dial was recommended.

The China and Glass Bill of the National Liberal Club. amounted to £328 4s. 3d. in 1907, as compared with £382 3s. 1d. in 1906.

Cut Glass Weddings.—A correspondent of an American contemporary complains that "we hear of wooden weddings, tin weddings, silver weddings, and about thirty-nine other varieties, but who ever heard of a 'cut glass wedding?'" He suggests that this custom should be instituted of celebrating a cut-glass wedding on completion of ten or a dozen years of married life. It would certainly assist a rather depressed industry.

Cut Glass in Canada.—"Dealers say that this city never contained more glass than it does just now," says a Montreal journal. "Much of it is cut from moulds cast on this continent, and connoisseurs claim that though the secret of giving weight has evidently been discovered, the cutting is not as flawless nor the after effect as good, as when the glass is imported from the older makers. Unless greater care is taken with the cutting wheels also, there will certainly develop an imported cut glass craze, which will not help this valuable industry on this side. A pretty pattern does not always conceal the imperfections of varying depths, or of under-chipped furrowing which sometimes imperil the lasting quality of a costly article."

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR MAY, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended May 31.		Five Months ended May 31.		Month ended May 31.		Five Months ended May 31.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany	cwts.	12,671	5,342	34,007	33,731	£8,764	£4,638	£32,557	£26,291
„ France	„	4,812	3,216	22,136	18,235	4,074	5,653	26,300	31,878
„ United States of America	„	48,796	32,240	214,689	178,130	58,388	39,745	254,663	230,452
„ Brazil	„	14,073	15,883	79,642	88,919	13,451	9,647	62,041	52,963
„ Argentine Republic	„	24,178	20,470	160,642	131,195	13,439	12,596	80,903	86,611
„ British South Africa	„	12,737	5,717	63,060	36,146	8,077	5,508	39,371	32,461
„ British East Indies	„	30,076	26,716	153,585	164,467	14,304	14,031	71,222	81,206
„ Australia	„	12,837	10,062	78,749	82,472	15,271	12,067	89,790	91,943
„ New Zealand	„	4,780	6,191	32,637	41,674	7,465	7,898	44,760	44,439
„ Canada	„	36,709	59,388	123,774	165,549	27,851	30,921	115,264	120,308
„ Other Countries	„	113,068	91,049	396,461	362,652	56,532	52,475	240,898	244,581
Made up as follows:									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	„	1,355	1,180	7,644	7,667	13,782	8,033	69,840	55,80
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„		6,563		35,422		4,479		32,608
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„	131,020	9,410	625,167	41,455	164,744	6,313	778,795	30,467
Sanitary Ware	„		15,765		73,575		24,002		110,826
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		97,750		527,479		121,215		660,554
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	11	387	92	4,002	32	935	181	5,860
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	166,107	138,999	662,865	579,880	29,341	22,998	129,365	101,568
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	„	16,244	6,220	63,614	33,690	19,717	7,204	79,588	45,450
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	6,080	4,780	26,527	23,130
„ Other Countries	„	—	—	—	—	129,673	115,844	531,443	526,579
Made up as follows:									
Plate Glass	cwts.	14,281	13,462	61,746	61,921	24,686	22,356	100,902	100,130
Flint Glass	„	5,926	4,624	29,098	23,269	17,707	14,120	84,906	72,018
Glass Bottles	gross	80,001	73,200	350,264	334,359	50,721	49,902	222,763	224,176
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	55,494	41,556	186,139	187,613	42,639	34,246	149,399	153,383

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR MAY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	4,231	6,308	19,704	24,910	21,815	29,731	99,473	113,578
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„		96		2,189		63		614
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„	32,107	1,516	138,428	14636	61,573	909	266,920	8,415
Sanitary Ware	„		233		301		457		600
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		25,158		118,631		52,306		245,299
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	39	31	65	83	141	98	200	324
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	8,045	7,893	25,165	43,432	1,731	2,500	5,242	16,106
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware)	„	2,628	1,228	10,264	9,784	3,008	2,251	13,316	14,887
Window and German Sheet Glass	„	104,859	86,773	548,382	504,521	58,566	51,660	306,222	282,110
Plate Glass	„	38,674	25,851	193,944	134,340	46,482	32,340	239,914	167,633
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	„	72,322	51,811	323,264	280,259	102,405	78,462	470,632	415,785
Glass Bottles	gross	133,714	126,172	649,098	669,975	54,703	51,420	267,682	276,921
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	1,691	1,355	5,879	3,788	2,380	1,618	7,587	4,939

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR MAY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	1,218	1,904	7,526	7,117	5,702	9,247	33,970	35,383
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	„		—		32		—		55
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	„	730	10	5,209	17	1,348	9	9,536	21
Sanitary Ware	„		—		5		—		4
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	„		315		2,638		775		6,482
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	„	—	—	15	—	—	—	42	—
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	„	—	18	97	1,346	—	55	21	1,034
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	„	16	43	36	46	38	97	69	111
Window and German Sheet Glass	„	385	760	2,686	3,665	170	568	1,333	2,000
Plate Glass	„	395	144	3,225	685	484	193	3,491	773
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	„	461	346	2,685	1,982	1,660	1,248	6,498	6,324
Glass Bottles	gross	5,189	4,267	18,483	20,846	3,258	2,157	10,721	11,321
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	475	466	3,423	1,995	1,354	972	7,528	5,068

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, April 26 to May 27, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to May 27, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	575	485	2,501	2,459
„ New York	529	683	2,579	2,982
„ Baltimore	1,577	2,208	8,178	8,455
„ Philadelphia	627	259	2,108	1,070
„ New Orleans	411	727	2,430	3,509
„ Newport News	114	161	370	497
„ San Francisco	—	2	39	148
„ Portland, Me.	360	631	3,527	3,637
„ Galveston	58	174	358	666
„ Portland, Or.	—	—	—	—
„ Inland Points	137	1	247	140
Total	4,338	5,331	22,337	23,563

Legal.

Glass Manufacturers' Action.—In the King's Bench Divison ecently, Mr. Justice Grantham gave judgment in an action brought y Burdin & Co., glass manufacturers, of Knottingley, against ıe Fruit Juice Co., Ltd., of London. The case arose out of the ıpply of carboys for the holding of fruit juice by the plaintiffs to ıe defendants. The latter alleged that the carboys could not be roperly sealed owing to the roughness of the inside of the necks, nd stopped payment of a cheque for £330 5s. 6d., which they had nt to the plaintiffs. His Lordship, in giving judgment for the laintiffs, said the defendants, knowing that the ordinary carboys ould not do for the purposes for which they required them, failed notify the plaintiffs, who supplied carboys, which, if the sae ere a sale by sample, were up to sample. His Lordship also und for the plaintiffs on a counter claim. A stay of execution as granted.

Machine Bottle Co.'s Liquidation. — The petition of R. C. orton & Co., for the compulsory winding-up of the British Machine ottle Co., Ltd., came before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the ompanies Winding-Up Court on June 23. Mr. Younger, K.C., id the petition was by creditors who sought a compulsory winding-, notwithstanding that there was a voluntary liquidation. In ccordance with his Lordship's directions a meeting of creditors ıd been held and the question was put to them whether they esired that the present liquidator should be continued and whether ey desired a compulsory order. A majority of the creditors were gainst a compulsory order and in favour of an additional liquidator act with the present liquidator. After hearing Mr. Gore-Browne, .C., for the company, His Lordship said he thought it was better at Mr. Wickham, the present liquidator, should resign, and that r. Shaw, the gentleman appointed by the majority of the creditors, ould be sole liquidator in the voluntary winding up. His Lordship so made a supervision order.

Commercial Traveller's Claim.—In the City of London Court, June 18, before his Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a claim as made by Mr. Fredk. Wright, traveller, Feltham-rd., Ashford, ainst Colin Campbell & Co., Muscovy House, Trinity-sq., glass erchants, to recover the sum of £48 as damages for wrongful smissal. Mr. Cannot appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Chas. imson for the defendants. Plaintiff said he was employed by e defendants some years ago as a traveller. At first he had £2 10s. week and commission, and that was raised to £3 10s. a week, th a stipulation for three months' notice on either side when aving. In 1906 he wanted to leave on account of his health, d defendants insisted on him giving three months' notice. They anaged to get someone else after several weeks, and he did not ve to work out the whole of the notice. After being away for ne months, he came back and took on his old position with the fendants at £3 per week. Then they dismissed him after a few nths without any notice, or at any rate without the three months' tice to which he was entitled. He therefore brought this action. . Colin Campbell, senior partner in the defendant firm, said they l not insist on plaintiff working out his three months' notice. hen he was re-engaged a second time he was told it would be on al, as they doubted whether the plaintiff could pick up the trade ain after being away for about a year. They found he could t do so, and they put an end to the engagement. If plaintiff d been taken into their permanent service they would have had agreement with him prohibiting him from entering employment in the same trade, as they had been very badly treated by several travellers in that respect getting hold of their customers and then starting for themselves. Plaintiff was not entitled to any notice at all. Travellers generally went on a week's notice when any was given. Mr. Campbell, jnr., said that when the plaintiff came back to them a second time he worked for them for nine weeks. During that time he only brought them orders for £200, and one of the largest of those, for £129, only carried a profit of 4 or 5 per cent. on the whole thing. That was cutting things so very finely that they could not continue to keep him. They only kept him on as long as they did because he said large orders were coming in day after day which never came. At last, in March, they said they would give him up to April 11, and if the business did not improve they would have to send him away. Matters became worse, and plaintiff left them. Then plaintiff came back and said a friend had told him he was entitled to three months' notice, to which witness replied "Rubbish!" Judge Lumley Smith, said, speaking quite generally, he noticed the practice was growing amongst large employers by which they generally arranged that travellers could leave without notice on either side. That idea was creeping up more and more. In the present case, where salary was claimed in lieu of notice, it was necessary to see exactly what the circumstances of the case were. If the plaintiff had been in the permanent employment of the defendants on the second occasion, he would probably have been entitled to certain ordinary notice. He was quite satisfied that the plaintiff was only on trial, and that if he had been in defendants' permanent employment there would have been an agreement putting some restrictions on his dealings with other firms when he left the defendants. No question, therefore, would arise as to notice, although in fact the plaintiff had had a fortnight's notice. Judgment must be given for the defendants, with costs.

The Pottery Industry of Belgium.—The manufacturies of faïence-ware in Belgium number 11 and are spread in the province of Hainaut, in Antwerp, Hasselt and Liege. The number of persons employed in this industry exceeds 2,500, and the motive power utilised is 700 h.p. Exports reach about half the total value, which amounted already to 5 million francs, some years ago. The countries we export these wares to, are :—France, the Netherlands, Turkey, England, Germany, Switzerland, Brazil, the United States, the Argentine Republic, Cuba, Porto Rico, British India, Egypt. Porcelain : Some establishments manufacture also hard porcelain or genuine vitrified porcelain, characterised by its strength, its sonority and the translucidity of its clay-mass. The raw material kaolin comes from abroad. Besides the wares for domestic use, plain or decorated with various ornaments, this industry produces also certain special articles : jars and mortars for chemists' shops and laboratories, and electric insulators. A variety of porcelain which is not translucid, called grès fin, is also manufactured, but in smaller quantities. There are three establishments occupying 350 persons. The total production of porcelain in Belgium is valued at more than 1 million francs, one-third of which is exported, viz., to England, the Netherlands, France, Turkey, Germany and British India.

POINTS IN SAGGAR MANUFACTURE.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

(*Continued from page* 704.)

Grog.

MUCH of the power possessed by saggars of resisting sudden changes in temperature is nominally due to the proportion of burnt clay or grog used in their preparation. Grog, being non-plastic, also greatly reduces the amount of contraction or shrinkage of the saggar during drying, and leaves it more permeable and therefore able to dry more rapidly and with less tendency to dunting or cracking.

Grog may be made of any kind of burnt clay, provided that it is not too dissimilar from the general characteristics required in saggars, but in practice it is usual to grind up the best parts of broken saggars for this purpose, as by this means the composition of the fired saggar is not altered by the addition of the grog. When glossed saggars are used for this purpose, care should be taken that they are fairly free from glaze for this latter, though valuable in small quantities for increasing the strength of the saggar after firing also tends to reduce its ability to withstand high temperatures, and so detracts from its value. In cases where saggars scale or "fly," the addition of rather more gloss saggar and rather less of the ordinary saggar to the clay mixture will often remedy the defect without seriously impairing the strength of the new saggars.

In grinding saggars for the production of grog, it is important to have the particles as sharp and angular as possible, and the extremely fine meal with rounded particles is best separated by sifting and not used. The angular particles bind together with the clay in a much more satisfactory manner, and produce stronger and more durable saggars.

The sizes of the grog particles used is a matter of great importance. The smallest particles should not be less than one-twentieth of an inch in diameter; the largest may be as large as big peas ($\frac{1}{4}$ in.), and all intermediate sizes may be employed.

In some firms it is customary to take all the grog that passes through a sieve of (say) 10 holes per inch, but this is not really satisfactory, and a more careful grading of the grog will usually result in more durable saggars. The result of an enormous number of trials by the writer has convinced him that the use of a single sieve is not sufficient, and that after passing through a sieve to sort out the particles which are too coarse, the grog should all pass over a much finer sieve in order that the fine dust may be removed, as this is of little value and considerable detriment to the saggars.

No definite sizes can be stated to be "best" for saggar production, as so much depends on the plasticity of the clay used and the nature of the goods to be fired in the saggars. As a general rule, it is better to have the grog too coarse rather than too fine, but if only large pieces of grog are employed there is a tendency to lose strength owing to the reduced binding power. In most cases the grog particles should remain on a sieve with 25 holes per running inch, and pass through one having 5 holes per inch. These figures are, however, not exact enough for practical working, and some potters find that they must separate their grog into several portions and use definite quantities of each so as to produce a mass of the requisite strength and stability.

One well-known firm divides its grog as follows:—(A) Grog remaining on a 5-hole screen. (B) Grog passing a 5-hole but remaining on a 10-hole screen. (C) Grog passing a 10-hole but remaining on a 20-hole screen. (D) Grog passing a 20-hole screen.

This firm only uses the B and C portions, returns the A portion to the mill to be re-ground, and accumulates the D portion for other purposes. Since separating in this way, the life of the saggars has been nearly doubled owing to the greater exactness with which the proportion of materials of different sizes can be regulated.

In France a somewhat finer grog is used than in this country, and separation is made into three sizes:—(a) Passing a 5-hole sieve. (b) Passing a 10-hole sieve. (c) Passing a 35-hole sieve. This last size (though popular), is too fine for other than very small saggars.

The main disadvantage of using too large particles of grog is the brittleness produced in the saggars, rendering them easily broken and very fragile under sudden changes of temperature. The size of the grog has little or no effect on the contraction of the mixture as a whole, but large grog produces saggars which are less strong mechanically, than those in which smaller particles are used.

Recipes.

The relative proportions of the different clays which should be used, and also the amount of grog to be mixed with them depends chiefly on local conditions, which are too varied to merit general treatment in the present instance. It not infrequently happens that a recipe which works quite satisfactorily in one part of the country is found to be defective in another. Thus, the potters in Derbyshire and Leicestershire cannot for some unexplained reason, work with saggars most commonly used for precisely similar classes of ware in Staffordshire.

Personal idiosyncrasies of the workmen have probably a great influence in matters of this kind, but apart from this the conditions of working are sufficiently different to render a different saggar mixture being employed.

The following recipes have proved satisfactory for many years past, but are given here chiefly with a view to comparisons being made between them, and not with any idea that they will suit any special firm. It will be noted that in each case one or more clays is mixed with a considerable proportion of grog or of other non-plastic material such as sand or rock, the latter having little or no advantage over the former, and, in most works, being an unnecessary source of expense.

Grey marl	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black marl.....	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peacock fireclay	—	40	13	11	—	30	—	50
Littlerow marl	—	20	20	17	—	—	—	—
Cane marl	—	10	25	23	—	—	—	—
Ball clay.....	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	—
Fireclay, Stourbridge.	—	—	—	—	72	—	50	—
Grog	25	30	42	49	24	30	50	50
Sand	—	—	—	—	4	10	—	—

The composition of the above clays and grogs is by no means constant, nor is it the same in different works, though the following figures are approximately correct and typical:—

	Silica.	Alumina.	Iron Oxide.	Lime and Magnesia.	Alkalies.	Water, etc.
Marl	65	22	3	1	2	7
Peacock fireclay	63	26	2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	8
Stourbridge fire-clay	70	20	3	1	—	6
Ball clay	46	38	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	—	14

The following are popular German mixtures, and show clearly the stress laid by potters on the Continent on the importance of using grog of different sizes:—

Fireclay	40	40	12	33	34	27	30	35	30
Kaolin (china clay)—	30	44	17	33	23	20	15	15	
Coarse grog	30	20	34	35	20	35	30	35	40
Fine grog	30	10	10	15	13	15	20	15	15

Brongniart gives the following typical French saggar compositions, and with but slight variations they are

still used in most of the French potteries at the present time. These figures also serve to emphasise the necessity for grading the grog :—

Plastic clay	40	40	40
Grog passing 35 mesh sieve	40	—	—
Grog passing 10 mesh sieve	10	40	5
Grog passing 5 mesh sieve	10	20	15
Quartz sand	—	—	30

It is important to notice that in some cases it is customary to use a clay mixture richer in grog for the bottoms of the saggars, and as this confers several advantages, it should be done wherever large saggars are made.

In using old saggars as grog a possible source of weakness may arise owing to the property possessed by fire-clay, of crystallising after repeated heatings and coolings, and producing a material which has a strong tendency to split in certain well-defined directions.

This weakening is the more pronounced the larger the proportion of old saggars in the clay paste used for making new ones, and whilst there are no records to prove exactly what amount of damage can result from this cause the majority of potters are aware that care must be taken not to include too many glost saggars in the material they grind up for grog. The reason is the same in both cases, the tendency of the fluxes (glaze, &c.), being to produce crystalline matter which is at once a source of strength and weakness, strength in that it binds the materials together with a kind of glassy cement so long as it remains vitrified, but of weakness so soon as it begins to form crystals which not only have no binding power of their own but actually determine to some extent the directions in which fracture of the saggars shall take place.

The proportion of non-plastic material in a saggar should be as large as possible consistent with the necessary strength, as this keeps the material "open," allowing it to stand sudden variations in temperature more readily and minimising the contraction.

The exact proportion depends on the nature of the clays used, some clays only permitting one-fifth of their weight of grog to be added, whilst others can be mixed with nearly an equal weight of non-plastic material, and a few clays are sufficiently plastic to enable twice as much grog as clay to be used. Lean clays can only stand the addition of relatively small amounts of grog.

An excessive proportion of grog so weakens the mixture that the saggars will not last sufficiently long to be serviceable, and in practice a compromise must be effected between the loss due to the strains of temperature changes, which may be remedied by altering the proportion and size of the grog, and those due to wear and tear which can only be remedied by reducing the proportion of grog and at the same time making the saggar more sensitive to heat changes.

Shape and Sizes of Saggars.

Before describing the actual production of the saggars it is necessary to note the general form and size of these articles. Owing to their having to carry considerable weights they must be relatively thick at the bottom,and not much thinner at the sides, for the great fear in the mind of a potter making a change in the design of his saggars is lest they should crack and let down part of a bung of goods.

The usual shape is an irregular oval box without a lid, the bottom being half as thick as the sides which are usually ½in. to 1 in. thick. Thin walled saggars are better than thicker ones, as they use less clay and require less heating, but they are not so strong and are consequently more liable to break. Each potter must decide for himself the thinnest walls usable in his own saggars, and whilst some advantage is to be gained by having the lower saggars in the bung of a little thicker wall, the advantage is but slight. They are usually 8 in. high but special saggars may be of any shape and size, though their size is always expressed in terms of the normal 8 in. saggar.

Mixing the Paste.

The clay and grog are usually measured out by "barrowfuls," but it is far better to use boxes which can be filled, and any excess of material removed by drawing a strip of wood across the top, so as to ensure all the boxes being filled to exactly the same extent and to avoid the variations caused by "piling up" the material on the barrows.

It is usual to place a definite number of barrowfuls of grog on a clean floor, then about an equal number of barrowfuls of clay, and to repeat with grog and clay alternately until a heap about 18 in. high is obtained, care being taken to use the right proportions of grog and clay.

The heap is then sprinkled with water, mixed as well as possible by turning over with a spade, and is then passed twice or thrice through a pug-mill in order to render it perfectly homogeneous. Some potters are content to pass it only once through the pug but this is unwise, as the mixture is then apt to be uneven in composition. On the other hand, too much working in the pug-mill should be avoided, as it tends to make the material more plastic than is desirable.

It is important to keep the mixture as dry as possible consistent with later processes of manufacture, as the more water it contains the more will it shrink in drying and firing and the greater will be the risk of warped and twisted saggars. On this account it is usual to find that the preliminary mixing of the clay and grog by hand produces better saggars than when the raw materials are fed into a blunger with a larger supply of water and the excess of water afterwards driven off by heat before the mixture enters the pugmill. This difficulty may, to some extent, be overcome by compressing the paste by heating it with wooden mallets, and allowing it to stand some time before use, but it is always better to work with as little water as possible in order to avoid having to "doctor" the material afterwards. In Germany it is usual to let the paste stand some time before pugging and then to pug more thoroughly than is customary in this country.

(*To be continued.*)

A Glass-Blowing Story.—A provincial paper relates how the Emperor Nicholas wished to illuminate the Alexander column in a grand style. The size of the round lamps to be used for the purpose were indicated and the glasses ordered at the manufactory, where the workmen exerted themselves in vain, and almost blew the breath out of their bodies in the endeavour to obtain the desired size. The commission must be executed—that was self-evident—but how ? A great premium was offered to the one who could solve the problem. Again the human bellows toiled and puffed. Their object seemed unattainable, when at last a long-bearded Russian stepped forward and declared that he could do it ; he had strong lungs ; he would only rinse his mouth first with a little water to refresh them. He applied his mouth to the pipe, and puffed to such purpose that the vitreous ball swelled and puffed nearly to the required dimensions—up to them—beyond them. "Hold ! hold !" cried the lookers-on. "You are doing too much. And how did you do it all ?" "The matter is simple enough," answered the long-beard ; "but, first, where is my premium ?" And when he clutched the promised bounty he explained. He had retained some of the water in his mouth, which had passed thence into the glowing ball, and then, becoming steam, had rendered him this good service.

THE SOUTH DEVON CHINA CLAY TRADE.—VII.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

VERY particular were the old workers in the choice of situation for their heaps. They were strongly opposed to heaping near hedges, or under trees, experience having taught them that clay heaped under these conditions, when dug, would be found to contain a large proportion of yellow leaf. So, even in spite of an additional penny on the cartage, an exposed position was chosen sometimes, even at a considerable distance from the shaft. Before being put "out to heap" either by cart or by barrow, the mining clay was carefully scraped and pared. The instrument for scraping was a piece of iron, shaped at one end something like a hoe. This tool must not be confounded with the spade, a formidable iron weapon (similar in shape to a child's flat sea-side sand spade) which is used for cutting white clays, nor with the "tubal," or digger, used for all clays. Reference to a Dorset "tubal," or juball, will be found in the POTTERY GAZETTE of Aug. 1, 1907, wherein a writer explains that the word is a corruption of "true ball." In South Devon the old-time clay worker was very particular about his tubal stick. It should be of ash, and cut from a maiden tree, i.e., self sown, never lopped, never transplanted, in fact, one that man had never had anything to do with. Such a tree produced a stick which would not gall the hands, nor stain the wrist in cutting clay. Knives and progs were also used for paring, and any impurities discovered were cut out with a small hatchet. The hatchets were used also for dividing the larger lumps, for very often, although the outside appearance was favourable, small pieces of coal might be found inside. If these were very numerous the clay was condemned, and thrown away as "figgy."



I.—A "BIG PIT," KINGSTEIGNTON. (WHITEWAY & CO., LTD.)

The task of paring was usually allotted to an old hand, who had been through the whole routine of the clay trade, and passed its various degrees, commencing as a little 12-year old chap driving a clay cart, who at 15 or 16 was put taking off heading. Promoted to the white pits, and graduating to the black pits, he became a full blown miner, when, passing his prime, he was drafted back to the white pits, and from the white pits to the heading till he finished his earthly career paring clay. Trusty servants these, and when, full of years and rheumatics, they passed away, the management provided coffins. Sometimes paring was given to men who had been on the sick list, and who were put on this light job for a few weeks before settling into their regular work, a consideration highly appreciated. Invalids and old men do not at present find favour in clay, nor indeed in any industrial concerns, and it is argued, with some amount of reason, that either a man is fit for a day's work or none at all, and that works are works, not convalescent homes. It may also be taken for granted that a man is considered "too old at ninety," even in the clay trade, and a young hand does the paring. As far as appearances go, it must be acknowledged the old man would make but a poor show beside the smart young parer of to-day. The old man had his faults; he drank hard, and smoked hard, and it is to be feared that neither the spirit or weed came via H.M. customs, but up the river in a clay barge. He drank a lot of beer and cyder, and would skulk away, with a big jar in a sack, to the nearest public house many times a day. He swore abominably too, was ignorant, could neither read nor write, but he could pare clay. The young men never learn, and do not intend to, for when they are old enough they drop the clay work, and go off with one of the smart recruiting sergeants, who find the pits such a happy hunting ground.

A lining of clean clay in the bottom of a cart ensures it turning out well, and a mantle of clean clay on top covers a multitude of sins, and is strongly in favour of the rapid, slashing movement of the new worker, compared with the plodding, tremulous, day-work stroke of the old man. The former is a good fellow, but never intended for so tedious an occupation, and when the Timey isn't about, he puts in as many ten minutes as he can helping the nearest piece work gang; so on Friday night, in addition to the paring money he receives from the firm, the gang on their own account pay him a trifle for the help he has so ungrudgingly given. Some potters consider clays are not so good as in the good old days; it is needless to say that the clays are exactly the same, and if not quite so clean, the fault probably lies with the "new parer." Once a year the heaps were dug around to keep down those ill weeds which in a clay heap grow apace, and which, unless kept under, would soon fill the clay with "mores" or roots. Some heaps were carefully inspected and picked over after heavy rains. Not only by particular men, and at stated times, was this picking done, but any one, at any time, that saw a lump of lignite in the heap threw it away as a matter of course; even the merchant himself was not above doing this. On Sundays, when the clay man went for a stroll (he was not a regular church attendant), his rambles usually took him around the heaps. He might have been studying nature, but the odds are he was just picking out lignite. Even the school boys would pick out any coal that came within their reach, when they



II.—CLAY BARGES ON THE STOVER CANAL.

prowled around the pits birds-nesting. Two birds were safe from these marauders, thanks to superstition—the robin that built her nest behind the studdles a few feet down a shaft, and the swallow.

The coming of the swallow was the time to leave the winter workings, and shift to those pits which could only be cut in dry weather; so the little alien was a welcome visitor, and no one begrudged her the bit of clay which she took from the weathered heap, to build her house inside the clay cellars, which slip she toned down with darker mud from the road, that the little nest might not form too tempting a target for embryo marksmen. When the time comes for the old and young birds to gather in their thousands on the clay sheds before taking their departure into a far country (the clay cutter does not now believe that swallows sink into torpidity at the bottom of ponds and clay pits) all are genuinely sorry; for it shows that the summer is past, and the cranes must be shifted to the winter quarters.

Heaping is an important feature in "mixing." On the edge of an old burnt tally, written in what is now practically an obsolete form of stenography, was this inscription, "Will bear mixing." It was many years



III.—Clay Works at Decoy. (Devon & Courtenay Clay Co., Ltd.)

ago that mixing was first introduced. A new seam of clay had been discovered of exceptionally fine quality, which, when fired, gave splendid results, consequently fetching the highest price. Careful analysis established the fact that this new clay was nothing but a bastard body, a natural mixture of two clays, and by adding a few barrows of a cheap, though scarce clay, for which there was no sale, to a brand of choice, putting it out to the heap in due order, to weather, and running it into one mass, a body was formed almost equal to the new clay, which, until the scarce clay ran out entirely, sold at a high price. The proportioning, and blending, were so accurate, that the mixture appeared to have been the work of Nature, and not the man's on the bed place. So a tea company might improve their 2s. tea by adding a liberal allowance of that at 1s. 6d., and find a ready sale of their delicious blend at 3s. 6d. per pound. In many pits, the strata are so diversified, and the different clay seams so irregular in thickness, and so interlocked and amalgamated the one with the other, that most clays may be said to be already mixed. Some merchants sell as from the pit, others rather pride themselves upon their skill as blenders and mixers, and make two qualities of the clay, best and seconds, heaping separately, the advantage being that either sort can then be sold by itself if required, and also a smaller royalty is paid on "seconds." If the clay, as it was before it was sorted, is ordered, the two kinds at the heaps would be sent away, that is, if there was none coming from the pits. This passes the comprehension of the clayman, who cannot understand why, after the taking of so much trouble to sort these two clays, both coming out of the same hole, they should be afterwards tumbled into one truck, or hold, and more hopelessly mixed than they were before. Sometimes another clay is added, usually a particularly good clay. Some of these good clays may be purchased separately, at a higher price, whilst others could not be purchased, otherwise than in the mixture. White and yellow clays are also mixed; fat, sandy, and stiff likewise, to suit the customer, who orders more of one or other as the case may be, to suit the purpose for which he may require it. Heaping and weathering fat clay, and sandy brokes together, afterwards cutting them in ball, has been tried, but without satisfactory results. As we have seen, the clay that is not mixed is often most mixed, so the clay that is the most mixed is often not mixed at all, but just the same identical clay that happens to crop up in the half a dozen different parts from which the mixing (?) carts bring it.

It was as winners and getters of clay, that the merchants were seen at their best, and side lines never seem to have taken well. Like most holders of clay lands, they early caught the manufacturing fever, and decided to make bricks. The brick produced by these South Devon men was a soft, porous creation, a brick that would lap away at a bucket of testing water like a thirsty dog, and as different from the fine white vitreous engineering brick, manufactured in the district to-day, as light is from darkness. Private experiments were entered upon, and a household square attempted; a slimy, sticky mass it proved, fearfully and wonderfully made. Of course, it was too soft, and, unfortunately, it appeared impossible to attain the happy medium, for further efforts resulted in producing a substance, hard as mother-of-clay, and about as useful to the housewife for her step, or the soldier for his belt, as a lump of cast iron would be for whitening purposes.

Cranks of all degrees approached the merchants with their pet theories of every description—ideas on chemical works, windmills, trout basins, fisheries, and canals, canals which were to be constructed at a profit, deep water docks and ship-canals cut through pure clay, the mud and callas in the old river bed to be used for bricks. Some would pipe the clay to Teignmouth, and recut at that port; others swore by atmospheric pressure traction, and saw on every waste piece of ground, a site for a tower, and in every pit a prospective engine pond. Self-styled inventors were plentiful, who, for a consideration, would furnish plans for new methods of cutting clay, for utilising lignite and waste clays, for drying moist clays, and moistening dry clays, and for turning ball to brokes, and brokes to ball. Scientific knowledge could be purchased for anything from a thousand pounds down to a glass of beer, knowledge that could be used with great profit to those who purchased it. They could also explain why water in certain of the pits would turn a vivid green, and another crimson, and why in yet another the men's clothes would rot away off their backs, as if vitriol had been thrown over them, and why the gang working another particular clay should have the skin burnt off their fingers, seeing there is no lime in South Devon clay (Dr. Percy, in his "Metallurgy," 1861, mentions "Teignmouth clay" as containing a small amount of lime). The inventor of the household square mercifully refused to divulge the mode of manufacture of this remarkable production, and his secret died with him. It would have been well for posterity if the art of making poor brick, which seems to be well understood on most brickyards, had been kept equally secret, and that there were fewer of those sensitive bricks which herald the approach of wet weather, with damp patches on the walls, in so many homes. A favourite clay for experimenting upon, and most generally used for that purpose, was alumine clay,

both white and black. The production of manufactured alum and Prussian blue from clay, when treated with sulphuric acid, seems to have suggested the idea that other salts and every colour of the rainbow could be produced from clay. And although alumine clay was not exactly looked upon as the alchymist's stone, yet all who would learn the secret of the clays considered that it was that clay which possessed unknown and undiscovered properties. Perhaps it was something of the nature of radium, or even more wonderful, that they dreamed of. It must not be supposed that the merchants were prying into other men's trades, nor did it trouble them what was done with their clay, and what was not done with it. It must have been highly gratifying to know that their clay was used largely in the manufacture of scores of articles where its presence was least suspected, such as soaps, tooth powders, and confectionery, &c. What gave them the greatest satisfaction was the knowledge that their clay was in such universal demand and use amongst potters, that they could truly say of every home of every family in the land, that somewhere in the house would be found a small portion of Kingsteignton parish. The manufacture of clay tubes for water and sewage was a subject also mooted, as affording a large field for enterprise, and a means of using up surplus clay. The water supplied to London was originally conveyed in pipes bored out of elm trees (a 6-in. or 7-in. bore). The New River Co. at one time had as many as 400 miles of these wooden pipes in use. Unfortunately for the clay trade, when w.c.'s came into general use, and new companies sprang up, these, while discarding the old wooden pipe, refused to have anything to do with the clay tube, but elected to use the new iron pipe as most suitable. It was however conclusively proved, that for sewage, or drainage, nothing could compare with the stoneware tube. That the manufacture of these goods was not commenced in the district forthwith was perhaps due to the fact that prices obtained were not tempting enough to warrant it. From a list printed rather over fifty years ago, we find that a good stoneware pipe could be obtained in London as follows :—Straight tubes with socket joints in 3-ft. lengths, 2-in. and 3-in. at 4d. and 5d. per foot ; in 2-ft. lengths, 4-in., 6-in., 9-in., 12-in., 15-in., at equally low prices, and 18-in. at 4s. per foot ; a 9-in. common clay tube was about this time sold in Glasgow at 1s. per yard. And, also in Glasgow, a 6-in. fire clay tube at 1s. 6d. per yard. When the manufacture of sanitary tubes did commence in South Devon, a splendid clay was used, and a splendid pipe resulted. The common clay had always been used for filling in pits, and it was quite a superior clay that was used for tubes, really picked from the market clay. But when the clay trade developed, it was found that much of the clay used for pipes could with advantage be picked out and put aside to sell as broken clay. The difference in the returns by substituting some other clay for the good broken clay, and selling this broken clay at 5s., 6s., or 8s. per ton, attracted attention to the black clays, and the strictest supervision exercised and care taken that none at all likely to pass for potter's clay should be allowed to slip in with the seconds used locally. This skinning of the pipe heaps for market clay was very different from taking from the best heaps for pipe clay, for the former, while far from enriching the market heap, left the pipe heap poor indeed.

A Mixed Business—The variety of trades carried on in one shop or store in the up-country parts of Canada is illustrated by a good display of seeds being recently made in a window, the upper part of which bore a conspicuous glass and china advertisement.

POTTERS' ACCESSORIES.

Hartley & Co., Stoke-on-Trent, engineers, ironfounders, &c., manufacturers of pottery specialities, Alsing cylinders, blungers, &c., are the sole makers of Wainford's Patent Hygienic Scourer. It is claimed for this machine that :—(1) It scours biscuit fired ceramic ware so perfectly that no hand brushing or sand papering can equal, and without the smallest injury to the health of the operator. (2) The ware is finished and scoured in one operation, leaving a dead smooth surface, absolutely free from dust. (3) The edges of the ware are beautifully rounded to a dead smooth bone edge, making the work of the gilder much easier and effecting a considerable saving in gold. (4) Owing to the complete removal of all outside defects, inferior ware can be detected before printing and dipping. (5) Owing to the smoothness of the surface of the ware, less glaze is required, and after being glazed the surface produced is of satin smoothness hitherto unobtainable. (6) Small power is required ; $1\frac{1}{4}$ horse power works one machine, and one machine produces two to three thousand dozens of ware per week of average class. (7) Hollow-ware can be equally well scoured with flat ware, even the inside of teapot spouts and narrow necked vases are efficiently scoured. Crimped, embossed or perforated ware being perfectly scoured. The working of the machine was described in the POTTERY GAZETTE for Nov. 1, 1907. Since that time it has met



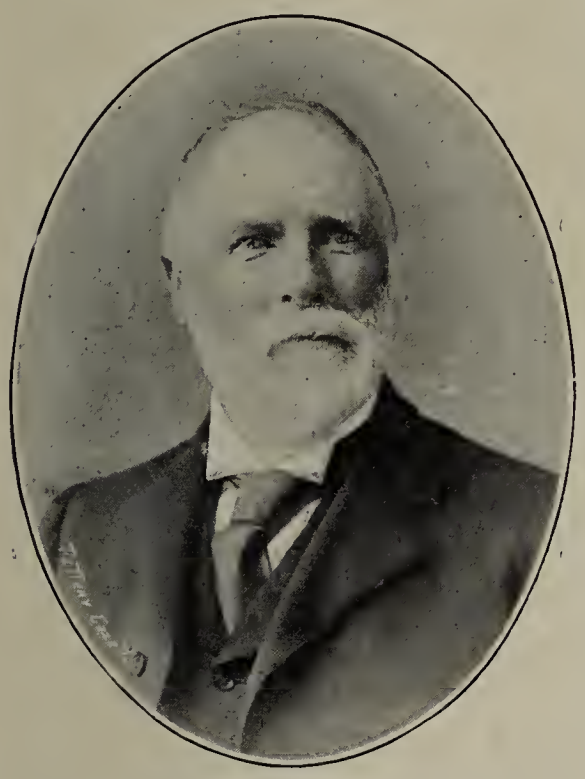
with continued success. Only three of the machines were then in use, whereas now over forty have been made for such prominent manufacturers as E. Brain & Co., Longton ; Copeland & Son, Stoke-on-Trent ; J. H. Cope & Co., Longton ; H. J. Colclough, Royal Osborne Works, and Vale Works, Longton ; Cauldon, Ltd., Hanley ; Doulton's, Ltd., Burslem ; T. Forester & Son, Longton ; Wm., Hudson, Longton ; Geo. Jones & Son, Stoke-on-Trent ; Thos. Morris, Ltd., Regent Works, Longton ; Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent ; Thos. Poole & Son, Stoke-on-Trent ; S. Radford, Fenton ; Rorstrands Aktiebolag, Stockholm ; The Coalport China Co, Coalport ; Wileman & Co., Longton ; Wildblood, Heath & Co., Longton ; Gustafsberg Fabriks Intressenter, Stockholm ; Edward Astbury & Co., Longton ; Taylor & Kent, Longton ; Cartwright & Edwards, Longton ; The Blyth Porcelain Co., Longton ; Goodwin & Stoddard, Fenton ; T. C. Wild, St. Mary's Works, Longton ; The Crown Staffordshire Porcelain Co., Fenton. The patentees are prepared to sell the foreign patent, which has been taken up in Sweden, Germany, France, Japan and America. This affords a good opportunity to engineers in those countries. Besides scouring earthenware, the machine is used for scouring and polishing all classes of hardware, including silver plate, electro plate, light and heavy castings in brass, &c.



Obituary.

EDWARD HUGHES.—Aged 79.

WITH sincere regret we record the death of Mr. Edward Hughes, senior partner in the firm of E. Hughes & Co., opal china works, Fenton. Six weeks before his death Mr. Hughes went for a holiday to Llandudno for the sake of his health. He, however, had to return home suddenly, and passed peacefully away on the morning of June 6 at his residence, Ashleyworth-terrace, Fenton. Mr. Hughes was born near Oswestry, upon the borders of Wales, on July 2, 1829, and it is probably to a boyhood spent in such surroundings that he has been indebted for such a vigorous constitution, enabling him to retain to the last quite a marvellous degree of mental and bodily alertness. He left his country home when in his "teens," and travelled the whole distance on foot to the Potteries, where, with the exception of a comparatively short time spent in South Staffordshire, he has resided ever since. The greater portion of Mr. Hughes' life was spent in mining operations, as a contractor for the sinking of pits and the winning of coals—matters in which he had a most expert practical knowledge and was very successful. However, in 1883, circumstances led him to turn his attention to the potting trade, when he joined his son-in-law, Mr. Enoch Massey, in conducting a china works in Longton. In 1889, feeling the need of a really up-to-date factory, he built the Opal China Works, Fenton, and the business has been carried on there ever since, with the help of his son-in-law, and his younger son, Mr. F. S. Hughes. Mr. Hughes was in politics a sound and moderate Liberal, and in religion a Wesleyan, having held in turn practically all the offices which the Wesleyan Church can confer upon a layman. He also gave unsparingly of his time and trouble to his town, having been a member of the Council for several years, its chairman for three years, and a vice-chairman of the Stoke-upon-Trent School Board for nine years. He was universally respected, even by his opponents, as an honourable and broad-minded man of ready sympathies, and will be greatly missed.



[*Photo. by H. J. Gover & Co., Henley.*
MR. E. HUGHES.

Mr. Hughes had lived right through the gloriously stirring times of the Victorian era, and had an almost inexhaustible fund of reminiscences relating to it. His marvellous constitution bade fair to carry him well on towards another decade or two, but the death of his wife, after a married life of 58 years, proved a sad blow, and undoubtedly hastened his death by many years. In this connection it is interesting to recall that the eldest sister of Mr. Hughes is still living in the Potteries, at the age of 91, and is keen of intellect and alert in body. The funeral took place at the local cemetery on June 10, amidst manifestations of sorrow and sympathy from the numerous friends and workpeople assembled. The deceased leaves two sons and two daughters.

ALFRED JOHN MEAKIN.—Aged 33.

WITH deep regret we announce the death of Mr. Alfred J. Meakin, director of Alfred Meakin, Ltd., earthenware and tile manufacturers, Tunstall. Some time ago, Mr. Meakin passed through a severe attack of typhoid fever, and though it was considered he fully recovered from that, there is reason to suppose that it left a permanent weakness in his constitution. On the death of his father, heavy responsibilities devolved upon the deceased, and as he entered upon them with great zeal and displayed considerable energy in dealing with them, it is feared they told heavily on his weakened frame. Last year Mr. Meakin suffered from a complicated internal disorder, and an operation was decided upon. Towards the close of the year, he went to London, and it was successfully carried out, but with very disquieting results. It revealed, what had not been known before, that the patient was suffering from an internal complaint that could not be cured. Of course he had the best available medical and nursing assistance, and was able to go out for a drive or a short walk. He had been confined to his bedroom for some days before his death, but, in spite of the pain he endured he continued cheerful. He was attended with devotion throughout all his illness by Mrs. Meakin, and had the services of a specialist. He, however, gradually became weaker until he passed away on Wednesday last, June 24, at his residence, Park-avenue, Wolstanton. There is no doubt he had overworked himself, and even a few days before his death he insisted on attending to some business matters. The writer had no personal acquaintance with Mr. Meakin, but the following short extract from an appreciation "contributed by a Friend" to the "Staffordshire Sentinel" gives an insight into his business capacity :—



[*Photo. by Sarony & Co., Scarboro'.*
MR. A. J. MEAKIN.

"He was always very plucky, and this is shown very strongly by the way he has carried on the huge business which on the death of his father naturally fell to his lot. The Highgate works has been completely changed, and has now a flourishing tile trade, the business of which has gone on increasing very rapidly. The introduction of gas-firing to kilns and ovens required a good deal of pluck and energy, but this has been successfully accomplished, in conjunction with his chemist, Mr. Jackson, who was engaged by Mr. Meakin when it seemed certain that Mr. Jackson's services would be lost to the district by his

going to America. He was always quick to discover a good man, confided very largely in those he trusted, and had the good sense to listen to advice and act upon it. It was while presiding at the annual dinner of the Golf Club that it was first perceived that he was unwell, and ever since his failing seemed to increase, but during the whole period of his illness he has been most plucky, and maintained a cheerfulness which was a surprise to all who saw him. A broken career, a baffled life, a tragedy for which there is no explanation, and he passes away in his youth, and we are left wondering—Why ? ''

Mr. Meakin leaves a wife and two young children to whom we tender our deep sympathy. The funeral took place at Wolstanton, on June 26.

WILLIAM TABINAR BODDINGTON.—Aged 52.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. William Tabinar Boddington, secretary of Alfred Meakin, Limited, Royal Albert Works, Tunstall. The deceased had suffered for two years or more, and twelve months ago he underwent an operation. He never recovered health, and after patiently bearing his illness, he died at his residence, Ash Villa, Wolstanton, on Wednesday, June 10. His father, Mr. Frederick Boddington, was at one time manager of a manufactory at Hanley, but subsequently commenced business for himself as a potter at Stoke-on-Trent. His son, the deceased, went as a youth to Messrs. J. & G. Meakin's factory, but very soon after he went to Mr. Alfred Meakin's at Tunstall, and was associated with that factory until the time of his death—his connection with it lasting upwards of thirty years. When the firm was converted into a limited liability company, Mr. Boddington was appointed secretary—a position he held to the last. His acquaintance with the commercial side of the potting trade was extensive, and of great value. He was full of enthusiasm and was popular, not only with his business associates, but with troops of acquaintances in the district. He was of a generous, kindly disposition, with a keen sense of humour. He was a good vocalist, and was always ready to sing and act in character for charitable purposes. He was fond of football as an amateur, and was widely known as a breeder and exhibitor of dogs, particularly bull-dogs and Irish terriers. He was a respected member of a local lodge of Freemasons. The greatest sympathy is felt for his family in the loss they have sustained by his early death. Mr. Boddington will long be remembered with affectionate regard by a large circle of social and business friends.

The Leipzig Crockery Trade.—The French Consul-General at Leipzig reports that, during 1907, business in decorative chinaware has only been an average. Export trade was good, but sales (especially of current lines) were poor in the home markets. Business in china plates and dishes was good, America especially buying a lot of cheap lines. Prices throughout the year were well controlled by the Chinaware Makers' Union. In crockeryware a slight stagnation set in during November ; exports to Russia and northern markets were satisfactory. High-class goods maintained their price level well, but common lines weakened considerably owing to over-production. Stoneware went well during the first half of the year, but trade then slackened, especially in dearer lines. Glasses, goblets, &c., did good business, the results being especially good in white flint lines, in which it was somewhat difficult to meet the demand. Over-production was much felt in the moulded glass branch, whilst American competition is proving successful at many points. Swedish competition, on the contrary, has made no fresh progress.

Review.

Die Gaserzeuger und Gasfeuerungen. By ERNST SCHMATOLLA. Published by Dr. Max Jaenecke, Hanover. 168 pp. and 133 illustrations.

A REALLY satisfactory book on gas firing as applied to pottery has yet to be published, but the one whose title is given above is certainly the best that has yet been brought to our notice. The fact that the first edition has been so rapidly exhausted and that a second edition is now on the market is strong evidence in favour of the value of the book. The author is well known on the Continent as a specialist in the application of gas to the pottery industry, and, as many of our readers are aware, he has already given two lectures on this subject to the English Ceramic Society. The facts stated in the book may therefore be taken as accurate, and so far as we have been able to check them, this is actually the case. The book (as its title indicates) is in German, and its style is so short and abbreviated as to be a trifle difficult to those who have not some acquaintance with the general principles of the subject, but as a concise summary of the chief methods of gas-firing it is of great value. Indeed, it is not merely a summary, but each type of producer described is also criticised in a brief but clear fashion, which shows that the author is master of his subject. The illustrations also confirm this, and are so clearly executed that a beginner in German who is interested in gas-firing can gain a considerable amount of information from merely studying the illustrations. The book is divided into eight sections, of which the first three are general. The fourth treats of different types of gas-producers, the seventh of firing, and the last—the longest section—is occupied with a very detailed description of various arrangements of furnaces and ovens for use with gas in place of coal. This section is the most valuable, and contains much that is not to be found elsewhere. It is here that the mechanical ability and ingenuity of the author is to be chiefly noticed, and for the last sixty pages alone the book is well worth its cost. Those who have had any practical experience with the application of gas to oven and furnace firing will appreciate the manner in which some of their greatest difficulties have been overcome, and will be able to continue their experiments with much better success after reading this book. Mr. Schmatolla's great principle is to work his ovens and kilns on the recuperative or regenerative principle, in which the hot gases escaping from the kiln are passed through a special arrangement by means of which they heat the incoming air for this or for another kiln. This enables them to be worked with a surprising amount of economy, and coupled with the other pronounced advantages of gas over solid fuel should facilitate its introduction into the potteries of this country in all those cases where several ovens are used on the same works. For works with a single oven only the economy is by no means so clearly established. If we may make two suggestions, we should like to add that the present book will be greatly improved if an English edition containing more detailed descriptions of English producers and gas-fired kilns was published, and if the index were increased to twice its present size. At present it is very difficult to find on which page the description of a particular apparatus occurs without looking in three or more parts of the index. The book shows signs of hurried compilation in certain parts, but this defect could be remedied in an English or later German edition.

New Spanish Glass Works.—A consular report from Malaga states that a British firm has lately started glass works, which promise good results.

THE HYGIENE OF THE POTTERY TRADE.

(*Continued from page* 570.)

VENTILATION.

I READ regularly, with very great interest and sympathy, the accounts of the inspectors of factories dealing with our industry, as they appear in the annual reports of the Chief Inspector. For some years now these reports have laid great stress on the high temperatures found in pottery workshops and the inadequacy of their ventilation. I want to commend their remarks to the workpeople as well as the employers, for my experience as a works manager has convinced me that in many cases the trouble arises quite as much from the workpeople themselves as from any other cause. Take the simple case of women decorators—their work is of a sedentary character, involving little muscular exertion, and they insist before everything that their workrooms shall be at a temperature that would be unbearable under other conditions. The question in their case is a fairly simple one, but it becomes much more complicated when we have to deal with drying-rooms or stoves, or with the "mangles" of various types used to dry the ware at different stages of manufacture. Again I must point out the impossibility, as it seems to me, of framing any simple and definite mode of rules which shall cover all the varying conditions of the different branches of the pottery trade. Certain drying operations can and must be conducted rapidly; others need to be carried on slowly—so that each manufacturer may have to deal with a different set of conditions. Taking this for granted I must add that the usual system of drying used in the majority of potteries are not very enligthened or scientific. The old idea seemed to be that the drying should be conducted at a high temperature in a confined space, whereas everyone should know that the first principle in such methods is to pass sufficient volumes of dry air, and not necessarily very hot air, over and among the articles to be dried. Certainly everyone who has to deal with these problems can only reach a satisfactory result by working in the direction of using large volumes of air at a lower temperature, in opposition to the old plan of small volumes of air at a higher temperature. While I am on this point I should like to say that I think the whole question of the ventilation of potters' workshops has not received sufficient attention either from manufacturers or workpeople. Where ventilation is arranged for, the usual plan is to extract the air from the top of the room, either by natural or artificial means, and to bring it in near the floor. It would be a great improvement if the air could be admitted above the heads of the workpeople and taken out just above the floor level. Not only would a purer atmosphere be obtained in this way, but the dust in every case would be drawn downwards, which would be a tremendous added gain. I refer especially to those workshops in which a small amount of dust is created at irregular intervals so that special fans for dealing with it are unnecessary.

Surely also, it is not too much to ask that, when improved methods of ventilation or fans for the removal of dust are introduced into workshops the operatives should be willing to give them a fair trial. Up to now it has been too often the case that such improvements are either resented or misused by the very people for whose benefit they have been previously designed.

LEAD POISONING AMONG POTTERY WORKERS.

Having considered as fully as possible within the time at our disposal the questions of mineral dust pure and simple, we must now turn to the vexed questions arising from the use of lead compounds in English pottery glazes. Everyone here is aware of the great public outcry that arose some years ago on the question of plumbism among pottery workers. Many well-meaning and philanthropic people, unable or unwilling to understand the difficult technical processes involved in glazing pottery, advocated the entire abolition of lead in glazes or colours, and even went so far as to say that English pottery manufacturers, as a body, were callously indifferent to the well-being of their workpeople, and only used lead on account of its cheapness. Such ideas are radically erroneous and unfair. Leaving aside for a moment the question as to whether lead compounds are necessary to the English potter, as he contends, let us endeavour to get a fair idea as to what plumbism among pottery workers means both qualitatively and quantitatively.

A great deal of misconception is prevalent as to what is implied by an attack of plumbism or lead poisoning. The very use of the word "poisoning" conveys to most of us an idea of something fatal; yet it is only a small proportion of the plumbic cases among pottery workers that have fatal or even serious consequences. Dr. Oliver, in the preceding lecture of this series, described the medical aspects of the disease, and stated clearly the difference between mild and severe cases. In certain industries the proportion of severe cases is large, but among pottery workers the reverse is true. In the opinion of those medical men most conversant with the ailments of pottery workers, from the late Dr. Arlidge to the present certifying surgeons in the Potteries, the great majority of the cases arising in this industry are mild in type and are readily curable by suitable treatment.

Colic, constipation, abdominal pains, and anæmia are the symptoms in more than 50 per cent. of these cases, and if taken in time, as such cases now are under the system of monthly medical examination of lead workers, restoration to health is generally complete in one or two months at the outside. A further group of cases, at least 30 per cent. of the whole, though presenting more severe symptoms, are still responsive to treatment and can also be cured, though the health may not always be completely re-established. The smallest proportion of cases, under 20 per cent. of the whole, are those where the absorption of lead has produced serious disturbances of the nervous system, and these grave attacks may result in blindness, paralysis, or untimely death. This condition of affairs, though serious enough, bears no resemblance to the lurid pictures that have been drawn of the state of affairs in the Potteries, and we now have to consider what reasonable steps have been taken, or can be taken, to deal with it in such a way as to effectually remove even this danger from our workers.

Turning, now, to the quantitative aspect of the question, I have already mentioned that of the 73,000 workers employed in the whole industry in Great Britain, only some 6,700 are employed in processes where they run any risk of plumbism by reason of their avocation. These workers follow many different occupations, as dippers, ware-cleaners, glost-placers, majolica painters, ground-layers, &c.—working either on earthenware, china, tiles, electrical fittings, teapots, or some other species of pottery. The exact nature of the employment and the amount of risk run vary according to the special calling and to the kind of pottery made. Some glazes contain more lead than others; some kinds of ware need to be handled in a way that may either diminish or accentuate the risk; so that the problem of finding an efficient remedy is never a simple one. I will now, by a series of tabular statements, show what has taken place with regard to plumbism in the whole industry as a result of the special attention paid to it during the last twelve years or so. First we will put, side by side, all the reported cases* and precautions are taken by the Home Office that every case however slight, shall be reported:—

TABLE I.—TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES OF PLUMBISM IN POTTERIES.

	1906.	1900.	1896.
Numbers employed in dangerous processes—			
Males	4,394	4,224	4,200
Females	2,300	2,148	2,040
Number of cases—			
Males	47	95	186
Females	60	105	236
Percentage of persons attacked—			
Males	1·1	2·2	5·2
Females	2·6	4·9	13·1

It is apparent from Table I. that while the number of lead workers employed in the scheduled occupations has risen from 6,240 in 1896, to 6,694 in 1906, the number of cases reported has fallen from 422 to 107 in the same period. I have taken the figures for the years 1896, 1900, and 1906, for the following reasons: The first complete returns were made in 1896; in 1900 we had the first effects of the improvement due to the Special Rules of 1898; and 1906 is the last year for which we have the complete returns. To show that 1906 is not an unfair year for this purpose, I now tabulate all the cases in the five years, 1902-1906 inclusive:—

TABLE II.—CASES IN THE FIVE YEARS, 1902-1906.

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Number of cases—					
Males	47	36	39	43	40
Females	60	48	67	54	47
Total number	107	84	106	97	87
Percentage ratio—					
Males	1·1	0·8	0·9	1·0	0·9
Females	2·6	2·1	2·9	2·3	2·2
Total	1·6	1·3	1·6	1·5	1·4

Mean of the five years.

Number of cases, 92·2 Percentage of cases, 1·5

A first glance at these figures might lead one to assume that there had been no improvement since 1902; but before adopting that conclusion I must remind you that compensation for plumbism has been paid to pottery workers since 1902 under the award of Lord James of Hereford; and my only astonishment is that the number of reported cases has not shown a great increase in consequence, for plumbism, at all events, in its earlier and simpler stages, presents no objective symptoms, and it is very difficult for a medical man to exclude lead as the source of anæmia, colic, abdominal pains, &c., when they are found in persons working with substances containing lead.

It is necessary to point out with regard to plumbism that, just as we found with the dangers arising from mineral dusts, the risk

* The statement is often made by irresponsible people that all the cases are not reported, and that the official returns are fallacious. I can find nothing to support such a view, and if one or two cases a year were omitted accidentally they are more than counterbalanced by reported cases where the plumbism is very doubtful.

is very unevenly distributed among the different groups of workers. Fortunately it is this uneven distribution of the risks that has given us tho clue as to where the danger really resides, and shows us what we must avoid if plumbism is to be effectually stamped out. I feel strongly that we potters may reasonably complain that medical men, interested in the question of plumbism, were a very long time in making up their minds as to the actual *modus operandi* by which the lead enters the human system to do its mischievous work. In 1892, when the subject was first inquired into by a Home Office committee, we were told that lead was absorbed through the skin. If such were the case there can be no doubt that nothing short of the discontinuance of the use of lead compounds would ever stamp out plumbism among pottery workers. We know, however, that whatever may be the case in other trades, the compounds of lead used in potteries are not absorbed by the skin, and that we must now concentrate our attention on what may pass into the body by way of the nostrils or the mouth. I do not hesitate to say that this idea of skin absorption, which has, I believe, been finally abandoned by all the best authorities, delayed the settlement of the question, by diverting attention from the really vital point, viz., that if you can prevent the workers taking in, at the nose or mouth, dust containing lead compounds, you can practically abolish the source of plumbism.

Mr. Burton then described, with the same minutencss of detail, the distribution of attacks of plumbism, from the mildest to the most severe, among the different groups of workers in the processes scheduled as dangerous. He described the work of dippers and ware-cleaners, and he exhibited samples of ware both before and after being dipped. He explained various methods of cleaning, and threw on the screen views of the ware-cleaning rooms of several well-known potteries. He submitted statistics showing the number of reported cases of plumbism among dippers, ware-cleaners, and dippers' assistants.

Leadless Glaze an Impossibility.

In concluding his lecture, Mr. Burton said: "You will naturally expect me to say something as to the alternative method that has been advocated by those outside the industry, as a means of ridding the Potteries of the risks of plumbism. I mean the extreme plan of abolishing the use of lead in glazes. Could that be done, the difficulty would disappear, but in the light of our knowledge, any such method is impossible. There are many forms of pottery, such as salt-glazed stonewares and hard-paste porcelain, which can be glazed without lead compounds. Salt-glazed stonewares are largely made in England, but hard-paste porcelain has never been sucessfully made here. The great bulk of our English products—earthenware, English china, tiles, electrical fittings, &c.—can only be satisfactorily glazed with glazes containing lead; and this is the experience of the potters of all the countries, either in Europe or America, where similar wares are manufactured. I must say, with the fullest sense of the responsibility of such a statement, that to talk of the possibility of using leadless glazes on the great bulk of the pottery made in this country, is simply to cherish a delusion.

"From every point of view it seems to me a retrograde step in these days of advancing knowledge to propose that our manufacturers should be prohibited from using the most suitable substance ever discovered for making the glazes they require, because there is danger to the health if the substance is carelessly or ignorantly used. The whole trend of the scientific conduct of the world's new industries, is to bring into use compounds of every kind, some of them highly explosive or poisonous; yet everyone, in such cases, recognises that the substances must be used—always under proper conditions. This is the sound course to follow with our old industry also; everyone in it from tho top to the bottom must be educated in the proper method of handling these substances, and manufacturers and workpeople alike must see that the working conditions are all that can be desired. I have shown conclusively how much has been done already—and in a comparatively short time. We now recognise clearly that in the use of lead as much as in the use of clay or flint, 'Dust' is the enemy; and I am full of hope that we are within measurable distance of the time when the health risks of the pottery worker will be no greater than in any ordinary occupation."

The Fragile Wine Glass.—Mistress: "Jane, that's another wine glass you've broken. How did it happen?" Jane (cheerfully): "Don't know, I'm sure; but I allus wipes them little things off their stalks.—"Punch."

Glass Moulds, &c., Wanted in Australia.—The Agent-General for New South Wales has been notified by a firm of flint glass manufacturers in that State that they desire to open up communication with makers of flint glass presses and moulds. For further particulars, application should be made to the Agent-General for New South Wales, 123 and 125, Cannon-st., E.C., mentioning The Pottery Gazette.

Foreign Notes.

Earthenware and Porcelain to the value of £271,114 were imported into British India during 1907. The value of the import for 1906 was £45,988, and for 1905, £212,752.

Earthenware and Pottery, of common varieties, to the value of £206,920, and weighing 19,689,600 kilos., was imported into France during the first three months of the present year. The figures show a good increase.

German Ceramic Companies.—The list of securities admitted to be dealt in on the Berlin Stock Exchange last year included £90,000 of ceramic industry shares, as compared with £100,000 in 1906 and £345,000 in 1905.

U.S. Pottery Imports.—During the nine months ending March 31, 1908, earthen, stone, and china ware to the value of $10,846,000 were imported into the United States. The total is well above the average for the corresponding periods of recent years.

Bordeaux Pottery Exports.—During last year, 13,065 cwt. of pottery and faïence was exported from Bordeaux, of which 35 cwt. were sent to the United Kingdom. Of porcelain, 3,537 tons were exported, 3,034 tons being consigned to the United Kingdom. Of the above totals the first-named is the only one which is above the average for the last 5 ycars.

The Glass Jar Trust in the U.S.A., which has controlled prices on this continent, is losing its hold upon the trade, according to an American glass trade paper. Some of the small independent jar manufacturers have been reaping a fine harvcst by selling at 50 cents a gross below the combine prices. All who have done that have practically sold their entire output.

The Pottery Trade of Crete.—Owing to the poverty which still exists in the island the demand for finer chinaware, such as dinner, tea and coffee services, is limited. These are at present supplied from Bavaria, North Bohemia, Saxony, and Italy. Earthenware is imported principally from Germany (Saraguemines, Alsace) and from the United Kingdom, at low prices, also from France and the Milan district.

U.S. Bauxite Production.—The production of bauxite in the United States in 1907 amounted to 97,776 tons, valucd at $480,330. This is an increase of 22,444 tons, or almost 30 per cent., over the production of the year before, and an increase in value of $112,019, or a little ovcr 30 per cent. The average price of the material at the mincs was about $4·91 per long ton, an advance of but 2 cents over the returns for 1906.

Japanese Pottery Exports for the first three months of 1908 were considerably below the average for the corresponding periods of the last three years. The total value of the porcelain and earthenware was £106,700. Japanese porcelain finds its way to all parts of the world, but the principal market is San Francisco, and as most of this is decorated with gold, it proves of benefit to British trade, as a considcrable portion of the gold paint used at the potteries comes from the United Kingdom.

Pottery Exhibitions Abroad.—An international exhibition of scientific instruments, agricultural machinery, and pottery is to be held at Faenza from Aug. 15 to Oct. 25 of the present year. Particulars may be obtained by British manufacturers interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall-st., E.C.——In connection with the section of clay-working and tile production in the International Exhibition at St. Petersburg a competition of presses for tiles will be held on July 15,28.

Glass Sand in the Sinai Peninsula.—A report on the topography and geology of the western portion of the Peninsula of Sinai, recently published by the Egyptian Survey Department, mentions a pure white sandstone, very friable, which, on account of its freedom from iron-oxide, would be very useful in glass making. This sandstone occurs at the foot and in the cliff of Gebel Dhalâl, where there is about 200 metres of good stone. The only drawback to its use is the distance it would have to be transported, although a fairly good road could be made to the sea with little difficulty.

Pottery and Glass in Mexico.—The French Chargé-d'Affaires at Mexico reports that pottery, china, and glassware is now beginning to be made in Mexico, but the quality is very poor, and considerable quantities of these goods are still imported from abroad. The chief countries of origin are the United States, Germany, France, and Belgium. France supplies high grade china and glassware, Germany selling cheap bottles, ordinary glasses, plate glass, &c. The U.S.A. do the most trade, but England also supplies some pottery and chinaware. The most important native factory at Mexico is that of "Nino Perdido"; it has an annual turnover of about £50,000.

The German Chinaware Trade.—The assumption that things have been improving in the German chinaware trade is not borne out by the latest official returns. During the first quarter of 1907 chinaware was exported to the extent of 13,200 tons, whereas this year the exports in the same period have only been 13,000 tons. The month of March also shows a drop in trade compared with February. The hopes widely entertained of an improvement in the exports to the U.S.A. have also not been fulfilled. In 1907 the second and third quarters of the year showed a steady increase in trade, but, as things now lie, it is very doubtful if their level will be attained this year—even approximately.

German Glass-sand Combine.—A report from Düsseldorf states that the manufacturers of various kinds of sand—such as are used in the glass and pottery trades, and which are also employed for special purposes in the iron and steel trades—have now combined to form a union to conduct and control sales of the members' products upon mutually beneficial lines. The chief object of the union, which has been formed for a period of ten years certain, is to improve sale prices, which have so far been greatly depressed. The union has its head office at Cologne, and will act under the style and title of "Vereinigte Rheinisch-Westfälische Cristall-Sandwerke G.m.b.H." (United Rhenish-Westphalian Crystal-Sandworks, Ltd.)

China Dealers and Makers in Austria.—Differences are now arising in the Austrian chinaware trade. The Germano-Austrian Chinaware Manufacturers, Cartell has now refused to execute the orders of those dealers who have not formally bound themselves to buy solely from the Cartelled factories. In return, dealers in Germany and Austria have now, through their unions, determined to take steps to protect themselves. A chinaware factory in Prague, which has been closed for some time, is now about to be opened again by the Dealers' Union, and it is also intended to erect a new chinaware factory in Vienna itself. The dealers are evidently determined upon showing the Syndicate that they have not things all their own way.

The Continental Glassware Trade.—A correspondent reports that the production of table glassware is to be stopped entirely in Austria and Hungary for a period of two months, commencing with July 1. The leading firms (of which there are 19 in the Monarchy) have decided to take this drastic step so as to keep down stocks which, as sales are so poor, are beginning to accumulate. A similar state of affairs exists in the table glass trade in Germany and Belgium. In the latter country nearly half the factories have reduced, and in many cases stopped, production. M. Lucciardi, the French Acting Consul at Prague, writes (under date of May 29, 1908) that the glass industry in the Izer Mountains (Gablonz district) is now passing through a period of inactivity such as has not been experienced for very many years past. For over fifteen months the manufacture of glass rings has ceased almost entirely. The trade in hollow glass beads still continues important, but even here a feeling of uncertainty is gaining ground. A large number of glass blowers, and other hands have fallen into distress, and have turned their attention to the manufacture of other articles still enjoying a sale; this will inevitably lead to over production in other quarters. A slight improvement has taken place in the demand for glass buttons; girdlers, however, are all very quiet, and that is also bad for trade. Business in glass headed hatpins still flourishes, but trade in articles made of black glass (beads, &c.), is absolutely lifeless. Export trade is affected by the lack of capital which seems to prevail almost everywhere; several large Bohemian factories have suffered considerable losses in their transactions with China and America, and they are consequently getting very reserved in their dealings with foreign countries. Fortunately trade continues brisk in high class glassware, such as expensive vases, table sets, &c. In all other current lines the crisis is becoming daily acuter, and unless something be done to check it, the Bohemian glass trade will suffer severely.

New Glassworks in Japan.—H.M. Consul-General at Kobe has forwarded the following particulars respecting the new glass works in course of erecton at Osaka. This is an enterprise which is apparently being established with Belgian co-operation, as the plant is being supplied by Belgian firms solely. The kinds of glass which it is proposed to manufacture are:—(1) Bottles—soda-water bottles for export, beer bottles for Japan, medicine phials for Japan and for export; (2) "Gobleterie"—table glassware of all kinds, but not crystal or large and expensive pieces; (3) Window glass—this it is intended to make the main product of the factory. The methods of manufacture are as follows:—(1) Bottles are to be blown in the ordinary European manner by blowpipe. If the company can induce anyone to instal first-class machinery for this department on terms which would not prove prohibitive, they will do so. (2) Table glass will be made in the Belgian manner, *i.e.*, by blowing into moulds, afterwards polishing and cutting the product by machinery, and not by the pressing process now commonly employed in Japan. This is not flint-glass, but ordinary plain white and coloured glass of similar quality to the medium grade table glassware exported from Germany, Belgium, and France. (3) For window glass, the company have the rights of the Fourcault process, but the present intention is not to instal it, pending the perfecting of the process in Europe, which it is thought may take two years. In the meantime, the ordinary process of blowing will be carried on. Belgian workmen will be employed. Twenty-five of these workmen will be specially brought out and will be used to train Japanese workmen. This body, will, by the addition of fresh apprentices, be made into two, and so on until sufficient workmen are provided to work all the furnaces. The number of these will greatly depend on the demand for glass, but it is expected that two furnaces will be working by June, 1909. The company have now four furnaces engaged in bottle making. When all (seven) are working, the ouptut will be roughly 3½ million bottles monthly. The average cost of manufacture is roughly 2·40 yen (yen equals 2s. 0½d.) per hundred. The prospective output of table glass cannot yet be computed, and the output of window glass will, of course, depend on the number of men employed in his work.

Our Export Trade in China, Earthenware, and Glass
For 1907.

FROM a Board of Trade Blue Book, published last month, we extract the following particulars, showing the total value of Exports of China, Earthenware, and Glass, etc. (Manufactures of the United Kingdom), during 1907:

CHINAWARE OR PORCELAIN, AND EARTHENWARE, viz.:	
Porcelain, chinaware, and parian	£194,646
Earthenware (including semi-porcelain), majolica, and glazed hearth and wall tiles	1,978,661
Jet, rockingham, and glazed terra-cotta ware	3,408
Red pottery, stoneware, brown and yellow ware ...	291,292
Other sorts (including electrical ware, door fittings, and chemical ware)	180,804
Total of chinaware, &c. ...	£2,648,811
CLAY:—Unmanufactured	£706,619

GLASS:—Plate	£252,574
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other manufactures of flint glass (except bottles)	216,121
Bottles	554,454
Manufactures (other sorts)	376,933
Total: Glass	£1,400,082

The following are the EXPORTS (Manufactures of the United Kingdom) TO THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES during the last two years.

PORCELAIN, CHINAWARE, and PARIAN WARE:	1906.	1907.
	£	£
To Germany	4,202	4,931
,, Belgium	2,415	2,082
,, France	1,717	2,060
,, Spain	2,658	1,029
,, Persia	98	15
,, United States of America	100,585	100,276
,, Brazil	1,228	3,378
,, Argentine Republic ..	5,430	4,839
,, Other Foreign Countries ..	13,496	23,021
Total to Foreign Countries	131,829	141,631
To British West Africa ..	781	420
,, Cape of Good Hope ..	3,081	2,805
,, Natal	1,373	1,059
,, British India	8,102	8,780
,, Australia:		
Western Australia ..	630	249
South Australia (includ. Northern Territory)	410	815
Victoria	1,675	3,019
New South Wales ..	6,477	8,844
Queensland	458	583
Tasmania	354	195
,, New Zealand	6,905	6,369
,, Canada	9,451	15,448
,, Other British Possessions	3.293	4,429
Total to British Possessions	42,990	53,015
Total ..	174,819	194,646
EARTHENWARE (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Hearth and Wall Tiles):		
To Russia	10,995	19,300
,, Denmark	21,997	28,322
,, Germany	43,568	63,035
,, Netherlands	35,301	33,640
,, Belgium	30,364	38,840
,, France	47,083	54,699
,, Spain	10,113	12,029
,, Italy	9,475	17,600
,, Egypt	19,987	16,994
,, China (exclusive of Hong Kong and Macão) ..	15,532	14,860
,, United States of America:		
On the Atlantic ..	428,465	458,630
,, Pacific ..	23,231	34,802
,, Cuba	11,790	13,252
,, Mexico	14,874	17,143
,, Peru	9,428	8,729
,, Chile	25,023	31,275
,, Brazil	83,854	108,042
,, Uruguay	15,053	14,818
,, Argentine Republic ..	88,752	114,768
,, Other Foreign Countries ..	66,792	76,832
Total to Foreign Countries	1,011,677	1,177,610

EARTHENWARE (including semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Hearth and Wall Tiles) *continued:*	1906.	1907.
	£	£
To British West Africa ..	19,156	26,706
,, Cape of Good Hope ..	45,031	39,910
,, Natal	27,806	19,943
,, British India:		
Bombay (incl. Karachi)	26,575	27,548
Madras	6,228	7,993
Bengal	17,251	20,385
Eastern Bengal & Assam	491	238
Burmah	23,616	24,157
,, Australia:		
Western Australia ..	12,871	11,351
South Australia (includ. Northern Territory) ..	12,219	18,395
Victoria	45,486	67,545
New South Wales ..	43,780	78,318
Queensland	17,629	23,746
Tasmania	3,960	4,920
,, New Zealand	80,993	108,803
,, Canada	212,903	261,617
,, Other British Possessions	58,730	59,476
Total to British Possessions	654,725	801,051
Total	1,666,402	1,978,661
Jet, Rockingham, and Glazed Terra-Cotta Ware:		
Total to Foreign Countries	1,029	1,191
To Natal	194	22
,, Australia	479	1,833
,, Other British Possessions	407	362
Total to British Possessions	1,080	2,217
Total ..	2,109	3,408
Red Pottery, Stoneware, Brown and Yellow Ware:		
To Russia	2,608	5,594
,, Denmark	6,459	6,723
,, Germany	7,400	9,874
,, Netherlands	8,414	11,949
,, Belgium	10,401	15,721
,, France	6,432	6,673
,, Spain	3,079	3,858
,, Egypt	7,447	10,483
,, United States of America	9,096	10,290
,, Cuba	3,841	7,683
,, Peru	7,881	481
,, Brazil	15,319	23,163
,, Argentine Republic ..	73,929	44,186
,, Other Foreign Countries	33,127	45,501
Total to Foreign Countries	195,433	202,179
To Cape of Good Hope ..	15,745	8,655
,, Natal	10,765	5,191

Red Pottery, Stoneware, Brown and Yellow Ware *—continued:*	1906.	1907.
	£	£
To British India:		
Bombay (incl. Karachi)	16,946	14,914
Madras	5,620	2,703
Bengal	2,829	2,180
Eastern Bengal & Assam	—	12
Burmah	2,804	2,179
,, Straits Settlements and Dependencies	5,147	3,139
,, Ceylon and Dependencies	3,476	6,037
,, Australia	15,684	9,716
,, New Zealand	5,770	5,081
,, Canada	20,201	14,842
,, British West India Islands	6,827	894
,, Other British Possessions	19,131	13,570
Total to British Possessions	130,945	89,113
Total ..	326,378	291,292
OTHER SORTS (including Electrical Ware, Door-Fittings and Chemical Ware):		
To Russia	7,286	2,423
,, Denmark (including Faroe Islands)	1,878	655
,, Germany	21,806	10,375
,, Netherlands	4,063	2,771
,, Belgium	5,986	2,545
,, France	4,876	1,952
,, Portuguese East Africa ..	2,430	1,449
,, Italy	3,162	2,520
,, Egypt	3,808	4,439
,, United States of America	11,088	10,166
,, Cuba	1,984	3,364
,, Mexico	1,702	2,446
,, Peru	4,645	3,688
,, Chile	11,615	13,116
,, Brazil	19,297	15,909
,, Uruguay	5,085	2,071
,, Argentine Republic ..	16,422	15,101
,, Other Foreign Countries ..	17,194	16,298
Total to Foreign Countries	144,327	111,288
To British West Africa ..	4,718	4,911
,, Cape of Good Hope ..	4,643	2,848
,, Natal	3,628	3,399
,, British India	13,252	12,527
,, Australia	16,621	12,649
,, New Zealand	4,507	6,200
,, Canada	8,934	13,453
,, Other British Possessions	11,325	13,529
Total to British Possessions	67,628	69,516
Total ..	211,955	180,804

EXPORTS (Manufactures of the United Kingdom) to THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*continued.*

	1906.	1907.
CLAY, unmanufactured:	£	£
To Russia	35,360	44,875
,, Sweden	13,899	11,457
,, Germany	65,012	79,768
,, Netherlands	51,553	68,509
,, Belgium	61,520	59,686
,, France	44,392	45,035
,, Spain	11,874	14,197
,, Italy	21,878	16,807
,, United States of America	277,981	291,088
,, Other Foreign Countries	26,923	27,116
Total to Foreign Countries	610,398	658,538
To British India	18,840	17,255
,, Australia	3,400	4,035
,, Canada	17,714	22,865
,, Other British Possessions	3,584	3,926
Total to British Possessions	43,538	48,081
Total	653,936	706,619
GLASS—Plate:		
To Denmark (including Faröe Islands)	6,518	17,369
,, Germany	12,328	15,219
,, Netherlands	4,161	6,846
,, Italy	4,698	5,680
,, Egypt	1,226	859
,, China (exclusive of Hong Kong and Macão)	1,304	2,431
,, Japan (includ. Formosa)	9,118	6,299
,, United States of America	13,253	16,449
,, Argentine Republic	7,238	14,643
,, Other Foreign Countries	10,024	17,145
Total to Foreign Countries	69,868	102,940
To Cape of Good Hope	5,774	4,304
,, Natal	7,960	5,739
,, British India	16,951	25,313
,, Australia	13,965	19,890
,, New Zealand	20,547	22,556
,, Canada	65,086	65,890
,, Other British Possessions	6,144	5,942
Total to British Possessions	136,427	149,634
Total	206,295	252,574
GLASS—Flint, Plain, Cut, or Ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass (except Bottles):		
To Russia	2,028	3,175
,, Denmark (including Faröe Islands)	2,095	2,328
,, Germany	12,345	14,362
,, Netherlands	3,471	3,547
,, Belgium	3,318	3,124
,, France	5,909	6,436

GLASS—*continued:* **Flint, Plain, Cut, or Ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass (except Bottles):**	1906. £	1907. £
To China (exclusive of Hong Kong and Macão)	4,399	5,556
,, United States of America	37,394	32,764
,, Chile	3,051	4,232
,, Brazil	2,890	3,104
,, Argentine Republic	10,294	7,557
,, Other Foreign Countries	26,542	26,121
Total to Foreign Countries	113,736	112,306
To Cape of Good Hope	9,413	7,237
,, Natal	4,577	4,604
,, British India:		
Bombay (incl. Karachi)	13,482	13,567
Madras	2,001	3,877
Bengal	11,690	12,764
Eastern Bengal & Assam	45	43
Burmah	3,408	3,844
,, Straits Settlements and Dependencies	3,468	3,250
,, Australia:		
Western Australia	1,744	998
South Australia (includ. Northern Territory)	1,723	2,456
Victoria	9,557	8,418
New South Wales	6,764	9,122
Queensland	1,939	2,683
Tasmania	264	631
,, New Zealand	6,383	7,836
,, Canada	6,241	7,132
,, Other British Possessions	12,832	15,313
Total to British Possessions	95,531	103,815
Total	209,267	216,121
Glass Bottles—		
To Netherlands	2,014	2,313
,, Belgium	7,642	10,677
,, France	6,580	9,991
,, Portuguese East Africa	5,798	4,541
,, Spain	2,438	2,543
,, Egypt	10,682	13,656
,, China (exclusive of Hong Kong and Macão)	2,685	4,458
,, United States of America	82,285	93,873
,, Philippine Islands and Guam	2,357	2,482
,, Cuba	12,704	14,958
,, Brazil	5,679	4,748
,, Argentine Republic	18,171	24,047
,, Other Foreign Countries	28,689	37,919
Total to Foreign Countries	187,724	226,206

GLASS—*continued:* **Bottles**—*continued*	1906. £	1907. £
To Cape of Good Hope	27,310	20,993
,, Natal	20,552	16,013
,, British India:		
Bombay (incl. Karachi)	21,163	24,878
Madras	6,184	3,865
Bengal	12,940	15,125
Eastern Bengal & Assam	163	143
Burmah	14,396	18,214
,, Straits Settlements and Dependencies	12,320	14,662
,, Australia:		
Western Australia	14,672	9,706
South Australia (includ. Northern Territory)	7,981	9,073
Victoria	30,088	34,047
New South Wales	29,423	30,899
Queensland	10,626	12,603
Tasmania	1,700	1,805
,, New Zealand	20,961	24,467
,, Canada	19,562	34,419
,, British West India Islands	16,729	21,082
,, Other British Possessions	31,745	36,254
Total to British Possessions	298,515	328,248
Total	486,239	554,454
Glass Manufactures, other sorts:		
To Denmark (including Faröe Islands	17,748	17,782
,, Germany	21,041	21,189
,, Netherlands	1,329	4,946
,, France	3,400	3,508
,, Spain	2,387	1,704
,, Italy	6,238	5,344
,, Turkey	2,659	3,460
,, Egypt	5 849	9,483
,, Japan (includ. Formosa)	4,245	4,869
,, United States of America	48,823	51,474
,, Brazil	4,833	5,685
,, Argentine Republic	23,093	33,009
,, Other Foreign Countries	17,488	25,809
Total to Foreign Countries	159,133	188,262
To Cape of Good Hope	7,544	5,070
,, Natal	4,788	2,524
,, British India	9,528	10,253
,, Australia	20,582	22,761
,, New Zealand	19,742	16,178
,, Canada	145,780	122,048
,, Other British Possessions	8,947	9,837
Total to British Possessions	216,911	188,671
Total	376,044	376,933

Waterproofing Cardboard Signs.—Cardboard signs for use out of doors may be rendered waterproof by brushing over them with two sueeessive coatings—allowing one to dry before the other is applied—of a mixture of four parts of slaked lime in three parts of skimmed milk, with a little alum added.

The Limoges China Trade.—The British Vice-Consul reports that the trade of the district in 1907, although below the average, was fairly good until November. There was ill-feeling at the end of the first six months on aecount of trouble between the china manufaeturers of Limoges and the United States eustomes with respect to the alleged undervaluation on invoices of Limoges ware exported to the latter eountry. These troubles were brought to an end in June by the intervention of the French Government, and on Sept. 29 an Ameriean official commission arrived in Limoges. This commission made an inquiry into the market priee of Limoges ehina, and finally appointed a commission composed of the President of the Chamber of Commeree of Limoges, the Consul of the United States, and a manufaeturer, to draw up a sehedule of prices of china based on the average priees of all manufacturers. The trade of the district was affeeted in the seeond part of the year 1907 by the American financial erisis. Numbers of workmen were discharged in December. Buildings and improvements in the factories were stopped. China works were fairly busy. There was an output of 3,574 fired, an increase of 108 on 1906. Coal used amounted to 66,000 metric tons for ehina works, only 20,000 tons of which came from Newport. Priees quoted were very high at the end of the year. Contraets for the first six months at Limoges were £1 8s., Newport 15s., but in Oetober prices went up to Limoges £1 13s. 6d., Newport 19s. The importation of ceramic eolours from Hanley, Staffs., may be valued at £5,000. The tile factories are very prosperous, and orders exeeed produetion.

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

EVERY cloud, we are told, has a silver lining, and it is encouraging to know that there are some people who think they can discern the silver lining to the cloud of depression which has now been hovering over the Potteries for some little time. Unfortunately the optimistic view of these gentlemen is rather discounted by the fact that there are others—and they are in the vast majority—who declare that the cloud has become blacker than ever, and that the worst of the storm has yet to come. To the outside observer it may appear strange that opinions should differ so much as they do among individual manufacturers, and yet, after all, the circumstances are capable of easy explanation. There are, in the Potteries, several extensive firms who hold a commanding position in particular markets, whose businesses are conducted on the most up to date lines, whose ramifications are extensive and complete, and who are in a position to help their customers over stressful times, when necessary, by giving them greatly extended credit. Such firms, one generally finds, remain fairly busy even when things are slack everywhere else, and, obviously it would be unsafe to generalise as to the condition of the potting trade from the experience of these houses alone. By doing so one might easily arrive at wholly inaccurate conclusions, which could only be corrected by reference to the experience of the other and more numerous class of manufacturers, who are not so fortunately situated as some of their big competitors. Thus at the present time, several of the largest potting concerns in the six towns remain fairly busy, and during the present period of dulness, have not, thus far, found it necessary to curtail production much, though in some cases one or two glost ovens a week have been dropped, and in most instances, stocks have been considerably augmented. Going to the other extreme, however, I hear of one works which, for two months or more, has only been going a couple of days a week, of many others which have been put on short time, and of numbers of skilled workmen who ought to be carrying home substantial wages, drawing only a miserable pittance at the week end which is barely sufficient to provide them and their families with the necessaries of life. Worse still, the ranks of the unemployed are more numerously filled now than they have been for a long time, and many operatives have reason to be glad now that they are members of their trade union and entitled to receive unemployment pay. Between the two extremes, comparative activity on the one hand, and stagnation on the other, lie the general body of manufacturers, and, at the present time, it is quite certain that most of them are finding trade deplorably quiet. Numbers of "banks," surrendering to the inevitable, have had to cut down their output, so as to avoid further accumulations of stock, and hopes of any real improvement before the August holidays have been generally abandoned.

The home trade in general earthenware, to adopt the phrase of one big manufaeturer, "improves backwards," and though some firms are more fortunate than others, the real situation is anything but satisfaetory. A movement for the better is ehronicled from Scotland and the North—perhaps consequent upon the settlement of the great shipbuilding strike—but the London and Lancashire markets are dull, and so also is the seaside trade. About this time of the year retail dealers at the watering places eommonly experience a run on china and earthenware "souvenirs," but this season, so far, they have found the trade considerably less brisk than usual. The resorts, I am told, had quite as many visitors as usual at Whitsuntide, but the general experience of dealers is that less money was spent by the holiday makers. It is, indeed, a remarkable feature of trade all over the country that money is extraordinarily scarce, more so than it has been at any time for many years. Most manufacturers have a considerable amount more on their books than they care to see there, but, apparently it cannot be helped; we still seem to be in the backwash of the American financial trouble. One striking instance of the manner in which the recent panic is still affecting trade not only in the United States, but also in Canada, and, indirectly, in this country, may be usefully narrated. Within the past few days one of the largest, perhaps the largest, of Canadian pottery buyers has been in this district, whither he has come on from the Continent. To the manufacturers upon whom he called he stated that he was making a sort of formal call only, and that he was placing practically no orders at all. Trade had been so bad that he could keep going on last year's contracts. He added, moreover, that he had not seen the other American buyers whom he came over with looking so "blue" for a long time. Another communication bearing on the same point may be mentioned. In this case it is from the American agent of an important local firm, and he says that the harvest prospects in the United States are good, and that the nomination and probable election of a "safe" man like Mr. Taft, to the presidency, may help to cause a trade rally, "but when trade does improve," he says, "it will take the better part of a season to enable dealers to get rid of the stocks they still have on hand." More inspiriting are the reports which come from the Colonial markets, and it is especially cheering to learn that some nice orders had been received in Hanley from South Africa. This must not, however, be taken as an indication of a permanently improving condition of things at the Cape; too frequently, during the last few years, there have been occasional flashes in the pan of this kind, which raised hopes only to dash them to the ground by a long spell of subsequent depression. Manufacturers interested in the South African trade were at one time inclined to think that the consistent decreases in the exports of British pottery to the Cape, month by month, were to be attributed to the severity of the competition of German china, but now they seem disposed to assign the decline more to the general condition of unrest throughout South Africa than anything else. The South American trade is inclined to be quiet, and the threatened outbreak of hostilities between Venezuela and Colombia will not tend to improve the outlook in that part of the world, especially as there seems a likelihood of others, and these warlike republics being called upon to "take a hand" before the trouble is over. France is the most buoyant of the Continental markets for the time being, and a good steady trade is passing with North Staffordshire. The china trade is quiet all round, both for the home market and abroad, and until the travellers get out in the early part of September little movement is anticipated. The jet and rockingham branches, being chiefly concerned in the production of necessaries, have felt the depression less acutely than some of the other departments, but trade in sanitary ware and porcelain electrical fittings is exceptionally quiet. The insulator makers at Hanley, who stopped work recently, have resumed, a settlement of the difficulties which arose having been arrived at without recourse to arbitration, though it is said that matters had actually gone so far, at one time, as the actual appointment of Mr. Chester Jones as referee.

A prominent manufacturer, in the course of conversation the other day, expressed great satisfaction to find that, in face of the general trade depression which prevails, manufacturers are holding tenaciously to the 5 per cent. increase in selling prices which was decided upon last autumn. The fears expressed some time ago that the increase would be abandoned by some firms in the hope of attracting trade have not been realised, and it is gratifying, indeed, to hear that the trade is presenting so united a front. Strenuous efforts have been made by some buyers to cause manufacturers to relinquish this advantage, but the manufacturers are finding out from their balance-sheets, and their augmented bills for coal and materials, that they cannot do without it, and, consequently, they have stood firm and thereby gained the day. One firm finds that its coal bill this year has been no less than 32 per cent. higher than it was in the corresponding period of last year, and this may probably be taken as typical of the increase experienced by the general run of manufacturers throughout the district. It will be seen, therefore, that no hopes need be entertained of any reduction in selling prices for some time to come.

As was anticipated last month, the Board of Trade returns relating to the exports of pottery for the month of May show a striking decline. The actual value of the British pottery shipped abroad during the month was only £195,179 as compared with £227,616 in May of last year, and £196,830 in May of 1906. There was a decrease of about £19,000 in the exports to the United States alone, while Germany's custom declined over £4,000, Brazil's by nearly £4,000, the Argentine Republic's by about £1,000, South Africa's by £2,500; the East Indies' by £300, Australia's by over £3,000, and minor countries by £4,000. As against this there was an increase of £3,000 in the exports of ware to Canada, of £1,600 in the exports to France, and of £400 in those to New Zealand, taking the five months ended May, we find that the total exports of British made ware for that period were £1,043,133, as compared with £1,057,769 in the first five months of 1907, and £931,226 in 1906. Canada's custom, on the five months, had increased by £5,000, Australia's by £2,000, the East Indies' by £10,000, the Argentine Republic's by £6,000, and France's by £5,500. The principal decreases were shown by Germany, £6,000; the United States, £24,000; Brazil, £10,000; and South Africa, £7,000. The imports of foreign made ware during May amounted to £88,315, including £52,306 represented by general earthenware, semi-porcelain, and majolica, and £29,731 representing china, porcelain and parian. After making allowances for re-exports, the returns showed that the value of the foreign ware placed upon the markets of the United Kingdom for the five months of the present year to the end of May was £356,739.

Further progress has been made during the past few weeks with the establishment of necessary "machinery" in connection with the newly formed Board of Conciliation for the Potting Trade, which in future is to deal with disputes arising in the industry without rendering any recourse to a stoppage of work necessary. At a joint meeting of masters and operatives, held recently, Mr. John Ridgway (Bedford Works) presiding, Mr. J. C. Bailey (Doulton & Co., Ltd.), Chairman of the Manufacturers' Association, was appointed President of the Board, and Ald. Thos. Edwards, of the Ovenmen's Society, was elected Vice-President. The Secretaries were also appointed, Mr. A. P. Llewellyn, who has rendered the manufacturers services of inestimable value, being the masters' Secretary, and Councillor J. Lovatt, Secretary of the Potters' Union, being the Operatives' Secretary. Since then the Speaker of the House of Commons has appointed Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C., of London, to be the "independent Chairman" of the Board. The appointment is one of great importance, for, as Rule 11 of the constitution provides, in cases of dispute or difference which cannot be settled by mutual agreement, the independent Chairman is to preside at a special meeting of the Board, when, still failing agreement, the Chairman is to be invited to settle the question, and his decision will be binding to both sides.

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Most of us had expected that, before the month of June was out, the Bill for the Confirmation of the Provisional Order for the Federation of the Potteries would have come before the House of Commons Committee, and have been dealt with. But it is always the unexpected that happens. The Bill, with a group of others, was at first referred to a regular Private Bill Committee, of which Sir F. Cawdor is the chairman, and it was anticipated that the Parliamentary inquiry would open on June 22. Then, for some reason not apparent, the Bill was taken out of the "group" in which it had previously been placed, and referred to a Select Committee of seven members, with Sir George White, M.P., as chairman. On June 22 the Parliamentary Committee was "blocked" by a Labour member, to the consternation of the large body of manufacturers and others, who had made arrangements to go to London for the inquiry, and at the time of writing (June 26) the arrangements were in a state of chaos. It is thought, however, that the Bill would eventually be referred back to a regular committee, and that the sittings would commence about the beginning of July. It would be difficult to estimate the loss which has been entailed to business interests here by the blocking of the Bill, and the inconvenience caused to all parties must have been considerable. The Departmental Committee on the use of lead in pottery manufacture will commence its sittings at the Home Office on the 9th inst.

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In the course of an interesting chat which the writer had the other day with a member of a firm famous for its art productions, conversation turned upon the educational advantages which were likely to accrue to the children and young people of the district following the completion of federation, and the manufacturer observed, that if the towns did become federated it would be necessary for the masters of art schools to come more closely into touch with the potting trade than they did now, for, at present (he said), he found that they were of not the slightest use to him as a manufacturer. "I feel strongly," he went on to say, "that the controllers of the local art schools ought to come to us and ask what we want the people taught. Another drawback is that when our girls have been painting at the factory all day long, I do not think it is fair to ask them to go straight away, after tea, and sit in a close school of art; they ought to be out and about, consequently I am now proposing to stop the girls at my factory at a certain time, and get them lectured to by the mistress and by our designer. I think such a practice is likely to do them more good than study, under present conditions, at the School of Art." It would be instructive to hear what some of our local Art masters may have to say in reply to this indictment.

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The Obituary columns of this issue of THE POTTERY GAZETTE record two heavy losses which the pottery towns and their chief industry have sustained during the past month. Mr. Edward Hughes, the founder of the Opal China Works, who died on June , was an example of that rare class of men who seem able to make success of whatever they turn their hands to. His enterprising management of the now well-known Opal China Works resulted in flourishing business being built up, and the firm's household, fancy, nd tea and breakfast china have now a wide reputation, not only n all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, but also in the United tates. Latterly, in consequence of his advancing years, Mr. Hughes ad left the conduct of his business largely in the hands of his co-artners, Mr. F. S. Hughes, his son, and Mr. Enoch Massey, his n-in-law, who will continue it as hitherto. Mr. Hughes was ot one of those perhaps too numerous business men who wrap emselves up in their trade affairs to the exclusion of all else. is spare time he devoted generously to the interests of the town. ——The death of Mr. A. J. Meakin, head of the firm of Alfred eakin, Ltd., of Tunstall, which took place shortly before noon n June 24, was attended by most pathetic circumstances. For some considerable time he had been ill, and not long ago he went to London to undergo an operation. This revealed the fact that he was suffering from an incurable internal malady, and, with the knowledge that he had at most only a few months to live, Mr. Meakin returned home, and addressed himself to the task of putting his affairs in order, with an unwavering fortitude and courage which won the admiration and sympathy of all who knew him. Though, as the end approached, he suffered greatly, he bore up unflinchingly, and he was nursed with devoted tenderness by his wife. His death, at the early age of 33, cuts short a career which had already achieved great things, and which promised to achieve still greater. Mr. Meakin was among the first in North Staffordshire to demonstrate the commercial utility and practicability of gas firing for potting purposes. Associated with him in many of his experiments has been Mr. Jackson, his chemist (formerly instructor in Potting under the County Council), who was engaged by Mr. Meakin at a time when it seemed certain that Mr. Jackson's great abilities would be lost to the district through a very tempting offer which he had received to go to America. As the result of the experiments made, gas firing has been introduced with remarkably satisfactory results, both as regards ovens and enamel kilns, at the Royal Albert and Victoria Works. and also at the Highgate Tile Works. Messrs. Meakin and Jackson have also been instrumental in introducing gas firing at other works and in other districts. ——Many of the older members of the trade will learn with regret of the death of an old and interesting townsman of Tunstall in the person of Mr. Wm. Moore. In the pre-railway days Mr. Moore owned the largest posting establishment in the town. Before the "loop line" was opened he used to drive the pottery manufacturers and their travellers to Longport, where he used to meet the train regularly with his conveyance. He was a favourite with the manufacturers, and was frequently called upon to place himself at their service for prolonged periods. After the opening of the loop line he continued to do a thriving business.

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Eleven offences under the Truck Act were charged against the Henry Richards Tile Co., Ltd., at Tunstall Police Court, on June 2. Four of the summonses were for making deductions from the wages of four employees on April 11, without supplying them with written particulars, and the others were for making deductions from wages on two different dates which, having regard to the circumstances of the cases, were alleged to be unreasonable. In each of the first four cases a fine of 10s. and costs was imposed. With regard to the other summonses, the evidence went to show that the men were paid for making tiles by hand press at the rate of 8s. per hundred dozen, and the workmen concerned in the summonses had been "stopped" 2d. per dozen, being equal to twice the making price. The stipendiary magistrate, in giving his decision on June 15, said it seemed to him to be unreasonable to pay a man a penny a dozen for his work and charge him twopence a dozen for bad work. In his opinion the fine should be the amount the man could earn; in other words, if he did bad work he should not be paid for it.

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A few years ago much was heard of the advantages likely to accrue to china manufacturers if they could be induced to form a combination for certain defined trade purposes. The idea eventually fell through. Now, however, in a very modified degree, the scheme is being put to a practical test, some half dozen china manufacturers having jointly taken a potter's milling concern, where they are preparing their materials on their own account, no outside business whatever being transacted. It is considered that this plan will lead to appreciable economies in the cost of production.——Mr. A. G. Harley Jones, manufacturer, of Fenton, who is an enthusiastic motorist, accomplished a notable performance on the afternoon of Saturday, June 13, when he succeeded in carrying off the first prize, a handsome silver cup, presented by Mr. F. A. Bolton, of Moor Court, Staffordshire, in an inter-county hill-climbing competition at Oakamoor. Mr. A. H. C. Wenger (Wengers, Ltd., Etruria) was among the competitors.——Mr. J. W. Bishop, principal of the firm of Bishop & Stonier, earthenware manufacturers, Hanley, has been the recipient of many congratulations upon the success of his son, Mr. T. B. W. Bishop, in the mathematical tripos at Cambridge. Mr. T. B. W. Bishop, who will shortly enter his father's firm, was bracketed tenth on the list of Wranglers. His brother, Mr. Dunbar Bishop, who now assists his father in the management of the business, was also a Wrangler of his year. Another of Mr. J. W. Bishop's sons has taken high honours at the Victoria University, Manchester.——During the past week or two rumour has been busy with the details of negotiations which have been in progress between the heads of two important potting businesses, having for their object the acquisition, by one, of the business of the other. No official announcement can, however, be made at the time of writing. (See "Trade Note," p. 809.)

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At Burslem, on June 12, an inquest was conducted on the body of Janet Williams, aged 33, a majolica paintress who had been employed by Corn Bros., Albert-st. Tile Works, Tunstall, for six weeks prior to her death. Lead poisoning was suspected by some

persons, but the evidence of doctors who had made a post-mortem examination showed that death was due to convulsions brought about by anæmia. The kidneys and brain were perfectly healthy, so that death could not be due to lead-poisoning. Verdict accordingly.——At the inquest on June 16, on the body of Henry Riley, a glost placer, who had been employed for the post seven or eight years by Doultons, Ltd., of Burslem, the evidence showed that deceased had been marked "good" throughout in the certifying surgeon's register. He died from disease of the kidneys, but although one modical witness stated that he had a blue line, Dr. King Alcock, certifying surgeon, said that the typical kidney of lead poisoning was a small contracted kidney. In this case, however, the kidneys were just the reverse. He declared that he did not consider the disease from which the deceased suffered was brought about by his occupation. Dr. John Russell also gave it as his opinion that lead had nothing at all to do with the cause of death. The jury, after retiring, returned a verdict that death was brought about by disease of the kidneys, but how set up there was not sufficient evidence to show. The jury added that they considered that in such cases as that the post mortem should be made by an independent medical man from outside the district. Mr. S. Shuter (H.M. Inspector of Factories) replied that Dr. King Alcock was the representative of the Home Office, holding a strictly impartial position, and without a brief for either side. In the House of Commons, Sir Charles Dilke asked the Home Secretary if his attention had been called to an inquest held at Burslem concerning the death of a man of 23, employed for seven or eight years as a glost placer, and to the statement of the foreman of the jury, whose verdict was that there was not sufficient evidence to show how kidney disease had been set up, who considered that in cases of suspected lead poisoning the post-mortem examination should be made by an independent medical man from outside the district; and whether he would consider the bearing of the case on the appointment of certifying surgeons. Mr. Gladstone replied in an answer printed on June 22, that he had no detailed information as to this case, but he would make inquiries.

In the last issue of the POTTERY GAZETTE, brief reference was made to the fact that Mr. George Hassall, of the Cobridge Foundry, Elder-rd., Cobridge, had taken out a provisional patent for a potters' transferring machine of his own invention. Since then we have had the opportunity of inspecting the machine, and of seeing it at work, and we shall be much surprised if the appliance is not very soon in general use. The machine is the outcome of two years' experimental work on the part of Mr. Hassall, and is a sort of jigger and jolly combined. Its method of working is somewhat as follows:—A plate or saucer, with the transfer in position, is placed upon a cushion jigger—operated by a rope—upon which it revolves at considerable speed. An arm, fitted with two or more rubber rollers, then descends upon the surface of the ware, as it spins round, and the rubbers, pressing evenly upon the rim of the ware, effect the transfer in an astonishingly short space of time. The rubbers are of such a consistency that the transfer is made just as effectively upon ware which has embossments in the clay as upon ware possessing a perfectly smooth surface. This is an important feature of the machine, and the difficulty which Mr. Hassall encountered in achieving it may be imagined when it is mentioned that he was compelled to experiment with over forty different kinds and consistencies of rubber before alighting upon the one which gave him the desired result. The rubbers can be operated either automatically or by hand and the machine deals with eight pieces of ware per minute, it beng calculated that it can easily accomplish the work of four apprentices, thereby effecting a considerable saving in the cost of production. The apparatus is made in three styles: the single, with hand-worked rubbers, price £10; the single automatic, £15; and the double automatic, £30. The latter machine, which does double the work of the single, occupies a space of about four square feet, while the single machine only takes up about two square feet. Another claim which Mr. Hassall makes for his apparatus is that while the rubbers exert sufficient pressure to transfer the print thoroughly, there is no danger whatever of breaking the ware. The working of the automatic machine is so simple that the operator has nothing to do but lay the ware on the jigger and take it off again, while the machine in which the rubbers are brought on to the ware by hand causes but very little more exertion. Many manufacturers have already visited the Cobridge Foundry to see machines in operation, and so many of them have been ordered that Mr. Hassall desires us to state that he cannot now promise immediate delivery. Orders, however, will be dealt with in rotation. On the occasion of our visit to Mr. Hassall's commodious works, we were interested to hear from him that he is now experimenting with a machine which aims at printing in six or more colours at one operation, thus dispensing with lithos, while another contrivance upon which he is working is an apparatus for washing off prints after the transferring has been done.

Now that the picnicking season has fairly commenced, most of the "works" outings have been arranged for, and some few have already taken place. Among the latter may be mentioned that of the employees of the Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke, who paid a visit to Rudyard a few weeks ago, the party numbering over 170.——On June 20, the 14th annual outing of the workpeople employed by J. Aynsley & Sons, Portland Works, Longton, was held, the large company journeying to Chester and, later on, to Eaton Hall, the magnificent seat of the Duke of Westminster.——A company has been formed, with a capital of £4,000 in £25 shares, to acquire and develop the site upon which the Old Hall Porcelain Works formerly stood in Hanley. A small portion of the land has already been built upon, but an extensive area still remains untouched. No initial public issue has been made.——Several interesting presentations of pottery have recently been made to the Hanley Museum. They include some pieces of early English pottery given by Mr. N. D. Spanton, and a number of specia pieces of the late Mr. W. H. Goss, in ivory porcelain, presented by his daughter, Miss Goss.——At the last meeting of the North Staffordshire Joint School Authority, Mr. E. V. Greatbatch, potters' merchant, who has done invaluable service as the chairman of that authority for many years, tendered his resignation. At the earnest request of his fellow members, however, he was induced to promise to reconsider his decision.——The Duchess of Sutherland organised an exhibition of choice specimens of Mr. Bernard Moore's pottery to be held at Stafford House, June 30.——Mintons, Ltd., have presented to the Stoke Museum an illustrated account of M. Solon's famous pâte-sur-pâte work.

CANADA.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, June 15.

TRAVELLERS' order books are a pretty safe barometer by which to judge the commercial atmosphere. From every point of the compass this month come the most encouraging reports. Crop and fruit prospects continue to point to a wonderful harvest, and on the strength of these prospects many people are buying and decreasing stocks that over careful merchants assured themselves would be sufficient to carry them along until the imports arrived. The merchant, in scores of cases, has deceived himself, and is now crying for the agents to cable rush delivery for goods that are not due for several weeks yet. There is no doubt of the revival of trade. June is always a quiet month. July will find matters very greatly improved everywhere, provided, of course, that some disaster does not overtake the crops. British Columbia is the "banner province" of the year for the pottery and glass men. Every traveller who has covered the Pacific Province for an Eastern house has returned with a well-filled order book, and the larger cities of the North-West have been correspondingly generous to the knights of the road. Another month of such weather will save the wheat and the fruit, and every trace of the "stringency" of the past few months will have vanished in thin air.

On the eve of the promised prosperity it seems unfortunate that the Crystal Glass Co., Ltd., of New Westminster, B.C., should have found its affairs so tangled that failure was inevitable. The company was organised in November, 1906, with a capital of $150,000, for the manufacture of bottles, fruit jars, lamp glasses, insulators, &c., and the plant was ideally situated and equipped with the very latest machinery for the economical production of glassware of the nature specified. The company is now in the hands of a receiver. Whether or not it will resume operations cannot yet be ascertained.

Word comes from Vancouver, B.C., that the Doultons are considering the advisability of erecting a pottery for the production of Royal Doulton in that city. The younger Mr. Doulton has been in Canada some time, and it is stated that his present visit had for its object the working out of the details of this plan.——Mr. Wood, senior, of Wood & Son, Burslem, England, was in Toronto in the middle of June.

The new branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway opened

between Toronto and Sudbury on June 13, brings Winnipeg eight hours nearer to Eastern Canada. This is the most important stride made in railroad construction in the Dominion since the building of the main line of the same transcontinental railway away back in the seventies. It will mean a vast increase of passenger and freight traffic between East and West.——One of the most satisfactory features of the growth of the North-West is the evidence of English settlement. In the Anglican diocese of Saskatchewan, which covers the northern half of the province of that name, forty-five new churches were built last year, and the bishop wants thirty more clergymen. Other denominations are equally vigorous in growth and in want of spiritual leaders.

American importers are wide awake to the possibilities of the Canadian markets in view of the splendid prospects for a large harvest, and are opening agencies here in the determination to secure a firm footing. Mr. Edward Butler, of New York, is the latest to arrive at that conclusion, although he will do it less pretentiously than will Lazarus, Rosenfeld & Lehmann, who propose opening large branch warehouses and sample rooms in Winnipeg and Calgary in time for the fall import season. All of these United States houses are offering the finer lines of British pottery.——There is talk here of the organisation of a strong company for the import pottery and glassware trade in Canada. The company will be formed of Toronto and Hamilton wholesale and retail crockery merchants, and will have ample capital with which to enter the field of competition.

THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE state of the flint glass trade in the Midland counties still remains unsatisfactory, and, though it shows an improvement upon the condition in April, there seems little prospect of a permanent change for the better. In Stourbridge and immediate district the firms doing high-class work appear to be meeting with most success for the superior goods they produce. An important movement is being made by a number of glass makers, tending to bring about a great improvement in at least one branch of the table trade. Too often their action, through the unions, has had the effect of retarding the progress and preventing the extension of the industry by which they and others gained a likelihood. This time wiser counsels prevailed, and on May 30 a meeting of workmen was held at Dudley—formerly an important seat of the trade—the persons composing the gathering being members of the local branch of the Flint Glassmakers' Society. They met to consider a scheme under which our large brewers are being asked to support the trade by purchasing British instead of foreign made tumblers, lamps, &c., for the public-houses they severally own. A report of the proceedings is given elsewhere in this issue.

The report by the British Consul at Philadelphia upon glassmaking in the United States, published on page 673 of the last issue of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, has attracted attention because of the statements as to the great strides made in the use of machinery for the quicker and cheaper production of glass bottles, &c. There is reason to believe that the Consul has been, to some extent, misled by his American informants. For instance, in the assertion that one man can look after three machines producing 36 bottles per minute and work 12 hours per day, the apparatus capable of running for 24. There are other assertions in the report, the accuracy of which practical men here deny, though they own that in the United States, as well as in England, great progress has been made of late years in the mechanical production of glassware, and this progress is still continuing. So far Stourbridge and district have been little affected by the changes; our manufacturers, to use a nautical expression, always keep a weather eye open, and therefore are prepared for eventualities. The cutters of this centre of the glass trade have not had a busy time, but those whose abilities in the execution of the highest class of work are high have been well employed. The art of the cutter is faced with more than one danger, lead-poisoning being the chief among those using much putty powder. An inquest on the body of Alf. Bowkley, of Amblecote, lately employed at the Dennis Works, was held on May 30, and showed that he had suffered from chronic lead-poisoning, which had brought on cerebral hæmorrhage, and so caused his death. The medical evidence was that he was suffering from the disease before being a cutter at the Dennis Glassworks.

In Birmingham there is but little briskness in the ordinary glass trade. Cutters are partly employed by local and Sheffield silversmiths on scent bottles, cruets, small dishes, and various fancy articles, chiefly of Continental manufacture. In the glass houses a fair amount of pressed work is being produced, but glass for electric and gas lighting is in little request, it being just now between seasons. The prospect for the late autumn and winter is not regarded as encouraging, the Belgian and French houses having gained so great a hold on the British market. This applies, of course, though not in as great a degree, to other classes of glassware. Upon this matter a firm of dealers of repute, who chiefly cater for licensed victuallers and hotel keepers, &c., have written a letter, in which they say: "We are delighted to hear that English makers are at last waking up to the fact that an enormous quantity of foreign table-glass is now being used in this country. . . . . There is a general demand for a thin-lip glass, which the foreign makers have cultivated. Little effort has been made by the English makers to meet the demand, consequently the English-made glass gets left behind, even when price is not the essential factor." After dealing with other matters, the letter closes with the statement that the glasses supplied to the working man with his beer are of English make, while for the better class trade they are almost invariably foreign, the inference being that the latter articles are chosen because they are superior in elegance to the home-made glasses. The writers declare that they only know of two public bars in Birmingham that use English glass for their best trade. The business done in the city in the manufacture of looking-glasses, chiefly in the hands of one well-known firm, has been fairly good during the past two months, despite keen competition. At Spon Lane the manufacture of murano and other ornamental window-glass goes on, much being shipped for abroad. A good deal is doing in the chief speciality of the company—lenses and other glass for lighthouses—for which there is a demand from all parts of the habitable globe. Present prospects are encouraging.

The glass trade in Lancashire cannot be reported as in a healthy condition. In St. Helens a number of window-glass and German sheet hands and other workers dependent upon these branches have been discharged since our last article was published, because of slackness. At the time of writing there appears little prospect of their early employment. In plate glass there is not the usual amount of activity, and the cause is, as in the other branches, the severe competition by Continental houses. It is the same in the bottle-glass trade. Firms in St. Helens and Warrington find business very irregular, partly through

the changeable weather, which affects the mineral water branch to a remarkable degree. For black beers and wines there has, however, been a rather better demand in both towns for the colonial and general export trade. The call for flint goods in the latter town, especially for those requiring the cutter's art, has been sluggish for a few months, and cannot be reported brisk in the closing days of June. Pressed tumblers, &c., are in less request.

In Manchester the glass trade generally is doing badly, much worse than last year, and that was certainly not a very prosperous one. "There seems to be no life in it," said a manager of more than thirty years' experience when consulted the other day, "and the prospect for the future, or so long as our present system of so-called free trade exists is certainly cheerless." Owing to the depression in the staple industry of the county there is less activity among machinery glass makers, and shorter hours of labour have been worked. The table trade, both in pressed and plain, as well as in cut goods, has but little "go" in it. Travellers find it difficult to get orders of the average value. Shopkeepers as well as brewers are watching the course of the Licensing Bill in Parliament, and keeping down stocks, for fear that if it passes in its present form they may be seriously affected. The fancy glass departments of works, where flower vases, &c., are manufactured, have not had an average summer trade, something is being done in readiness for the lighting season in bringing out new patterns for gas-shades, electroliers, &c., and they will soon be on offer to dealers.

In South and West Yorkshire the glass bottle trade has undergone some variation since the publication of our last article, partly because of the weather adversely affecting the demand for aërated waters and the lighter beers. Blowers have suffered through the increased use of machines for producing not only jars and salt-mouth rounds, but narrow-necked bottles. At first the employers maintained that the interests of the men would not be jeopardised, as the machines were only wanted for the making of such articles as could not be produced in the ordinary chair at a profit. But the invention has been so perfected that vast quantities of ale and stout half-pints and pints, &c., are turned out daily, and many old-system workmen have had to change their occupations or become a public burden, being unable to find employment. A return for 1907, confessedly incomplete, shows that 14 firms were employing these machines, but that 6 had abandoned their use. At the present time there are more in operation. An approximate estimate supplied to us shows that the cost per gross by the old-system methods is 11s. 4d., as compared with 4s. 10d. by the Owens Automatic Machine, an enormous difference in favour of the latter. Per contra, the machines that were in operation at Old Trafford, and described, as may be remembered, in THE POTTERY GAZETTE, have been stopped for some months, a sale of the valuable patent rights having taken place.

A movement amongst members of glass trade societies calls for notice. A conference of delegates was recently held at Nottingham, but, as the principal body in the industry, that of the Yorks. Glass Bottle Makers, was not represented, it was decided to endeavour to secure their attendance at a future meeting, the object being to adopt a scheme of federation, in which there would be at least 8,000 workers represented. At a meeting of the glass Bottle Makers' Society, subsequently held in Leeds, it was resolved to reduce the weekly contribution of 3s., which many members have felt severely, to 2s. The federation scheme was discussed, but without any practical decision being arrived at. Under the last agreement with the employers, which expires in February next, the weekly wages are :—Chairmen, 36s. ; blowers, 34s. ; and gatherers, 29s. ; and an advance of 2½ per cent. on overwork earnings. Meetings for combinations amongst manufacturers have taken place, and there is likely to be a great development of machine bottle making. The importation of bottles is increasing, and this makes the lot of old system workers additionally hard. The state of trade generally is unsatisfactory, and the long-talked-of European combination to prevent excessive imports and to keep up prices, it is feared will not avail much. A pauper glass bottle maker's candid confession to the Pontefract Board of Guardians recently caused some amusement. He had refused an offer of employment from Jackson Bros. Knottingley, on the ground that he was comfortable and could not improve his position as an inmate of the Union House by working. Challenged by the Board, he declared he had not said so ; "but I thought it," he added, amid loud laughter. A sad fatality took place on June 7 at Redfearn's glass works, Barnsley. One of the founders named J. T. Pilkington, got his head fast in a furnace lift and died on being liberated. It was a pure accident, and declared to be such next day at the coroner's inquest.

The York Glass Works have been fairly well employed during the past two months, not only in the production of "medicals," but of other articles used by doctors. Flint glass for scientific purposes has also been manufactured. A rather different state of things has prevailed in the Newcastle and Sunderland district, which has not yet got over the depression caused by the great strike and lockout in the shipbuilding and allied trades. There is still much poverty. Bottle makers at the last-named place and at Seaham Harbour have, however, done a little better, and in Sunderland and Newcastle cheap pressed and other flint goods have somewhat improved. The expectations of better trade when autumn arrives are likely to be realised. At present short time is being worked at some manufactories producing common tumblers, dishes, &c.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE holiday feeling is now affecting the pottery and glass trades a little, even as it does most other industries. This is specially felt in Glasgow, which is also the chief centre of our trades in Scotland. The wholesale cessation of business, which annually takes place in July, already shows signs of approach. Glasgow "Fair," falling due in July, is commonly spoken of as the "Fair Week," but with many of the works it becomes really the "Fair Fortnight," while some even carry on the closure into the third week. In the pottery and glass factories of Glasgow the time of stoppage as a rule runs to two weeks ; but this is not wholly a blank time, for the proprietors seize the opportunity for an overhaul of their premises and plant, cleaning up and clearing out all over, and making good in the way of repairs wherever necessary, thus preparing for a renewal of production under greatly improved circumstances. At present the various works over the country are still in the normal course of output, with perhaps no very great rush anywhere, although the makers of jam-jars are busy, producing and stocking in preparation for the needs of the coming new season for preserves. It is expected that in its demand for jam jar supplies this new season will distinctly excel the last, though that was not bad. Fruit crops promise well over almost the whole of the field, whether home or foreign, and there is also an easing off in the cost of sugar, which is bound to induce the preserve manufacturers to extend the sphere of their operations. Reports by the Rockingham manufacturers indicate a fair output and demand at present, with business doing at passable prices—a modest

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expression certainly, but one which could not be truly used a little while ago. The general understanding lately arrived at as regards this line is thus shown to be working fairly well, so far. Among the wholesale merchants June is reported as having been a very quiet time. The coast and health resort orders had been mostly got out of hand before the month came in, and the demand for the ordinary town and city supplies has been very poor. The total of the coast supply business done indicates some little improvement over the last and foregoing seasons, as if in expectation that this year is to make up partly for the comparative blank of last year. So far, however, signs of big migration coastwards are wanting, the temperature having ruled abnormally low. So the wholesale merchants begin to have but small expectations of anything in the way of repeat orders during July and August. Prices, they report, are fairly well maintained, this applying to glass goods (Scotch, English, and foreign) as well as to china and earthenware.

Coming to the retail section in the cities and big towns, we find that the merchants in this class have not very much to say as to the business in June. Weather, though too cool, has been drier, making shopping conditions more bearable, but resulting business has not come up to anything like the June turnover of a moderately good year. Something has been done in the line of wedding presents in addition to what was experienced on the same account in May, but, as before, the less costly and, for the trade, the less profitable articles were chiefly in request. With the inland retail houses July and August are discounted beforehand as quiet months, much of the family custom being elsewhere. As regards the outlook for the latter months, comfort is taken from the settlement of the shipbuilding dispute, and in the avoidance of the wholesale stoppage at one time threatened, such interruption always, in Scotland (and especially over Glasgow), bearing very heavily on the china, earthenware, and glass industries.

As regards the recent dispute in the Scottish potteries, arranged under the Board of Trade arbitration method, it is understood that the amended working rules are doing fairly well, both sides remaining willing that adequate time for reliable results should be afforded.

The Gazette.

Dissolution of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

CLARK C. (Chas. Clark and Saml. Arthur Bracken), 57, St. James-st., Walthamstow, china and glass dealers. Dec. 25, 1907. Debts by S. A. Bracken, who continues. (May 29.)

Notice as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

CAULFIELD & Co. (Jas. Brown Dick), 16, Adam's-court-lane, Glasgow, wholesale china, crystal, and stoneware merchants. Business transferred April 27 by Jno. Meikle, accountant, Glasgow, trustee duly authorised by said J. B. Dick, to Thos. Macdonald, 5, York-st., Glasgow, by whom all debts. (May 26.)

Notice of Dividend.

SAVAGE JOSEPH E., 57, Devon-st., St. Helens, glass dealer. First and final, 1s. 11d., at O.R.'s, Liverpool.

Notice of Intended Dividend.

CLARKE JANE and WM. DASH, trading as Clarke & Dash, 66, Cheltenham-st., Swindon, china dealers. Claims to H. Bevir, Swindon, O.R.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is necessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

* *These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(*The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.*—EDS. P. G.)

BEECH SARAH, Station Approach, South Shields, and 2, Lish-avenue, Whitley, general dealer. Dated May 26. Filed May 27. Liabilities unsecured, £207. Property, after deducting secured claims, £100. Tr., R. Chapman, Barrington-st., South Shields. The following are creditors:—Faudels, Ltd., London, £14; C. H. Geertz, London, £11; Jonas Lang & Co., London, £17; Royal Crown Pottery Co, Hanley, £65; J. Pollard, South Shields, £11; Miles, Sykes & Co., Sowerby Bridge, £15. Secured creditors, £93.

BENNOSON JULIUS, trading as J. Bennoson & Co., 72A, Palatine-rd, and residing at 21, Stoke Newington-rd., Stoke Newington victuallers' glass and bottle dealer. Dated May 13. Filed May 20 Liabilities unsecured, £768. Property, after deducting secured claims, £56. Tr., H. McLellan, 6A, Devonshire-square, London, E.C. A list of creditors appeared in our last issue.

BRADLEY JNO., Booth Bed, Allostock, brick, tile, and flowerpot manufacturer. Dated June 1. Filed June 3. Liabilities unsecured, £781. Property, after deducting secured claims, £514. Tr., J. Booth, Barwood, Knutsford. The following are creditors:—Mrs. Lambert, Boots Green, £11; E. Barber, Chelford, £60; J. S. Harrison (exors. of), Goostrey, £23; J. Lord,, Northwich, £143; Moore & Brock, Northwich, £63; Tom Leicester, Northwich, £29; — Austin, Northwich, £11; H. Mayhew, Wigan, £15; J. Bamford and Mary Bamford, Wilmslow, £100; Bankers' Claims, £178. Secured creditors, £350.

BROADHURST WALTER, 15, Charles-st., Oxford-st., Manchester, and 23, Nicholas-rd, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, glass etcher. Dated May 25. Filed June 1. Liabilities unsecured, £305. Property, after deducting secured claims, £54. Tr., P. Higson, 42, Spring-gardens, Manchester. The following are creditors: —Union Loan and Discount Co. of Manchester, Ltd., Manchester, £285.

CARTER HARRY, 296, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth, china merchant. Dated May 20. Filed May 26. Liabilities unsecured, £295. Property, after deducting secured claims, £135. Tr., O. Berry, 3, Pearl-buildings, Portsmouth. The following are creditors:—Neuberger & Co., London, £11; J. W. Oatres, London, £10; Keeling & Co., Burslem, £13; Methven & Sons, Kirkealdy, £14; Barker Bros., Longton, £48; Bridgwood & Son, Longton, £18; Hollinshead & Kirkham, Tunstall, £11; Rent and rates, £14.

THOMSON JAS., 123, Albert-bridge-rd., Belfast, and 239 Woodstock-rd., Belfast, china merchant. Dated May 26. Filed May 27 Liabilities unsecured, £1,200. Property, after deducting secured claims, £907. Petition for arrangement, and affidavit of assets and liabilities. The following are creditors:—Moser Bros., London, £26 5s.; J. N. & E. Fellheimer, London, £55; H. Sytsa, Cavan, £200; James G. Macintyre. Dublin, £80; T. S. Varian & Co., Dublin, £25.

Orders Made on Application for Discharge.

BARKER THOS., trading as Thos. Barker & Co., 2, Dudley-rd., and 29, Portland-rd., Osterley-park-rd., Southall, glass merchant. May 5. Discharge suspended two years.

BEDFORD EDWD. T., 692, Fulham-rd., glass dealer. May 6. Discharge suspended two years.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BENNETT HERBERT EDGAR (trading as Bennett & Sons), china and glass dealer, 23, York-place, Brighton, Sussex. The public examination of this debtor, whose liabilities were £244 and assets £112, was held on June 11 at the Court House, Church-st., Brighton, when the debtor informed the Court that he commenced business about eighteen months ago with £350 capital, of which he spent about £125 on alterations. The trade was not very good, and he had to live on his capital. Last year the returns averaged about £12 a week, and a gross profit was made of about 25 per cent. He thought things would improve this year, but trade has become worse. He had recently offered his creditors 5s. in the £. The case was formally closed.

DASH WILLIAM and JANE CLARK (trading as Clark & Dash), china and glass dealers, 66, Cheltenham-st., Swindon, Wilts. These debtors attended last month at County Court Buildings, Clarence-st., Swindon, for their adjourned public examination, before Mr. Registrar Kinneir, when the case was ordered to be concluded.

DICKINS, JOSEPH GEORGE, china and glass dealer, 108, Hoe-st., and 27, Winchester-rd., Walthamstow, E. Under this failure Mr.

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39, Rue Paradis.

E. Leadham Hough, General Official Receiver, has now issued to the creditors the usual summary of the debtor's statement of affairs, together with his observations upon the case. The summary shows liabilities £839 12s. 2d., of which £296 12s. 2d. are returned as unsecured and £512 as fully secured, and estimated net assets £82 6s. 9d. A deficiency of £214 5s. 5d. is accordingly disclosed. The following are the Official Receiver's observations :—The Receiving Order was made on the petition of the debtor, who was, on his own application, immediately adjudged bankrupt. At the first meeting of creditors, held on May 5, no resolution was passed ; the Official Receiver therefore remains trustee of the estate. The debtor states that he, for the past twenty years, has been in employment as clerk to a firm of general produce brokers, his present salary being £200 per annum, and for three or four years past has also carried on business as a china and glass dealer latterly at 108, Hoe-st., and 27, Winchester-rd., both in Walthamstow. He attributes his insolvency to loss in trading, to loss on fitting up his shops, and to depreciation in the valuation of his stock-in-trade as estimated for realisation. The following deficiency account, dating from July 1, 1905 (when he commenced the china business), has been filed—viz. : Loss in fitting up shops, £42 19s. 6d. ; depreciation in value of lease of 10, Howard-rd., Walthamstow, £45 ; depreciation in value of stock-in-trade as now estimated for realisation, £70 ; premiums on life policy, £20 3s. 9d., less surrender value, £6—£14 3s. 9d. ; law costs of petition, £11 ; interest on loans, £56 4s. 11d. ; subscriptions to building society, £22 15s. ; household and personal expenditure, £480 ; net loss in trading (estimated to balance), £197 2s. 3d.—total, £939 5s. 5d. Deduct : surplus then existing, £175 ; salary received, £550—£725. Deficiency as per statement of affairs, £214 5s. 5d. The books of account produced, consisting of day, petty cash and cash books, and a creditors' and private ledger, appear to record the bulk of the bankrupt's business transactions, but do not disclose his financial position. Of the unsecured liabilities £32 is due for cash advanced and interest, £191 for trade goods, &c., supplied, and £39 for rent ; most of the others are in respect of goods supplied for household and personal use. The creditors treated as "fully secured" are stated to hold (1) against £405 cash advanced and interest (a) a mortgage of the lease of 10, Howard-rd. (valued at £405), (b) a bond certificate for £350 in a building society (valued at nil), and (c) a fully paid up policy of insurance for £69 17s. 6d. on the bankrupt's life (of no surrender value, and valued at nil) ; (2) against £100 cash advanced (a) a mortgage of the bankrupt's reversionary interest (valued at £125) expectant upon the death of a lady aged seventy years in a half-share of the estate (estimated value £700) of his late father, and (b) a policy of insurance for £250 effected in December, 1905, on the life of the bankrupt's son, but assigned to bankrupt ; and (3) against £7, the unpaid balance due in respect of a sun-blind and lamp, hire-purchase agreements therefor. The sitting for the debtor's public examination was held on May 28 at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Hope. Examined by Mr. Daniel Williams, who attended as Assistant Receiver, the debtor bore out the statements contained in the observations, and the examination was ordered to be concluded.

Holland William Thomas (trading as H. Holland), china and glass merchant, 59, Kingston-rd., Buckland, Portsmouth, Hants. The first meeting of creditors herein was held on Monday, June 15, at the Official Receiver's office, Cambridge Junction, High-st., Portsmouth. The gross liabilities were £280 0s. 4d., of which £271 11s. 4d. was expected to rank, and there was a deficit of £232 7s. 9d. The debtor ascribed his failure to insufficient turnover. It appeared that the receiving order and order of adjudication were made on the petition of the debtor. After employment in the Potteries as an enamel kiln fireman, when twenty years of age, he joined the Royal Navy and served twelve years as a stoker. When he left the Service he had about £100, and in April, 1906, with this he opened a glass and china business at 67, Kingston-rd., removing twelve months later to 59, Kingston-rd. He appears to have done very little trade at either place, and states that his takings have not averaged more than £6 a week, and that he has been losing heavily from the start, but was not aware of his position until served with processes in May, when he went into his affairs. About twelve months ago he began borrowing of money-lenders, and states that he did this in the hope that trade would improve. He first borrowed £20, for which he paid £35, and then £50 from another lender, for which he agreed to pay £75, and has paid £21. He also borrowed £20 from a third firm, agreeing to pay £28, and has paid £20. He has kept daily records of his takings to the end of 1907, but no other accounts of any kind have been kept. The household furniture is claimed by the debtor's wife, who states that this was bought from her savings as a music teacher, or was given to her as wedding presents on her marriage in June, 1906. It was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Official Receiver. The following are creditors :—Wm. Adams & Co., Tunstall, £10 ; — Cotton, Hanley, £8 ; S. Dean, Burslem, £11 ; Empire Porcelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £23 ; Foster & Sons, Longton, £11 ; Gent & Sons, London, £13 ; Green & Sons, London, £6 ; Green & Co., Sunderland, £4 ; Hodge & Sons, Plymouth, £8 ; Jones & Sons, Longton, £10 ; — Lockutt, Hanley, £15 ; — Lazarus, London, £5 ; Midland Discount Co., Leicester, £8 ; — Mortimer, London, £11 ; Swinnertons, Hanley, £5.

Nowell Benjamin (trading as A. E. Nowell), 4, St. Luke's-rd., Beeston Hill, Leeds, glass and china dealer, &c. In this case the liabilities are stated at £128 16s. 10d., and the assets are estimated to realise £17 8s. 4d. The following are creditors :—H. Hutchinson Leeds, £70 ; Mrs. E. Langstaff, Leeds, £20 ; Dr. Taylor, Leeds, £14. Exam., C.C. Leeds, July 14 at 11.

Pearson Harry (trading as H. Pearson & Co.), glass manufacturer, Round Oak, Stafford. Mr. Registrar Collis held a sitting on May 27 at the Court House, Hagley-rd., Stourbridge, for this debtor's public examination. It transpired that the debtor started trading with his father in 1894 with a capital of £1,000, of which debtor contributed £500 which his father had given him. In 1900 the father died, and debtor (who was an executor) agreed with the other executors to pay £1,800 for his father's interest in the business, which he continued on his own account. Five years later one of the beneficiaries under the will instituted an action against him for payment of the £1,800 with interest, and debtor was ordered by the Court to pay £2,246 17s. 10d. in seven days. Subsequently another order was made against the debtor and his brother for £1,346, shown on tho accounts as cash in hand, but the debtor said that no such amount was in hand and this was a clerical error. He had been drawing £500 a year, but for the last few years there had been only very small profits. The debtor ascribed his deficiency (which was set down at £3,946) to the action referred to, bad trade, high prices of fuel and materials, and heavy breakages in regard to the furnaces. He admitted having betted, but could not say that he had lost any money by this. He admitted being short of money about two years ago, but said that he would have been helped through by friends had it not been for the Chancery action. In reply to Mr. Waldron, the debtor admitted that the figures he had submitted to the bank, and on which he had received an overdraft, were exaggerated. After the debtor had been further questioned with regard to various affidavits which he had filed, the case was adjourned, the debtor being ordered to furnish a cash account for the last year. The following are creditors :—F. Atkinson, Kidderminster, £34 ; E. Booth & Co., Birmingham, £11 ; Baronche Bloxham, Birmingham, £47 ; S. Krinks, Birmingham, £242 ; Bowens Succrs, Ltd., Brettell Lane, £13 ; Pitt & Co., Brettell Lane, £82 ; Earl of Dudley, Dudley, £200 ; Midland Railway Co., Dudley, £25 ; Hy. Davies, Bilston, £110 ; E. Enderlin, London, £55 ; C. O. Gallimore, Brierley Hill, £17 ; W. Roberts, Brierley Hill, £15 ; Stevens & Williams, Brierley Hill, £17 ; Wassell & Sons, Brierley Hill, £35 ; T. H. Williams, Brierley Hill, £34 ; John Hall & Co., Stourbridge, £26 ; Harrison & Pearson, Stourbridge, £25 ; Howard Pearson, Stourbridge, £485 ; Chas. Squires, Stourbridge, £15 ; Jones & Co., Cardiff, £20 ; W. B. Marshall & Son, Liverpool, £109 ; Arthur Pearson (exors. of), Lye, £2,035 ; E. J. Rose, Bristol, £16 ; P. Segner, Manchester, £39 ; Smart & Sons, Wordsley, £12 ; Severn Canal Carrying Co., Stourport, £12 ; Wengers, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £40 ; H. Wiggin & Co., Smithwick, £80 ; Walker, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester, £84 ; Josh. Williams, Upper Gornal, £17. Fulley secrued creditors, £708 ; partly secured creditors (security £249), £545.

Reynolds Wm., 3 and 4, Corn Market, Thame, late 19, Tavistock-st., Bedford, china dealer. R.O., June 5. Adj., June 5. Exam. County Hall, Aylesbury, July 13 at 11.

Standen Leonard, 30, Mill-st., late 11, Burnley-rd., Padiham, china dealer. R.O., June 17. Adj. June 17.

Sutcliffe Wright, 39, Hough-lane, Leyland, foreman iron turner. R.O., June 17.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

Ceramic Impregnating Process, No. 11,321.—Grunzweig & Hartmann, G.m.b.H. Process for impregnating ceramic and other porous objects. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, June 6, 1907.)

Decanter, No. 11,374.—J. R. Lunt, J. Lunt, and T. Nevin. Improved decanter, May 26, 1908.

Dovetailed Earthenware Locking Joint, No. 12,283.—F. W. Smart. Dovetailed locking joint for earthenware or other pipes. June 6, 1908.

Earthenware Pipe Machines, No. 11,567.—M. Yarrow and W. R. Haworth. Improvements in machines for the manufacture of earthenware pipes and the like. May 28, 1908.

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FUEL, No. 11,618.—C. Weiss. Arrangement for using fuel in a more profitable way in furnaces with over or direct flames for burning ceramic ware. May 28, 1908.
GLASS MANUFACTURE, No. 10,862. T. Davidson. Improvements in the manufacture of pressed glass. May 19, 1908.
GLASS METAL PRINTING, No. 10,237.—H. Rudolf. Improvements in and relating to metal printing on glass. May 11, 1908.
GLASSWARE, No. 10,606.—O. A. Mygatt. Improvements in glassware, May 15, 1908.
GLASSWARE, No. 11,538.—O. A. Mygatt. Improved glassware. May 27, 1908.
GLOBES, No. 11,126.—J. Webber. Improvements in globes for inverted lamps or burners. May 22, 1908.
SPIGOT JOINTS, No. 11,466.—R. A. Penn. Improvements in spigot and socket joints of earthenware and stoneware pipes. May 27, 1908.
TEA-POTS, 11,117.—C. G. Slope. Improvements in tea-pots. May 23, 1908.
TUBE REGULATING METHOD, No. 10,878.—F. Paschen. Improved method for regulating the degree of hardness of Röntgen tubes. May 19, 1908.

Specifications Published

1907.

7,194.—Podmore. Construction of apparatus or machines for screening potters' slip.
7,609.—Evans (Curtin). Machines for the manufacture of glass bottles and similar hollow wares.
14,417.—Menzel. Glass furnaces. (Date applied for under International Convention, July 25, 1906.)
23,588.—Plechati. Dewar flasks.
4,119.—Williams. Infants' feeding bottles.
3,447.—Montgomery. Petrol or gas internal-combustion or steam engine driving gear.
10,777.—Mackenzie Carogol (Carogol & Cole). Kilns.
24,514.—Larbalestier. Device for preventing the cracking and breaking of glass lamp chimneys and the like.
2,227.—Boult (Vereinigte Zwieseler und Pirnaer Farbenglaswerke Akt. Ges.). Glass for windows and the like.
2,698.—Denolly and de Montreal. Bottle stoppers for dispensing liquids in drops. (Date applied for under International Convention, Sept. 11, 1907.)

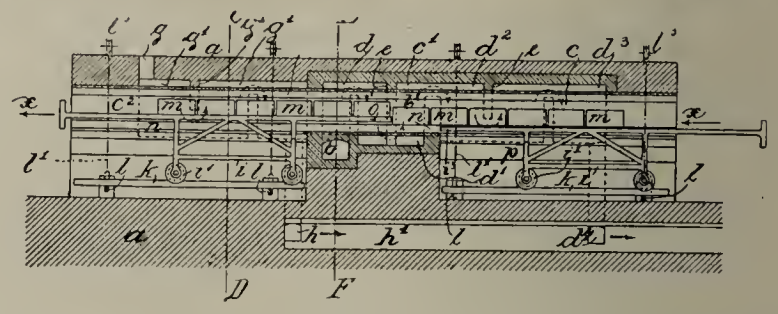
Designs.

520,510.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
522,586.—Bland & Co., 29, Little Trinity-lane, E.C.
522,654.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
522,772.—French Flint Glass Bottle Co., Ltd., Long-lane, E.C.
522,829.—N. Meylein, 25, Rue Louis Le Grand, Paris, and 45, Upper Bedford-place, W.C.
523,056.—Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Eastwood, Hanley.
523,349.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
523,368.—W. K. L. Dickson and H. J. G. Reiser, 64, Strand, W.C.
522,771.—Provincial Incandescent Fittings Co., Ltd., 48–50, Thomas-st., Shudehill, Manchester.
523,104.—Burn Bros., 3, Blackfriars-rd., S.E.
523,391.—C. W. McNay & Sons, Bridgeness Pottery, Bo'ness, N.B.
523,042.—H. Hunt, 18, Gibbon-st., Ancoats, Manchester.
523,057-9.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., London, E.C.
523,350.—G. Davidson & Co., Gateshead-on-Tyne.
523,390.—Wiltshaw, Robinson & Son, Stoke-on-Trent.
523,508.—Falk, Stadelmann & Co., Ltd., Farringdon-rd., E.C.
523,512-5.—C. Davis, 147, New Bond-st., London, W.
523,736.—C. L. Cameron, 54, Nettleham-rd., Woodseats, Sheffield.
528,748.—Maling & Sons, Ford Potteries, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
523,776.—Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem.
523,781-2.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
523,785.—Saunders & Shepherd, Ltd., 58-61, Fetter-lane, E.C.
523,789.—Johnsen & Jorgensen, Ltd., 26-27, Farringdon-st., E.C.
523,819.—Jules Lang & Son, 16, Bury-st., St. Mary-axe, E.C.
523,738.—Johnson Bros. (Hanley), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
524,076.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.

LATEST COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS.

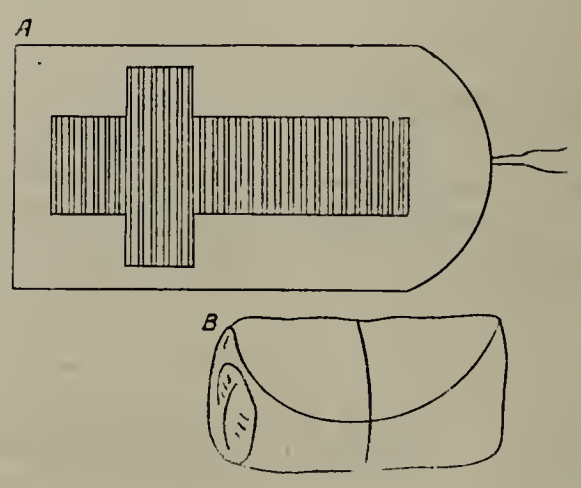
Producing Photographs on Glass, Porcelain, &c.—A. Hans, 14, Rubensstrasse Friedenau, near Berlin, Germany, claims: (1.) A process for producing photographs on metal, glass, porcelain, and the like, by covering the blank with a layer of chromatised fish-glue, exposing the dried layer under a negative, developing and baking, characterised thereby that the image after development is placed in a tanning bath of an aqueous solution of hydro-quinone. (2.) A process according to claim 1, characterised thereby that in order to attain a deep black colour, the solution of hydro-quinone is mixed with log-wood extract, substantially as described. (3.) A process according to claims 1 and 2, characterised by a mixture of various kinds of glue for attaining various shades, substantially as described.

Furnaces for Burning Glass, Porcelain, Majolica, Stoneware, &c.—C. Mayer, of Oeslau, Sachsen-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, claims :—A continuous muffle furnace with two transporting carriages adapted to be raised and moved laterally at both sides of the burning chamber, which



carriages operating oppositely to each other, lift off freely and laterally the articles to be burnt, and the supporting rams of the carriages are withdrawn from the burning chamber after the completion of the lateral movement. The muffle furnace constructed and operating substantially as described and illustrated.

Packing Bottles and other Articles.—The Hon. Florence Margaret Tyssen Amherst, Didlington Hall, Norfolk, declares this invention to be described in the following statement :—Receptacle (especially for travellers) for packing bottles and other articles in wrapper, or made up form. The size and thickness to vary for convenience of articles packed consisting of a layer of corrugated india-ruubber, water-proof paper, or other material, provided with a backing of indiarubber water-proof paper or other material. Complete with cap if necessary, made in water-proof or other material with fastener.



The inventor continues : "I am aware that it is not broadly new to employ for packing bottles and other articles, a wrapper consisting of a backing of sheet material with an attached layer of corrugated material which may sometimes have a facing of other material, or which may extend only partly over the said backing, nor to employ a box-like wrapper with a lid of such material, but what I claim is : (1) The wrapper or receptacle with attached fastenings for packing bottles and other articles constructed as described and illustrated ; (2) the method of packing bottles and other articles comprising the combined use of a cap with the wrapper or receptacle claimed in Claim 1."

New Foreign Patents

United States Patents.

886,807.—N. Hoffmann and F. Muller, Pittsburg, Pa. Bottle.
886,618.—J. H. Lubbers, Allegheny, Pa. Apparatus for drawing hollow glass articles.
12,789.—J. M. Conroy, Pittsburg, Pa., Ornamenting glass.
886,351.—J. E. Crawford, Columbus, Ohio. Automatic snap for glass ware finishing.
887,507.—G. B. Norgrave, Peabody, Mass. Glazing glass or stone.
887,604.—C. Dorn, Philadelphia, Pa. Glass-tube cutter.
889,003.—G. S. Griner, Bridgeton, N.J. Bottle-stopper.

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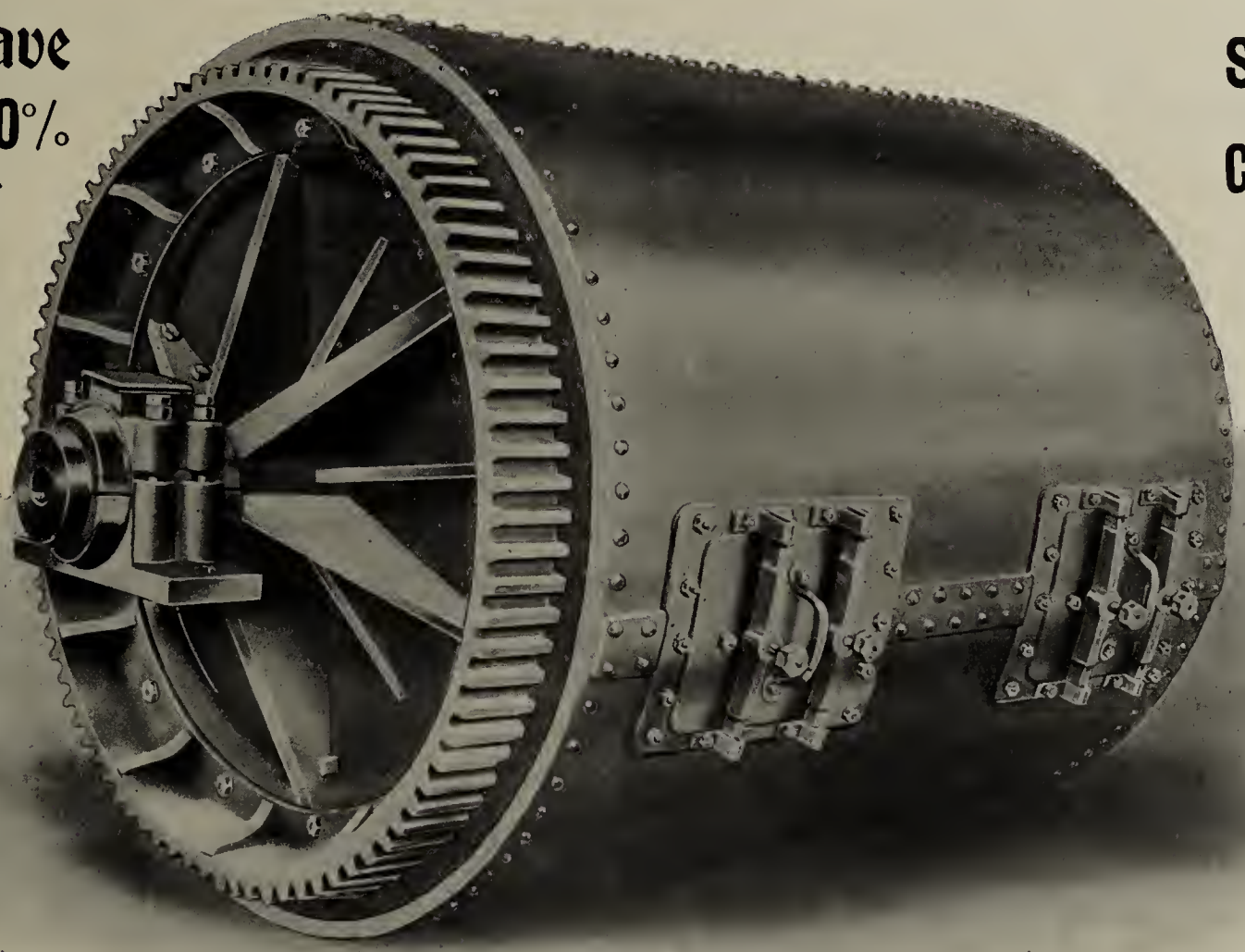
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FRIT CRUSHERS (Saxon Granite Jaws)

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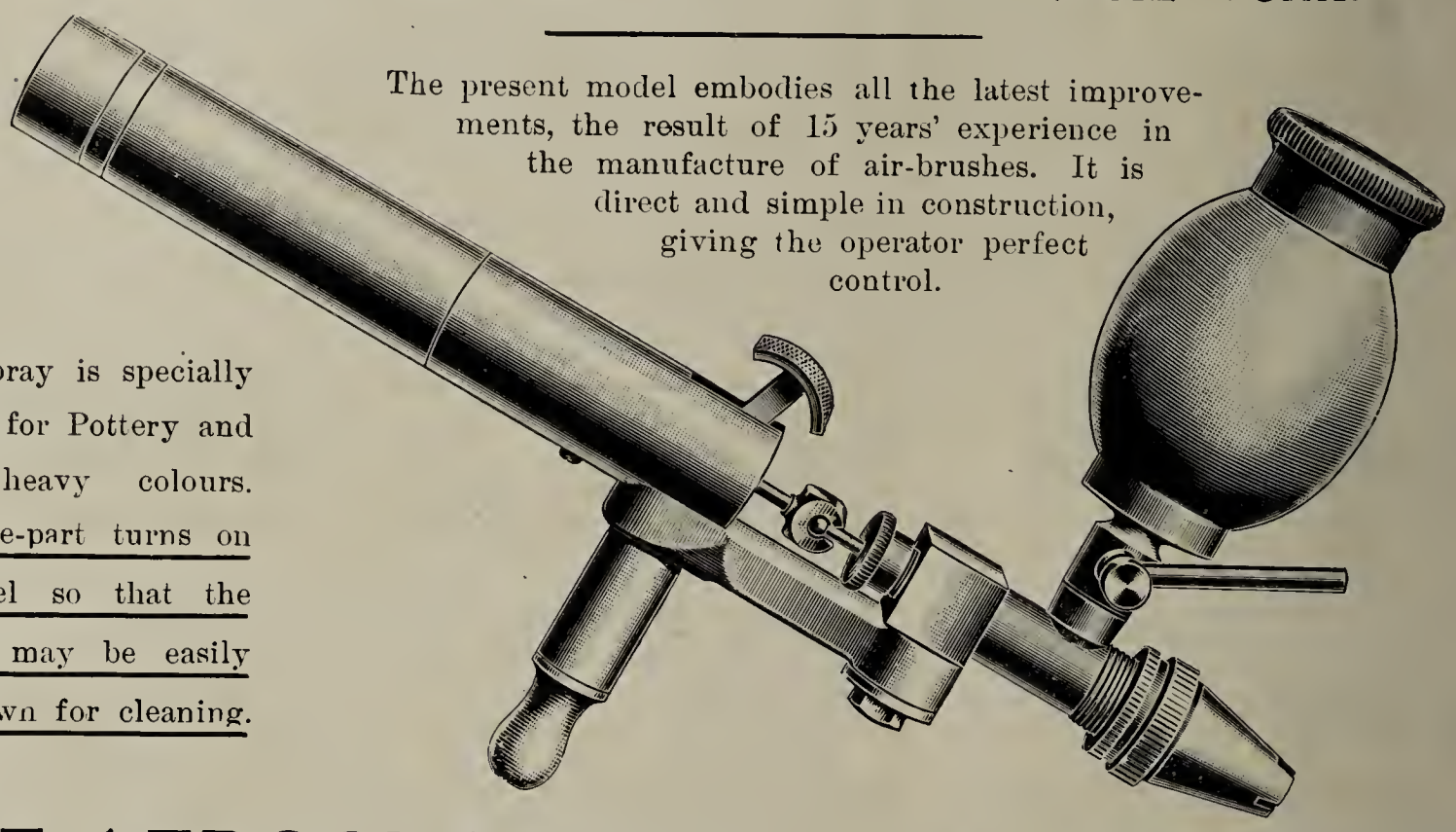
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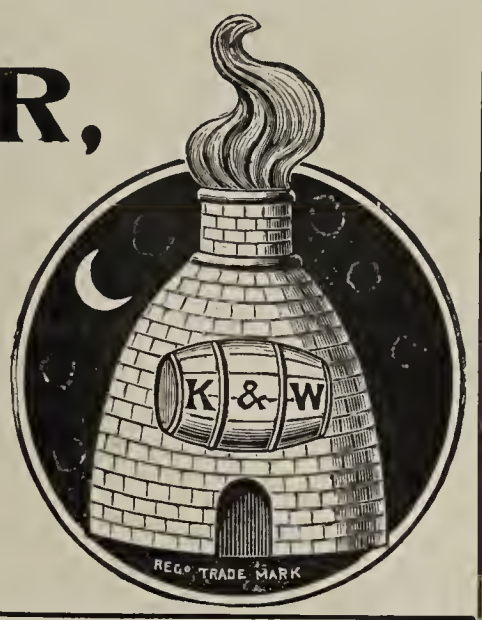
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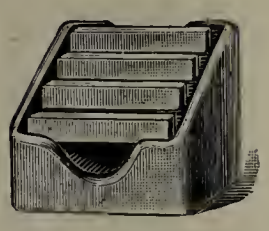
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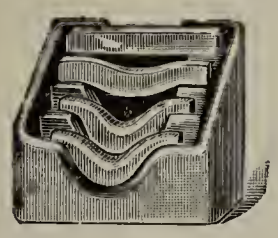
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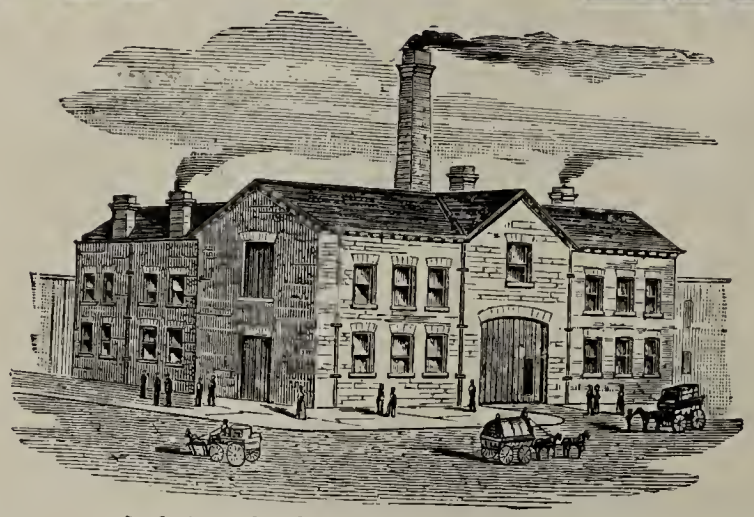
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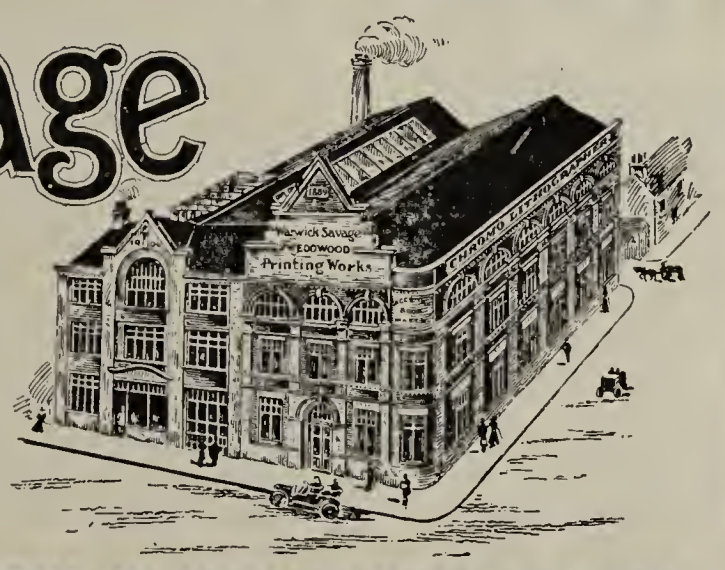
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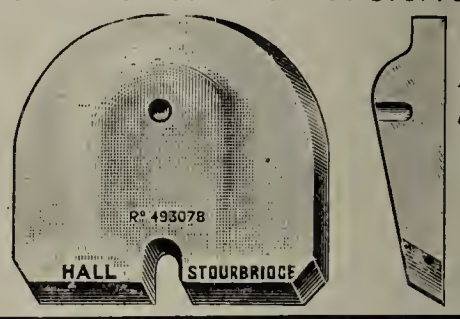
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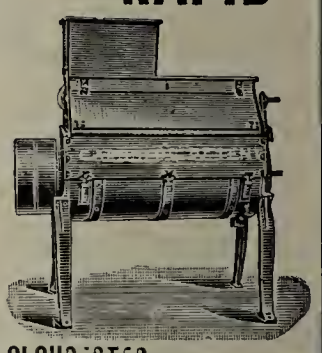
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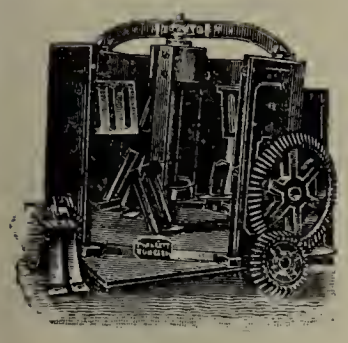
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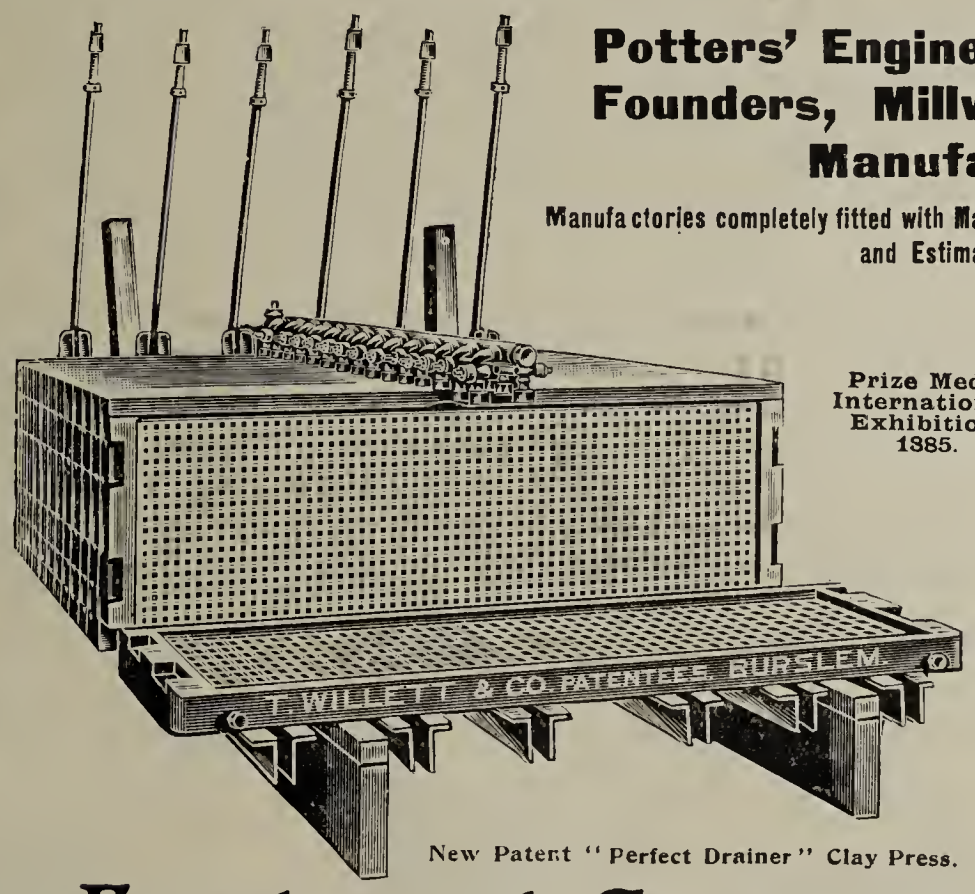
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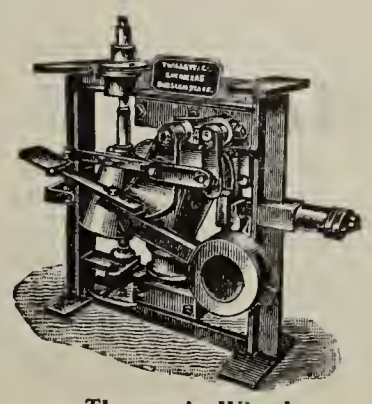


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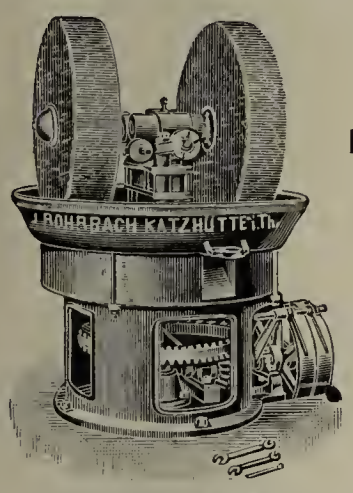
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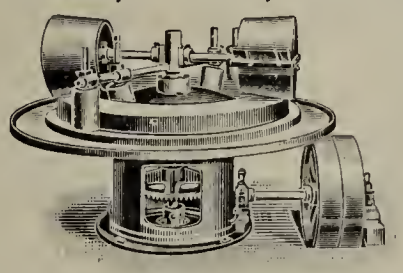
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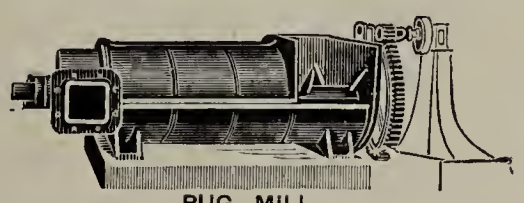


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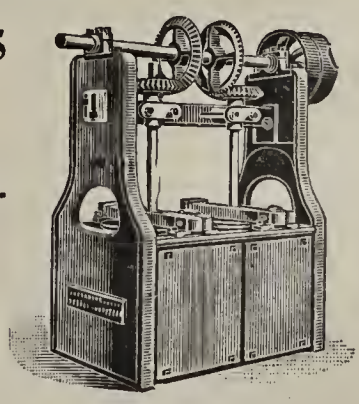
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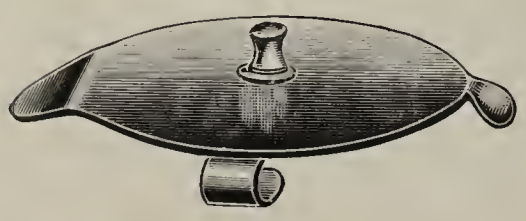
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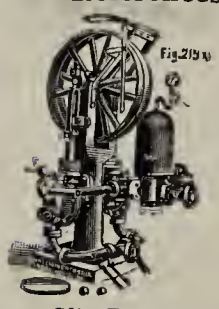
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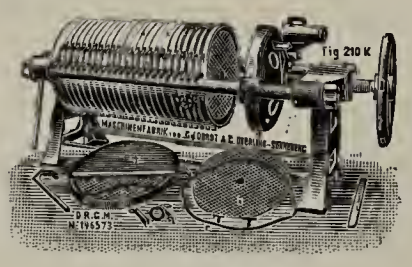
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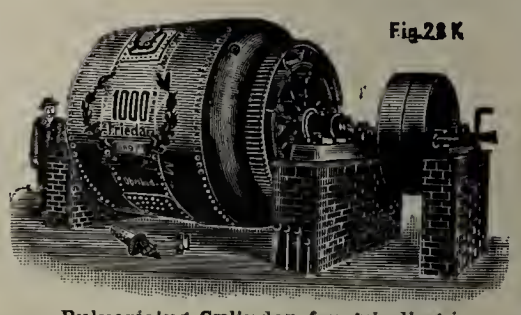
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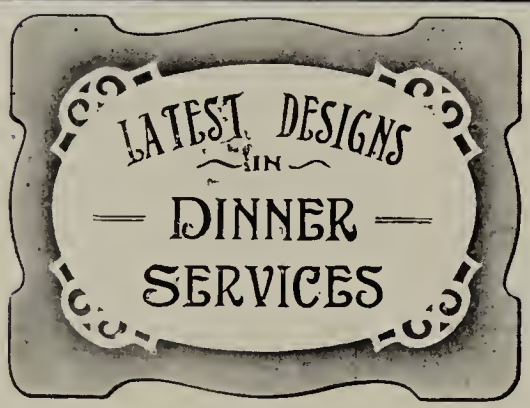
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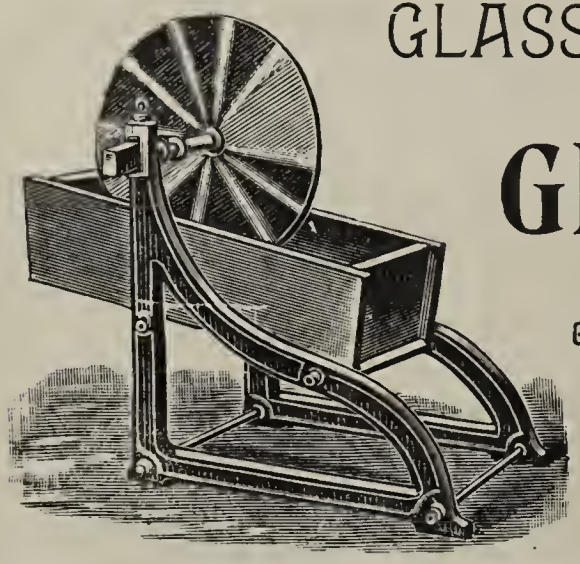
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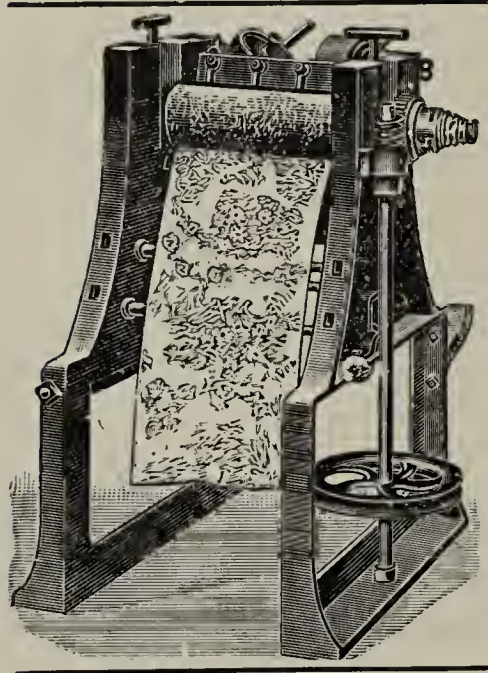
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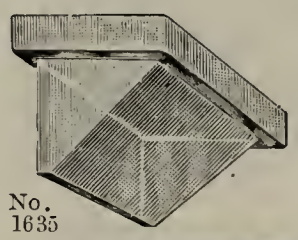
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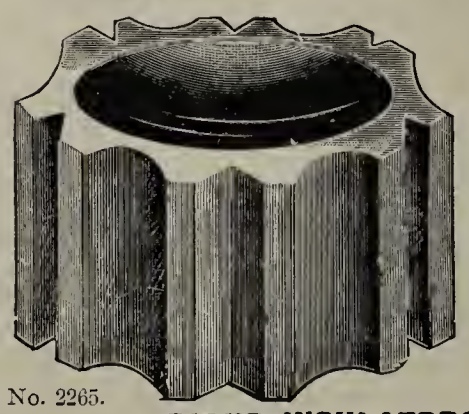
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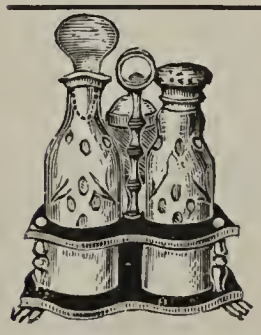
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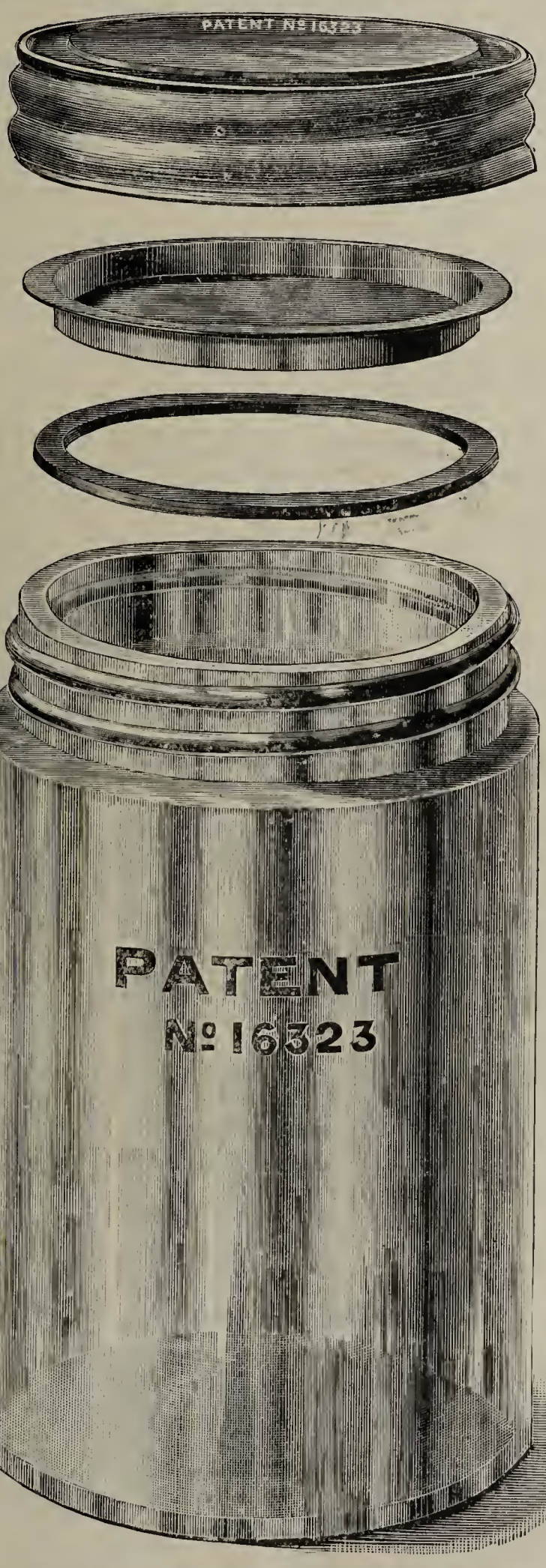
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For Jam, Fruit, Marmalade, Honey, Sweets, Wines, Spirits, Aerated Waters, Pickles, Sauces, &c.

MACHINE AND HAND-MADE.

No. 27, G. N. GOODS STATION, KING'S CROSS, LONDON.

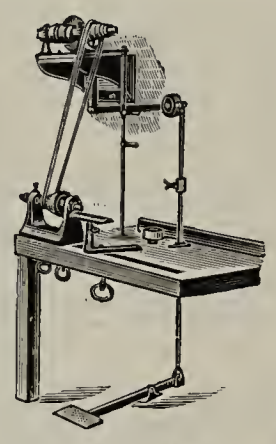
GOSLING & GATENSBURY

Atlas Foundry, HANLEY, Staffs., ENGLAND,

POTTERS & TILE (PLAIN AND ENCAUSTIC) MANUFACTURERS' ENGINEERS

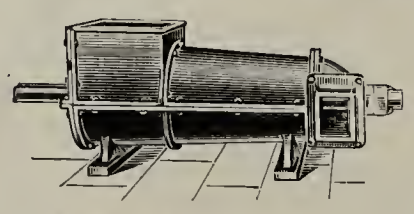
Telegrams: DIES, HANLEY.

National Telephone: 286.

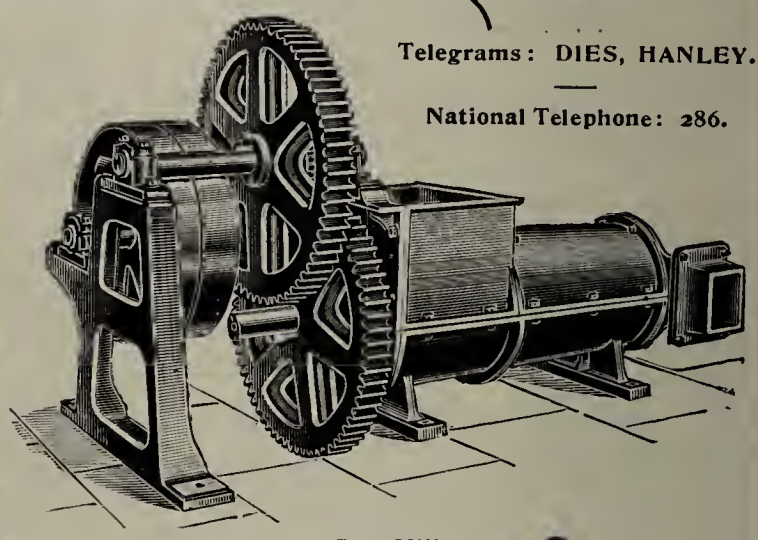


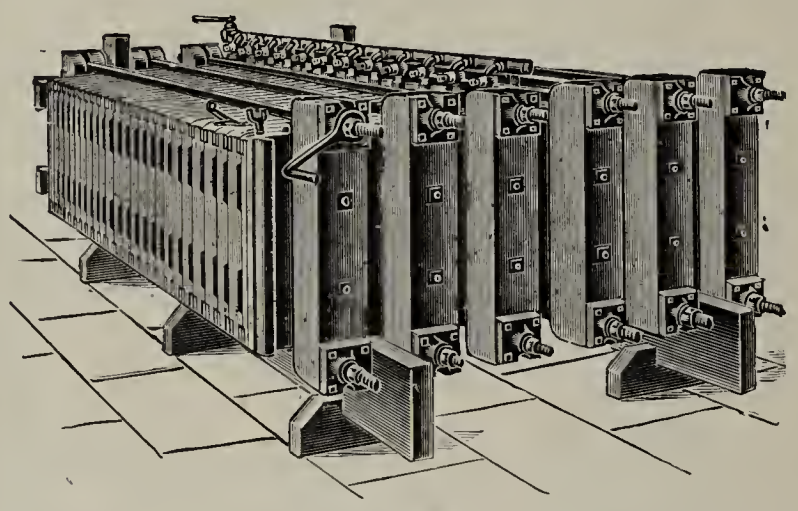
Potter's Lathe.

Potteries and Tile Manufactories fitted up complete with the most modern machinery.

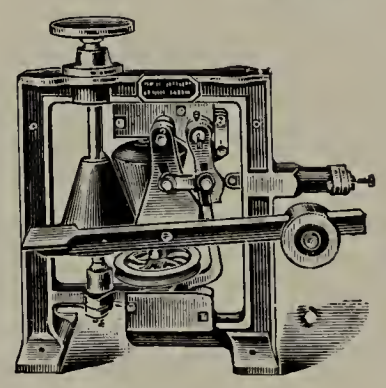


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



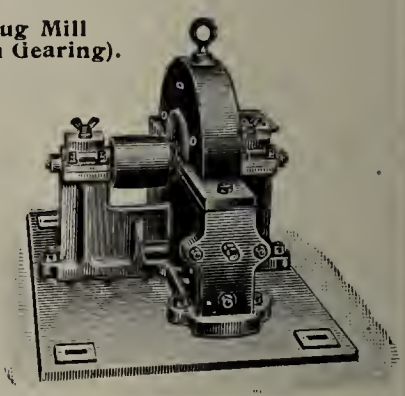


Filter Press.

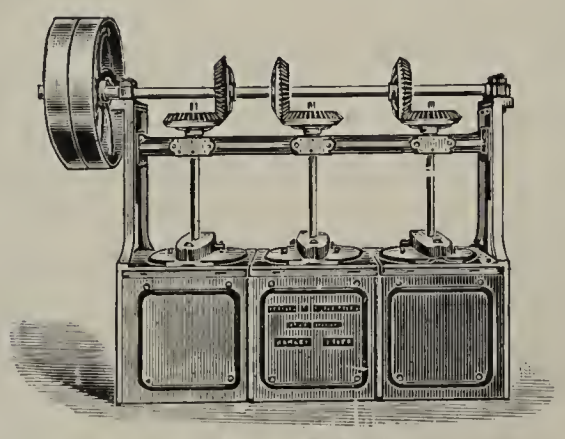


Throwing Wheel.

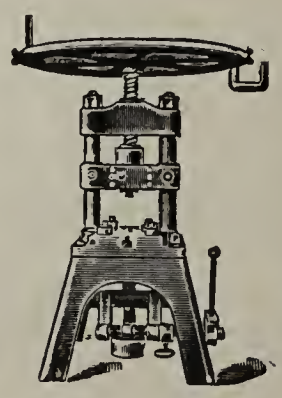
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



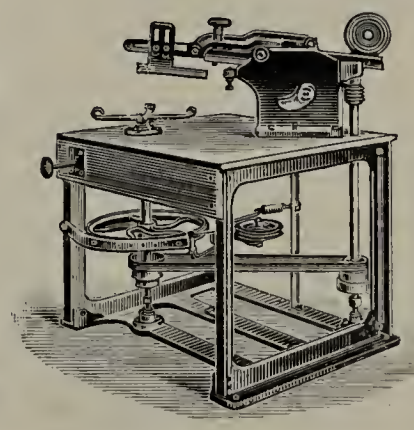
Damped Clay Disintegrator or Dust Mill.



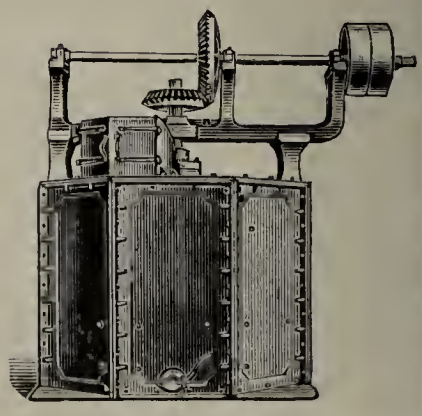
Colour and Enamel Mill.



Tile Press.



Batting Out Machine.



Clay Blunger.

YOU are surely a man of sense.

Customers will have White Flint Jars, now they are obtainable



Read the following letter from a well-known Fruit Preserver : the original can be seen here :—

To Messrs. Jules Lang and Son, 16, Bury Street, E.C. June, 1908.

. . . I have pleasure in testifying that all the jars, white flint fruit bottles, I have had from you have given every satisfaction, and can testify that all fruits keep as well in these bottles as in any other bottle I have ever used.

Yours truly,

_____.

"MADGE," the writer of ladies' articles in *Truth*, says they are the best Jars, and we have her testimonial.

Attractive printed matter will be supplied, and ALL SIZES . . kept IN STOCK. . .

See our Exhibit in the French Section of the FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. IN PALACE 47—GALÉRIE DES MACHINES.

Full Particulars and Prices on Application.

JULES LANG & SON, 16, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, LONDON, E.C., ENGLAND.

And PROGRESS GLASS WORKS, EU, near DIEPPE, FRANCE.

Telephone—AVENUE 1675. 2 lines. Telegrams—ASSORTED, LONDON. Code—A.B.C. 5th Edition.

Photo Postcard of one of our Factories sent Free on Application. ESTABLISHED 1857.

JOHN TAMS & SON,

CROWN POTTERY, LONGTON, STAFFS.

EARTHENWARE MANUFACTURERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.







When in the District, be sure and visit our new Show-room, at Works.

NEW PATTERN "HARVEST"

GOVERNMENT STAMPED MEASURE.

Assorted Crates of Selected Seconds from £4 10 0 net. Apply for particulars.

DECORATED TOILET SETS.

Dinner Ware, Tea Ware, &c. Vases, Flower Pots, Trays, &c. Badge Ware.

SEND FOR COMPLETE PRICE LISTS. ***Representative : Mr. J. ROBERTSON.***

Telegrams: "TAMS, LONGTON."] [Telephone: LONGTON, 7.

☛ FOR LITERARY CONTENTS SEE PAGE 903. INDEX TO ADVERTISERS, PAGES 874 and 876.
All alterations for September issue must reach us by August 25th.

All announcements for this Heading for September issue must reach us by August 28th.

SPECIAL TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Agents, Managers, Travellers, &c.

RELIABLE AGENT, with connection, WANTED for the U.S.A., by General Earthenware house making saleable goods for this market.—Address, K., Box P. 1451, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

SMART TRAVELLER IS OPEN shortly to Represent Manufacturer or Agent for Foreign Table Glass, China, or Earthenware for Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the North.—Address, Box P. 1449, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8. Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E C.

AN UP-TO-DATE EARTHENWARE FIRM WISHES TO BE REPRESENTED in South America and Australia. Strictly confidential.—Address, Box P. 1350, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

EDWARD MOORE & CO.'S (South Shields) old-established Glass and China show room in Manchester is now held by their late Manchester and Irish Agent, who desires to add Continental Glass and China, also American Pressed Glass. 21 years' connection in all branches.—Address, Frederick Davis, 46, Kilvert's Buildings, Withygrove, Manchester.

TRAVELLER AND ASSISTANT WANTED to call upon Hotels and Boarding Establishments; must be good salesman and good appearance.—Apply with all particulars to the South Coast Trading Co., Poole.

WANTED by Continental firm, AGENT with experience in Colours for Pottery and Glass and with connection in Pottery district.—Write with references to Box P. 1432, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

WANTED a smart MAN, aged 30 to 35, as Manager of Retail Sales Department in high-class business in the South of England. Permanent situation, and unlimited scope for a suitable man.—Address, Box P. 1438, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E C.

MANUFACTURERS' AGENCY REQUIRED.—A gentleman with an extensive connection in Western Australia, at present in London but returning to Australia in a very short time, wishes to fix up a Consignment Agency with a good manufacturing house on this side. There is a good business to be done if mutually satisfactory terms can be arranged —Apply, in first instance, "Australasia, 490," c/o., Messrs. Deacon's, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

EARTHENWARE.—AGENT WANTED for the London Market; must be in touch with large buying houses, and have showroom in central position.—Address, B., Box P. 1447, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

TRAVELLER WANTED by a first-class firm of Earthenware manufacturers for England, South of Birmingham (not London); preference given to one who has a China Agency.—Apply, X., c/o. Mr. Vyse, Stationer, Stoke-on-Trent.

MEDIUM CLASS CHINA HOUSE REQUIRES AGENTS for London and South Coast, also Scotland and Ireland. Must have good connection.—Address, Box P. 1445, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Swinnerton's, Hanley, Earthenware Manufacturers, REQUIRE smart, reliable resident AGENT on commission. An energetic man with a connection wanted; none others need apply. Cheapest and most attractive toilets on the market; also dinner ware, jugs, vases, flower pots, &c. Goods only want showing. They sell themselves. Catalogue.

EARTHENWARE.—WANTED, TRAVELLER for district South of Birmingham on commission, one representing good class China firm preferred,—Apply, Myott, Sons & Co., Alexander Pottery, Cobridge, Staffs.

AGENT WANTED on the Continent to sell a fine line of Vitrified Hotel ware.—Apply. Wood & Sons, Burslem.

Managers, Travellers, Salesmen, &c., Requiring Situations.

TO EARTHENWARE MANUFACTURERS. — ENGAGEMENT WANTED as Traveller or Agent, having a large connection in London and surrounding towns for Tea, Dinner, and Toilet Ware, &c. Highest references.—Address, Box P. 1434, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

TRAVELLER, having good connection in England, Scotland, and Ireland, DESIRES ENGAGEMENT as Town or Country Representative for Glass, China, or Earthenware house.—Address, Box P. 1421, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

SALESMAN, Stock-keeper, Window-dresser; accustomed to medium and high-class trade; 5½ years' experience; good references; abstainer.—Address, Box P. 1419, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

SMART MAN, thoroughly experienced China and Glass Buyer, DESIRES RE-ENGAGEMENT. Considerable West End experience. Highest references.—Address, G. L., 15, Charterhouse-street, Holborn-circus, London, E.C.

MANAGERS, TRAVELLERS, &c.—Continued.

YOUNG SALESMAN WANTS SITUATION, is acquainted with all branches of the trade, corresponds in French, German, and Dutch, with some English; has travelled on the Continent. First-class references.—Apply to P. J. C. Mathieu, Bodenbach, a/d Elbe Austria.

TO MANUFACTURERS.—China, Glass, and Earthenware. Energetic man, well known and thoroughly experienced, OPEN TO REPRESENT best and most up-to-date firms; Town or Country, Undeniable references.—Address, T. L., 38, Upper Bedford-place. London, W.C.

CHINA AND GLASS BUSINESS WANTED TO MANAGE, with view to purchase, by experienced married couple, not more than 60 miles from London, South Coast preferred; must be good position, medicm class trade. Moderate price.—Fuil particulars to A, "Bryn Ivor," Bow-lane, North Finchley, London.

ADVERTISER, with thorough knowledge of Glass, China, and Earthenware business, IS OPEN TO ENGAGEMENT as Traveller, Manager, or Salesman, or would furnish some capital in genuine retail business.— Address, Box P. 1406, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

CHINA AND GLASS —As Buyer and Manager, 16 years in the trade, aged 33; well up L. V. Glass Caterers and Domestic Requisites, Cutlery, &c. Some Town connection with Caterers.—Address, Box P. 1452, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Businesses for Disposal.

UNUSUAL CHANCE.—FOR DISPOSAL, GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE BUSINESS, 30, Northgate, Halifax; busy principal street; established 100 years; changed hands once; present owner of business and property made independency; four "Goss" agencies; rent £80; stock and fixtures at valuation; early possession from retired owner of business and property.—Address, James Fleming Farrar, 19, Raikes-parade, Blackpool.

CHINA, GLASS, AND ORIENTAL BUSINESS FOR SALE, central position, Kent; owner retiring; splendid opportunity; same hands 21 years.—Address, E. J. H., Box P. 1403, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill London, E.C.

HIGH-CLASS CHINA AND GLASS BUSINESS in fashionable Kentish seaside resort FOR SALE. Exceptionally good profits, and has a splendid future. Ingoing about £500 cash. A thoroughly genuine concern. No dealers.—Address, Box P. 1427, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

CHINA, GLASS, AND EARTHENWARE BUSINESS FOR DISPOSAL in South Coast town, paying 33⅓% net. Capital required, £600.—Address for full particulars, Box P. 1425, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8. Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

WANTED, LADY to manage China and Glass with about £200 capital and TO TAKE OVER BUSINESS if approved of; been established 25 years, owner retiring, valuable Agency attached.—Address, Box P. 1453, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

ERNEST SYER has sold the Domestic Stores recently advertised in *Pottery Gazette*. He now has FOR SALE SIX HIGH-CLASS CHINA STORES with every opportunity for development, and specially recommend one business (2 shops), established 40 years, same hands, for which price asked is probably only about value of stock. Also offering small Domestic Store, rental £40, let off £20, trade nearly trebled in 18 months; this is the chance of a lifetime, illness causing sale.—Apply, 101, Hatton-garden, London.

GLASS, CHINA, AND EARTHENWARE BUSINESS FOR SALE; old-established, in good position, doing high-class trade; stock, &c., about £900; South Coast.—Address, Box P. 1420, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

LLANDUDNO.—Old-established GLASS AND CHINA BUSINESS FOR DISPOSAL, owing to death; finest position in town; opportunity of a lifetime.—Fullest particulars from J. H. Jones, Accountant, Grange House.

GRAND OPPORTUNITY.—Sound BUSINESS (Glass and China), 3 miles from Birmingham; excellent reasons for disposal; increasing turnover close on £500; low rental, £26; premises solely given to business; important Agencies; stock at valuation.—Address, Box P. 1415, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Situations Vacant.

CHINA AND GLASS.—WANTED, an experienced YOUNG MAN, good Salesman, Window-dresser and Stock-keeper, not afraid of work, for London house.—Address, Box P. 1410, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

CHINA AND GLASS.—WANTED an ASSISTANT, experienced, to make himself useful, capable of managing a small shop, London house.—Address, Box P. 1409, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Continued on page 860.

AUGUST 10TH.

This is the date our Travellers start out with their Christmas Range of Samples, and by the 17th August our full range will be on show in London.

OUR OWN OPINION is that we have never produced such excellent styles before, nor given such value for money.

IT'S YOUR OPINION we want, and if we get your opinion we shall get your orders.

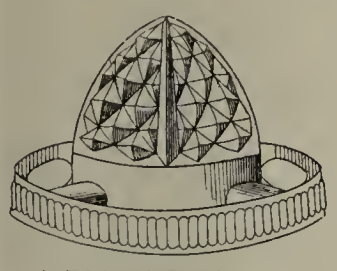
A. J. Wilkinson, LTD. BURSLEM.

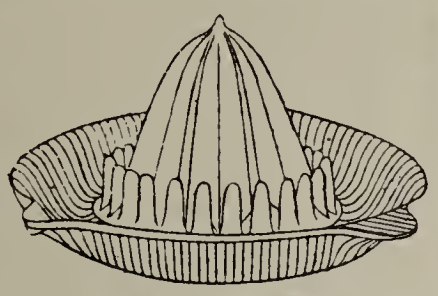
SHORTER BROTHERS

Works at TUNSTALL, STAFF. POTTERIES.
Established 1800.

Crispin Street, Spitalfields, *LONDON, E.*

Glassware, &c., for Summer Use.


LEMON SQUEEZER

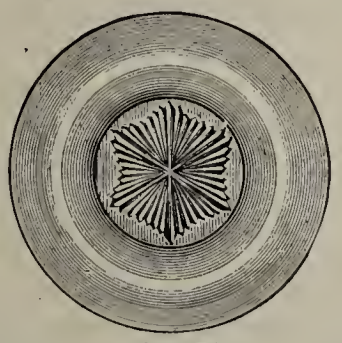

LEMON SQUEEZER

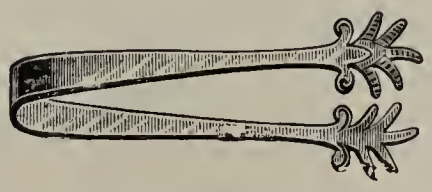

ICE TUB & DRAINER.

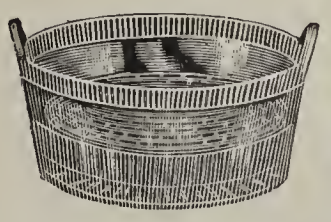

SUGAR SIFTER.


ICE GLASSES.


ICE PLATE.


ICE PLATE.


ICE TONGS.


ICE TUB & DRAINER.

SITUATIONS VACANT.—Continued.

WANTED, YOUNG LADY, for Glass, China, and Earthenware business, of good address, must be thoroughly experienced, accustomed to the hiring trade. State age, experience, references and salary required (live in).—Address, Miss Lane, Church-street, Kidderminster.

WANTED, LADY for Retail China Business in large Yorkshire town; of good address, experienced Saleswoman. Window-dresser, not afraid of work and able to take management if required, and accustomed to high-class trade. State age, experience, reference, and salary required (live out), to Box P. 1433, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Situations Wanted.

CHINA AND GLASS.—ASSISTANT REQUIRES RE-ENGAGEMENT, 13 years' experience; good Salesman, Window-dresser, Stock-keeper; age 30.—Address Box P. 1428, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

YOUNG LADY (20) SEEKS RE-ENGAGEMENT as Assistant in the China and Glass trade. 3½ years' experience in good class business; satisfactory references obtainable.—Address, Box P. 1426, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

CHINA AND GLASS, with knowledge Furnishing Ironmongery. YOUNG MAN with 5½ years' experience and good references DESIRES SITUATION in London, Midlands, or some large busy town. —Address, P. L. Sturton, 6 Park-terrace, Cambridge.

ENGAGEMENT in China and Glass business, 11 years' experience, good Stock-keeper and Saleswoman.—Address, Box P. 1417, *Pottery Gazette* Office. 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

BOOKKEEPER, Stock-keeper and Salesman, with 6 years' experi- in first-class china and glass depot; good references; gentlemanly appearance; tall; aged 26; SEEKS RE-ENGAGEMENT in wholesale or retail business —Address, Box P. 1437, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

YOUNG LADY (22) DESIRES RE-ENGAGEMENT in good-class China and Glass business; disengaged.—Address, Box P. 1416, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Businesses Wanted.

GLASS AND CHINA BUSINESS WANTED (£200 to £300); must bear fullest investigations; Hull to Manchester districts preferred.—Address, Box P. 1436, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Showrooms To Let.

SHOW ROOMS TO BE LET, on ground floor, in good position, fitted throughout; suitable for Earthenware, China, or Glass. —For full particulars address, Box P. 1407, *Pottery Gazette* Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

Job Lines, &c.

CHEAP LINES TO CLEAR.—TO CHINA and EARTHENWARE DEALERS.—We have in stock at the present time some good ASSORTED CRATES of CHINA SECONDS and LUMP in White and Gold, Enamelled and Gold edge.—Prices and particulars on application to Taylor & Kent, China Manufacturers, Longton.

CHINA AND EARTHENWARE SECONDS.—Best and cheapest in the trade if you can pay cash. Please ask our price before buying elsewhere.—Address, H. Rock & Son, Orient Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent.

CHINA AND EARTHENWARE SECONDS.—We have a few good crates of China and Earthenware Seconds now in stock; grand value.—Prices on application to Dewes & Copestake, Viaduct Works, Longton, Staffs.

SECONDS SELECTED, in crates, invoiced at ordinary prices, WITH 33⅓% DISCOUNT, well assorted, from £4 10s. to £5 net. Suitable for Home Markets.—Apply for particulars, John Tams & Son, Crown Pottery, Longton, Staffs.

GEORGE W. THOMAS, Rushton-road, Burslem, for all descriptions of CHINA AND EARTHENWARE SECONDS, Job Lines, and cheap goods. Write for prices.

MESSRS. CLOUGH & LESTER, Longton, have always on hand crates of good class SECONDS in earthenware, semi-porcelain, and china. Mixed Crates a specialty. Packages from £2 upwards. Send for lists.

ON OFFER FOR CASH.—Crates of 12-54 pieces assorted job DINNER SETS Printed (not 2nds) at £6 net; crates of 120 doz. assorted White and Gold China 2nds at £6 2s. 6d. net; crates of Earthenware White 2nds, best make, at £4 10s. net; crates of Earthenware Printed 2nds, best make, at £6 15s. net, Best value on the market. No charge for crates.—Swinnertons, Vulcan Works, Hanley.

JOB LINES, &c.—Continued.

WE HAVE in Stock ready for packing a few good crates of unselected TEA SETS, heavily decorated Japanese Enamelled Pattern. Can be had in half or full sets. Crates of Gilt Lump (assorted) always on hand.—Prices on application to Hill & Co., Windsor China Works, Longton.

Patents.

THE PROPRIETORS OF LETTERS PATENT No 4391 of 1904, for "Improvements in the Preparation of Clay for the Casting of Clay-ware," are desirous of entering into arrangements by way of license or otherwise on reasonable terms, for the purpose of exploiting the same and ensuring its full development and practical working in this country.

The invention to which the Patent relates is interesting to pottery manufacturers, and consists in an economical process for preparing clay and rendering it suitable for casting articles of considerable thickness, without cracking, the material drying rapidly.—Apply to White & Woodington, Chartered Patent Agents, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, Holborn, London, W.C.

TO PLATE GLASS, WINDOW GLASS, AND GLASS MANUFACTURERS.

THE owners of the under-mentioned British Patents are desirous of entering into negotiations with one or more British firms for the exploitation of the said Patents, either by the sale of the Patent rights or by the grant of licences to manufacture under royalty:—

No. 24468 of 1901 relating to "Improvements in the manufacture of glass articles and apparatus therefor."

No. 297 of 1904 relating to "Improvements in methods of and apparatus for drawing and annealing glass."

No. 22065 of 1904 relating to "Improvements in the manufacture of sheet glass and apparatus therefor."

No. 3002 of 1906 relating to "A method of drawing hollow glass articles and apparatus therefor."

No. 7623 of 1906 relating to "An improved method of drawing hollow glass articles."

No. 21741 of 1906 relating to "Improved method of drawing hollow glass articles."

No. 147 of 1907 relating to "Improved method of drawing hollow glass articles and apparatus therefor."

No. 22094 of 1907 relating to "Improvements in apparatus for melting and drawing glass."

No. 24979 of 1907 relating to "Improvements in apparatus for drawing glass."

Enquiries to be addressed to Messrs. Abel & Imray, Chartered Patent Agents, of Birkbeck Bank-chambers, London, W.C.

TO PLATE GLASS, WINDOW GLASS, AND GLASS MANUFACTURERS.

THE owners of the under-mentioned British Patents are desirous of entering into negotiations with one or more British firms for the exploitation of the said Patents, either by the sale of the Patent rights or by the grant of licences to manufacture under royalty:—

No. 17686 of 1900 relating to "Improvements in the manufacture of prism glass and apparatus for that purpose."

No. 22575 of 1903 relating to "Method of and apparatus for manufacturing sheet glass."

No. 22655 of 1904 relating to "Improvements in the manufacture of glass sheets or slabs."

No. 3343 of 1905 relating to "Improvements in light-diffusing glass structures."

No. 8819 of 1905 relating to "Improved manufacture of figured glass sheets and mirror plates."

No. 12110 of 1905 relating to "Improvements in apparatus for grinding and polishing glass."

No 9739 of 1907 relating to "Improvements in apparatus for grinding and polishing glass."

Enquiries to be addressed to Messrs. Abel & Imray, Chartered Patent Agents, Birkbeck Bank-chambers, London, W.C.

TO GLASS WORKERS AND MANUFACTURERS.—The owners of British Patent No. 5040 of 1906 relating to "Improved method of severing molten or plastic glass and apparatus therefore" are desirous of entering into negotiations with one or more British firms for the exploitation of the above Patent, either by the sale of the Patent rights, or by the grant of licences to manufacture under royalty. — Enquiries to Messrs. Abel & Imray, Chartered Patent Agents, Birkbeck Bank-chambers, London, W.C.

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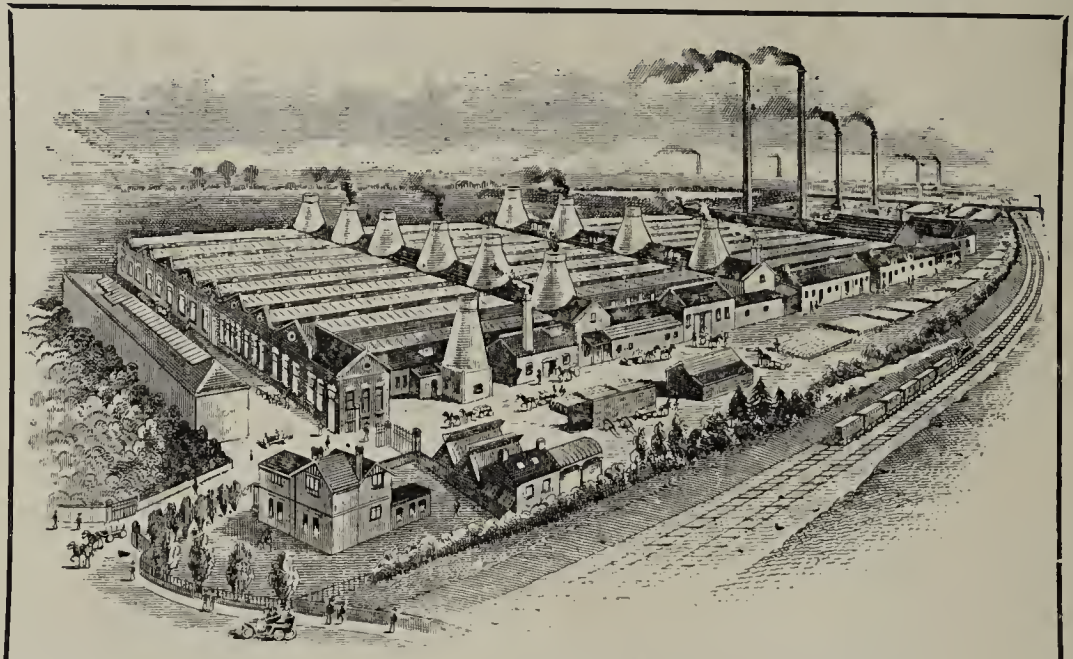
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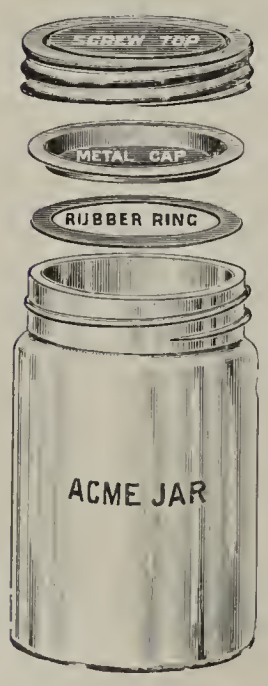
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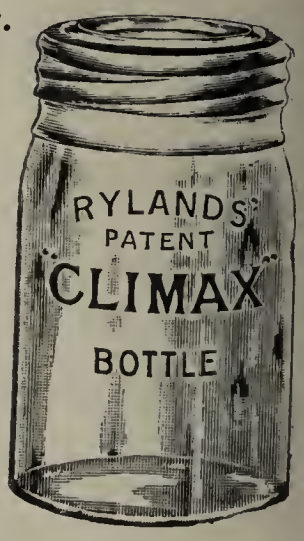
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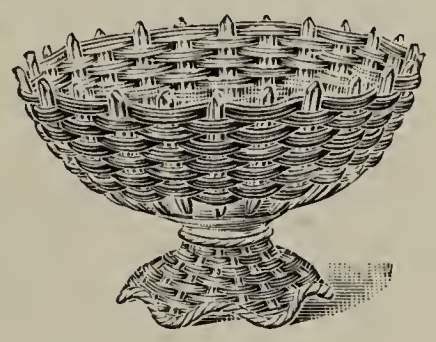
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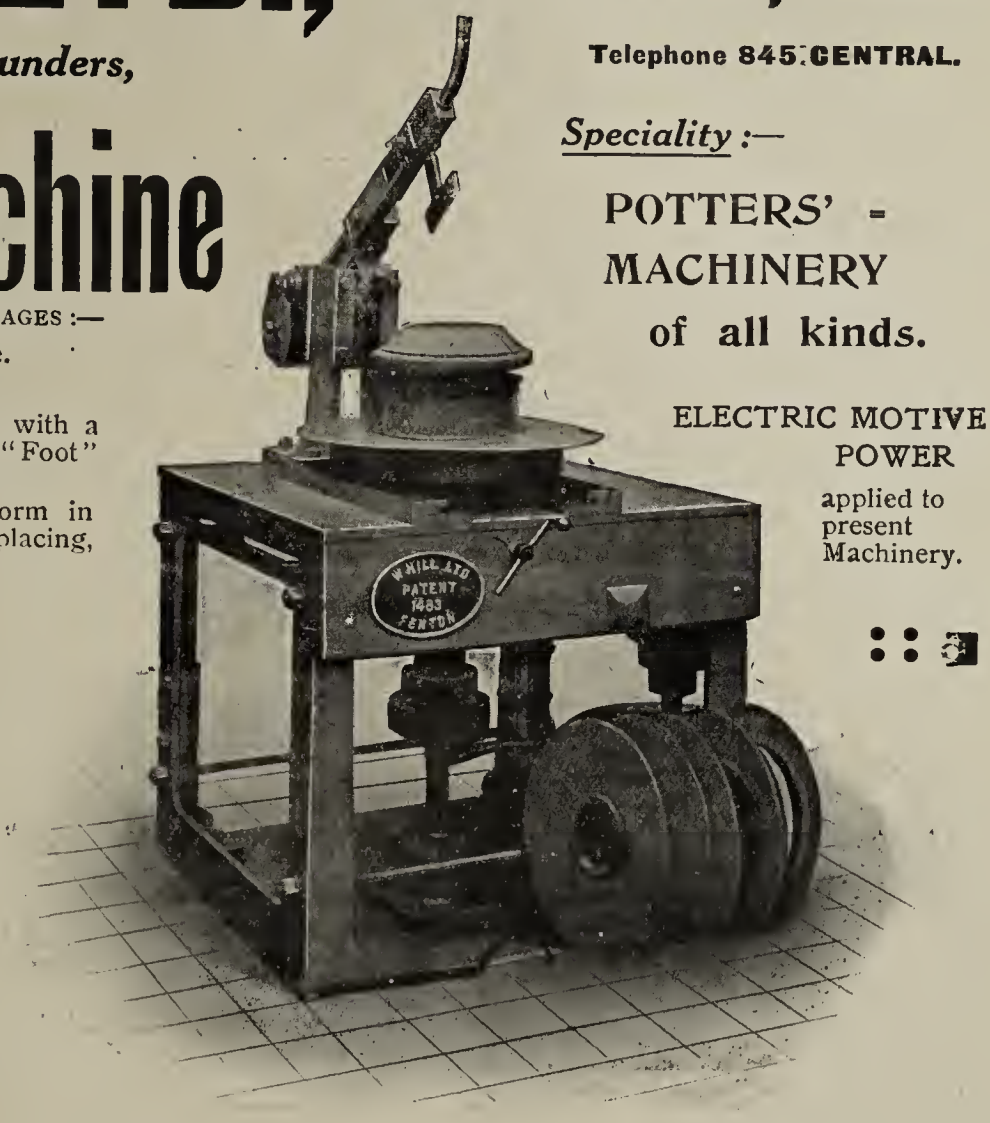
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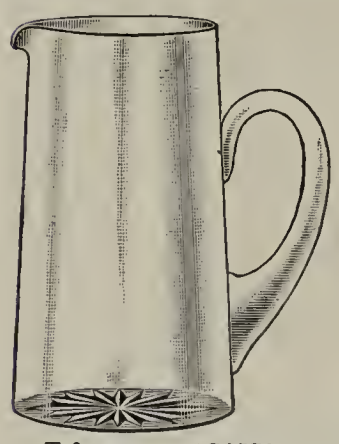
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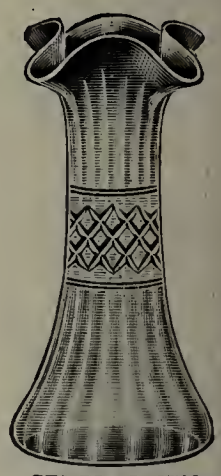
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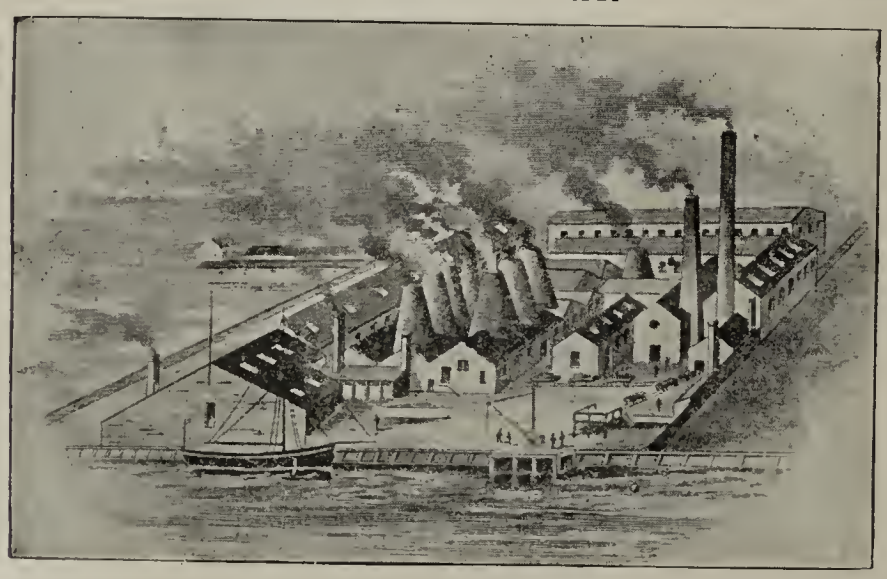


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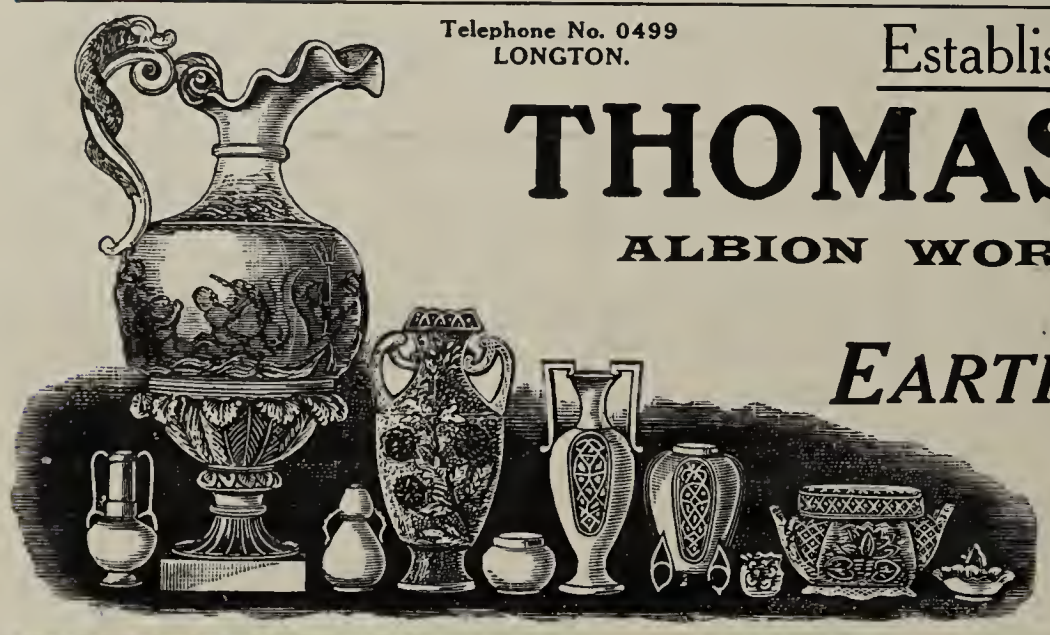
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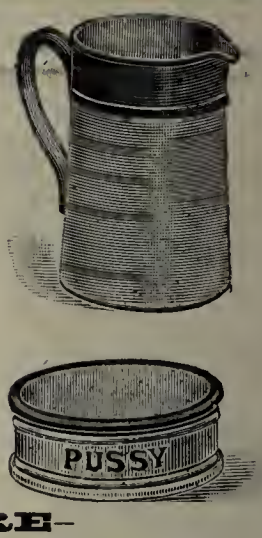
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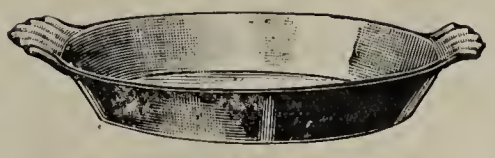
















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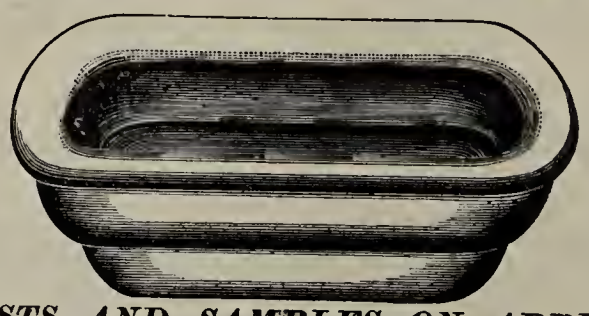
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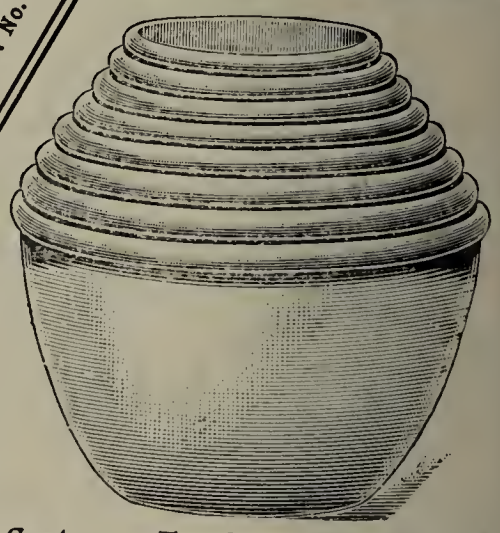
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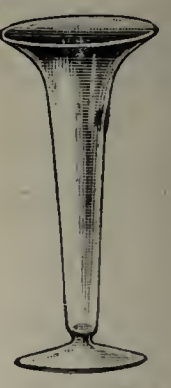
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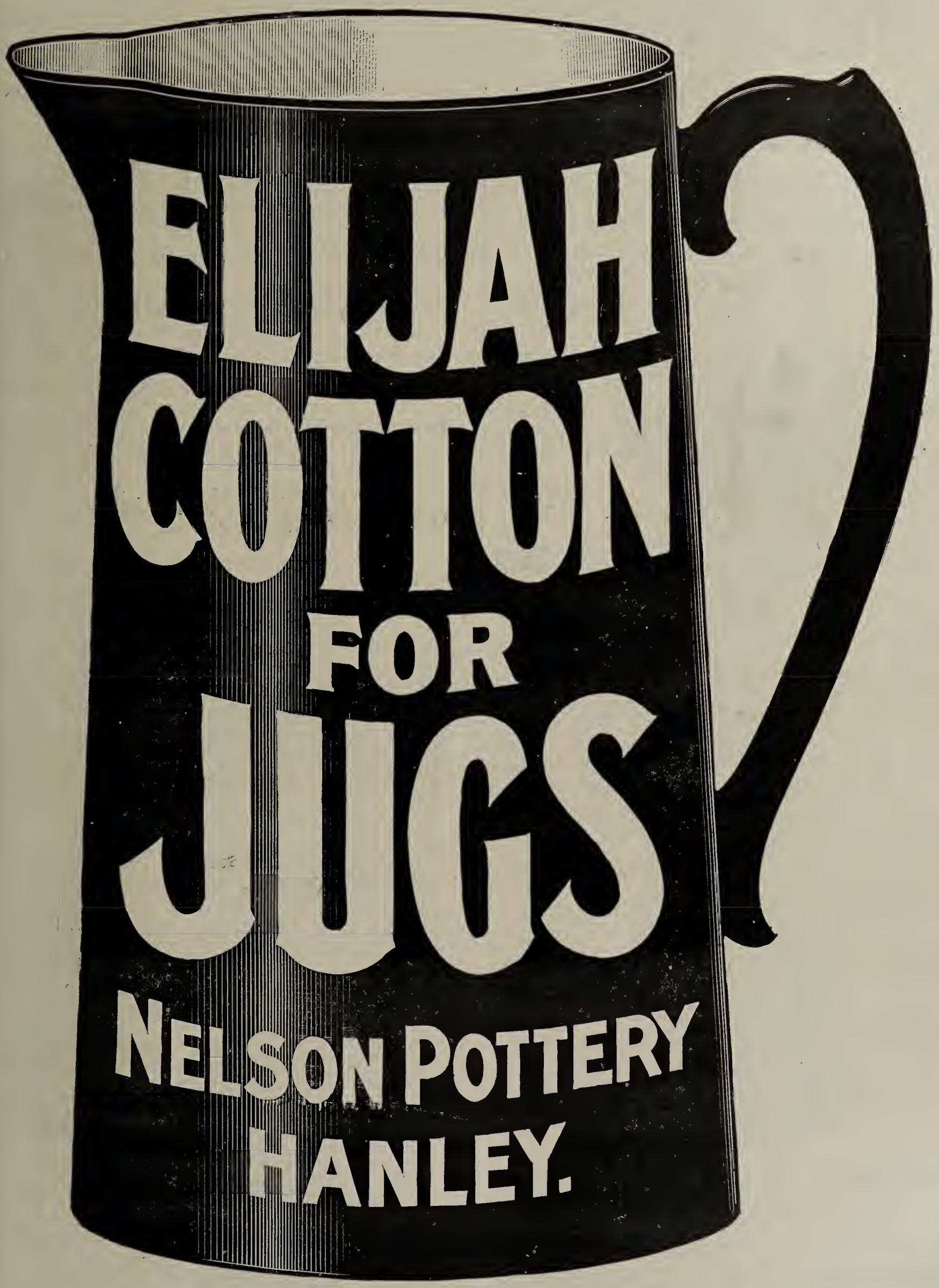
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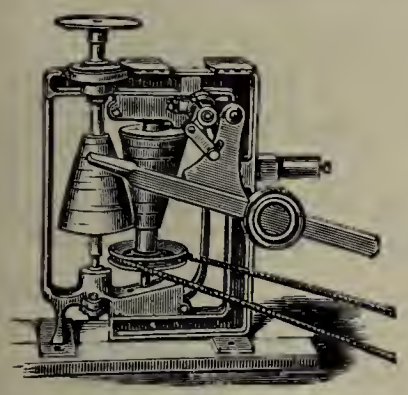
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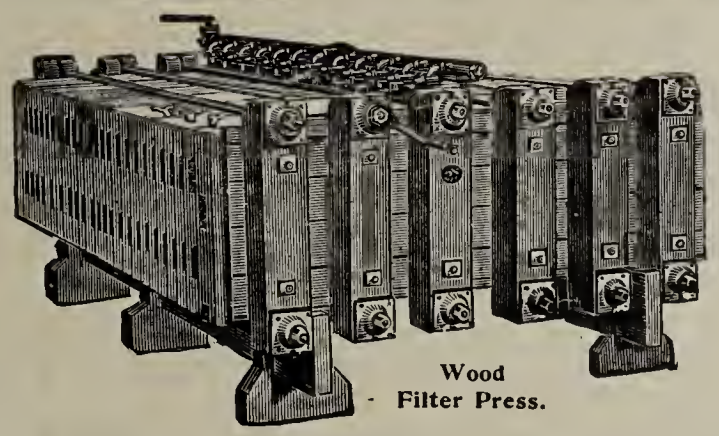
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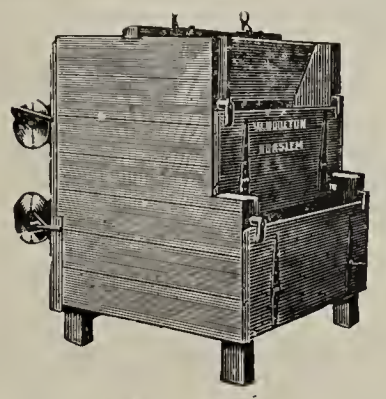
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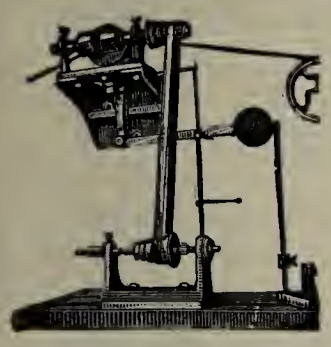
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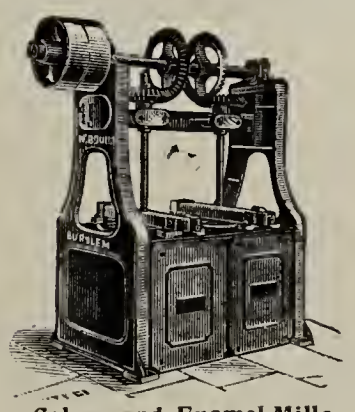
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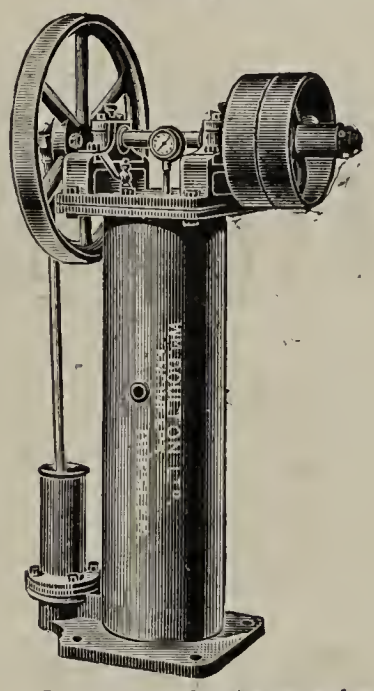
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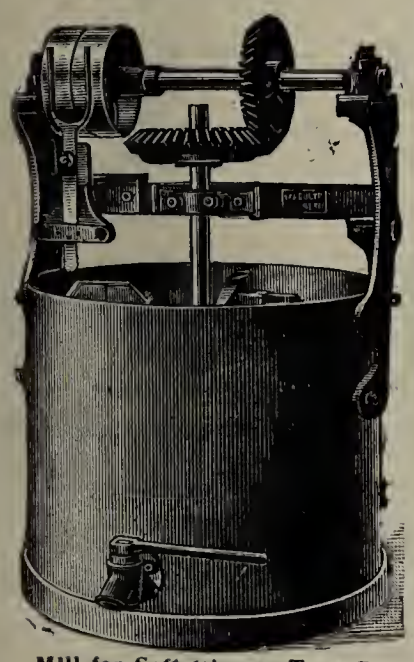
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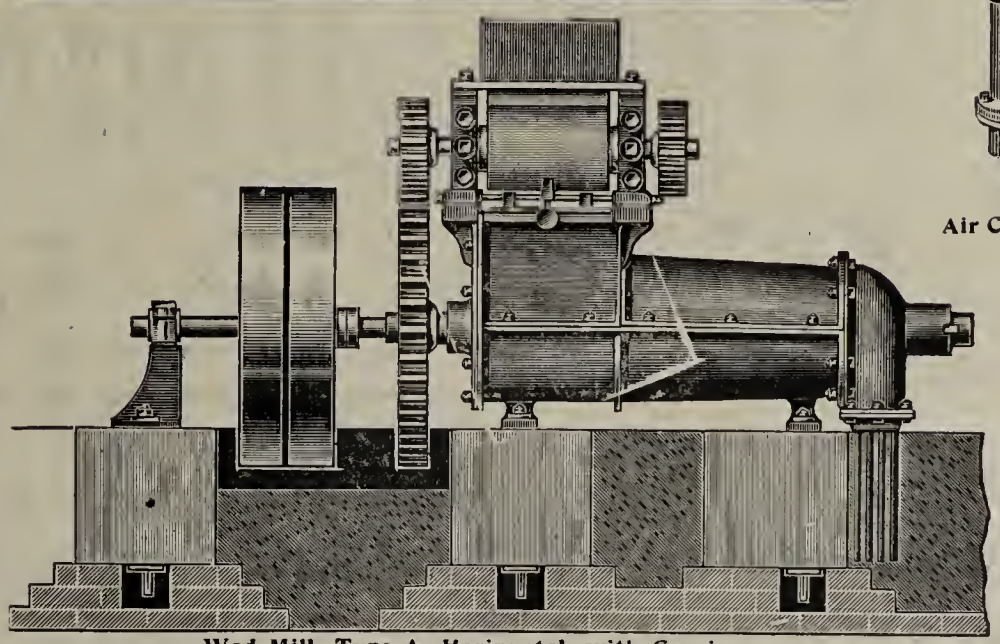
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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

THE POTTERY GAZETTE

Diary and Trade Directory

For 1909

IS NOW IN PREPARATION,

and in order that copies of this Diary may reach subscribers in Australia, New Zealand, South America, and other distant parts well before the end of the year, it will finally

CLOSE FOR PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 12th.

☞ **ADVERTISEMENTS AND ALTERATIONS SHOULD REACH THE PUBLISHERS DURING AUGUST.**

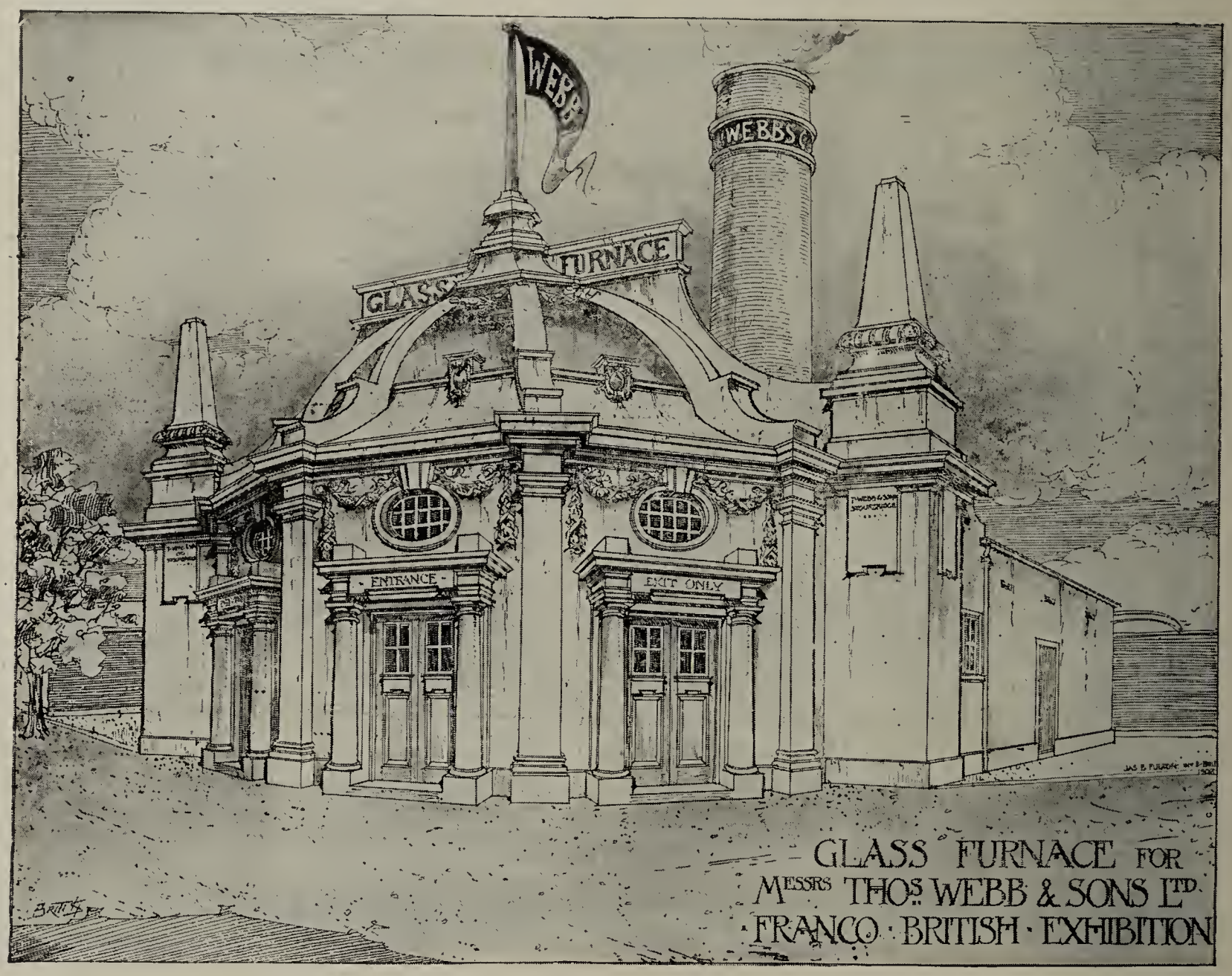
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Editorial Notes.

A RETAILER'S GRIEVANCE.

WE are constantly hearing complaints from glass and china dealers in the smaller towns that residents who should be their customers do most of their shopping in the larger towns. These complaints are more numerous and more persistent in the home counties than from other parts of the Kingdom. The truth is that "shopping in London" has become, if not exactly "fashionable," at any rate popular. London has always a fascination for persons who do not live there, and they are glad of any opportunity to visit it. When it is within a moderate distance facilities for reaching it at a small cost are always provided by the railway companies. This is all to the advantage of the London dealer and to the loss of the provincial shopkeeper. Stores and catalogue houses, with their price lists and circulars are touting for orders in all directions, and now a more ambitious effort is contemplated to bring trade to London. We learn that one of the great stores has arranged with a railway company for a cheap excursion "shopping train" to be met in London by conveyances to take the excursionists direct to the store running the train. This is hard on provincial dealers. It is not to the public advantage that local retail tradesmen should be deprived of their trade by big London companies. The form of competition does not affect the trade in cheaper goods, it is in medium and better class goods that it is felt most. That very fact is a source of annoyance to many dealers. They say: "Residents come to us for kitchen goods, for oddments in cups and saucers, tumblers, wines, and dishes to replace breakages and for brownware—for all of which we are expected to give credit—and then, when they want sets or services they go to the stores and pay ready money for them." We know this to be true. It is most unreasonable; it is unfair to the local dealer and is an injury to the trade of their own district. We have often been asked—in this connection—"What's to be done?" We think the case can be met. In the first place, the glass and china dealer should endeavour to keep such a selection of goods that there would be no inducement to his customers to go to London or elsewhere for anything better. In the next place, he should take means to let them know that he has such a selection. We could name some provincial dealers who have as fine an assortment of goods as any London shop—but they do not advertise the fact. People think that London shops keep more up-to-date goods than provincial shops. This is a mistake, for scores of country dealers have any novelties worth stocking as soon as London shops have them. The dealer should make his window as attractive as possible, and, however well he may be known and respected as a townsman, he should keep his name constantly before his neighbours as an enterprising tradesman. The action taken by the grocers and provision dealers of Folkestone, Sandgate and Hythe, and referred to on page 808 of our issue for July, is a practical one, and worth imitating. Tradesmen who are members of corporation town councils, or other governing bodies, should point out in their official capacity the advantages of encouraging local trade. Money spent in a town benefits the town and helps to provide improvements in it. The

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residents in a town are all interested in the prosperity of local trade. This should be explained to them, and they should be invited to encourage it all they can by purchasing locally.

ADVICE TO GLASS-WORKERS.

TOO much advice is no doubt nauseating, and yet advice tendered by persons who are able to speak from experience should be worth listening to. Our glass-workers have recently shown themselves willing to fall into line with modern conditions, and we are pleased to see it, while regretting that the decision comes so late in the day. The class of glass-workers who suffered most by the depression in the British glass trade were the makers of the cheaper grades. It was admitted at the time that the principal cause of the loss of much of our cheaper trade was the unwillingness of the men to adopt modern mechanical methods. The chief officer of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union has just been giving his members very similar advice to that which was given our own workers some years ago. It is advice that our workers would have done well to heed in the past; that is full of instruction for to-day, and that will be valuable to workers in all industries in all time to come. We repeat it not because we think it particularly applicable to our glass-workers at the present moment, but because of the principle involved, which is valuable for all time. In his annual report President Rowe emphasises the trade value of automatic machinery. Old systems of production are changed, and the glass trade is no exception to the progressive steps of the inventor, as each year supplies its share of mechanical wonders. "The jar and bottle machine, the window glass machine, the chimney and tumbler machine, and this year an automatic white liner and jelly tumbler machine." It will be well to learn a lesson which might have saved much of our trade in the past and the remembrance of which may possibly help to restore it in the future. We must take notice of the introduction of labour-saving machinery and improved mechanical appliances to increase or simplify the art of production, so that we can wisely meet any and all innovations in our trade.

LEAD POISONING.

CONSIDERING that a committee, acceptable to all parties interested, has been appointed to investigate "the use of lead in the manufacture of earthenware and china," it would have been more seemly if outsiders had refrained from discussing the subject for a time. "The Women's Trade Union Review," however, thinks otherwise, and has been making the usual reckless statements in support of the warning that "we are in presence of a phenomenon which demands close and particular investigation." Well, the phenomenon is receiving "close and particular investigation." One result of that investigation will, we feel sure, be to put a very different construction upon the Board of Trade returns to that inferred from them by prejudiced persons unacquainted with the facts. We all regret that there should have been 70 cases of lead poisoning in our trades reported in the first six months of this year. We wish there had been none. But we do not see anything alarming in the fact, because there were only 38 cases reported in the same months last year. The committee, we may be sure, will early have these figures under their consideration. We should have preferred to wait their report; but as the statement made by the publication referred to has been copied in at least a dozen papers—perhaps more—we think it desirable to meet it at once. The truth is, that since the operation of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the onus it places on medical examiners and manufacturers, many cases are "reported" with which "lead" has had nothing to do. Workers in lead are as liable to ailments from ordinary causes as other members of the community. But if a man or woman working in lead is ill from almost any cause, he or she is suspended and it is a "reported" case. It will be interesting to learn in how many of the 70 reported cases referred to developments have justified the suspension, and in how many not. It is the opinion of persons well qualified to judge, that there have been fewer actual cases of lead poisoning in our trades this year, in spite of the increase in the number of "reported" cases. There were six deaths from lead poisoning in the first six months of last year. and there were five deaths in the same period this year.

BUYERS AND AGENTS.

FOR many years past much unpleasantness has been occasioned by the high-handed and patronising conduct of some buyers in our trades towards manufacturers' representatives. It is admitted that it is not altogether the fault of the buyers, because it is well known that the means by which some agents have encouraged—even induced—certain buyers to place as many orders as possible with them, have not been creditable. It has frequently been suggested that, in the interests of their manufacturers, of themselves, and of the trade generally, representatives should take united action. A correspondent in this issue gives a definite shape to our suggestion that there should be an association of agents and representatives. The matter is now ripe for consideration, and it is well worth considering. After the holidays, let there be a meeting of representatives to talk over the subject. Mr. Algernon J. Prickett, the able secretary of the Pottery and Glass Trade Benevolent Institution, would make an efficient secretary of the new organisation, if his services can be secured. He has a central office and a good board room, and has only recently resigned the secretaryship of the Buyers' Association. With such a nucleus (if it is available), there should be but little trouble in forming the suggested association on economical lines.

THE CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

THE Comptroller-General of the Census of Production Office of the Board of Trade has issued to manufacturers and producers in the glass trade a series of questions asking for the information required in connection with the first Census of Production of the United Kingdom. The schedule and instructions for filling it up have been prepared after consultation with important firms representing the different branches of the glass trade.

It is compulsory on the part of the recipients to fill up the return to the best of their ability, but they are assured that all information given will be treated as strictly confidential. To ensure the privacy of the disclosures made, the sheet containing the name and address of the firm will be detached from the schedule by a responsible officer of the Department, and the other pages only (with no indication of the name of the firm making the return) will be dealt with by the staff engaged in the work of compilation. Questions are asked as to the nature of trade or business, and instructions are given for fixing the year in respect of which the return is made. The output in the year of return must relate only to the works to which it is sent. A firm having

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The object of the question as to output is to obtain the value of the production carried on in the United Kingdom in the year of return by the firm receiving the schedule.

The value to be stated must be the actual amount charged, less discounts, and the best possible estimate of expenses for freight, carriage, and agency. Other detailed instructions are given as to filling in the return under this heading, and also as to amount received for work done for the trade.

The information asked for embraces material used and the number of persons employed in the year of the return.

Other questions relate to (*a*) the capacity of engines owned and (*b*) the amount of electricity used in the year.

Manufacturers are asked, but are not compelled, to give information as to the fuel consumed in the year of the return. The question is asked at the request of manufacturers in all trades, and the information afforded by the replies is expected to be of great value and importance.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

MATCHINGS BY POST.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—May I ask you once more to grant space for the purpose of impressing on manufacturers that when they receive a matching through post broken, they must preserve the box, string, and packing for inspection by the Post Office official. That when they send a package by post they must have a red "Fragile" label stuck on (official, and they must take from the Post Office a postal certificate). Perhaps if you print this in large type it will be noticed; at present I am daily making losses through the neglect of manufacturers to attend to this trifling detail.—Yours, &c.,

Weybridge, July 14. G. M. LEVI.

IN SUPPORT OF ENGLISH GLASS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—The Dudley Branch of National Flint Glass Makers' Society, are going the wrong way to increase the sale of English glass by direct trading. A large brewer may buy £3,000 worth of glass each year, but there are not many. And there are many glass dealers in this country who buy six times the quantity every year Do you think these tradesmen will support them after openly asking a retail buyer for orders. A certain glass manufacturer, not far from Burton, recently failed, and his trade was only direct to a few public-houses and breweries at the finish; if he had supplied through a dealer, as every manufacturer should, the dealer would have given him stock orders, and he might have been doing well to-day. The only way to increase English glass trade is by competing with the foreigner. Considering we have to allow a great deal for breakage on foreign glass, there should be plenty of margin, if only the workman will be content to work hard for a fair wage, and to use the most up-to-date machinery; then I am sure all dealers in the trade would only be too glad to purchase English glass and to pay a little more than for foreign, but not double the price as now.—Yours truly,

H. G. ABRAHAMS,
Glass and China Merchant.

Burton-on-Trent, July 22, 1908.

BUYERS AND AGENTS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIR,—We have for some years been discussing the untair treatment of agents by the buyers in our trades; still, no good has resulted. The suggestion you make in your article headed "Tied Houses" is the best one yet submitted, and has the advantage of being practicable. An association of agents is undoubtedly needed to safeguard our interests, for, as you observe, the buyers have an association —why not the agents? If a few energetic agents will meet and discuss the subject I think some good might result, and I would suggest that the inevitable difficulties of organisation would at least be simplified, if not entirely overcome, were it possible to obtain the interest and secretarial services of Mr. Prickett, the experienced and courteous secretary of our Trades Benevolent Institution. Such an association might well extend to trades other than our own.—Yours,&c.,

London, July 28, 1908 "FAIR-PLAY."

SIRS,—As one of the "Old Guard," I amdelighted to see that you have such an ably written leader on the question of the scurvy treatment of agents by some few of the buyers—a minority, I am pleased to say from personal experience. Before settling down in London, it was my pleasure to travel in the country for twenty-five years, and during all that time I never came in contact with the curse of bribery in any form. I had to learn that in London. I have seen many changes in that respect, and many failures of buyers, with the usual disgrace following on. The most notorious all came to grief, and I could have wished certain manufacturers had also, being as big sinners.

You suggest an Association of Agents as against the Buyers' Society. But, Sirs, you are not aware that a big effort was made a few years ago for this very purpose, and all the best men attended. A certain gentleman was elected to the chair, because he had himself suggested the action at an informal meeting. He read his own prepared paper from the chair, which was all in favour of the formation of the said society. The main idea was the stamping out of bribery by all and every means possible, and even, as a last resort, approaching the Principal. The meeting approved, and a well-known man was appointed hon. sec.; but it adjourned for further discussion, to be recalled at the discretion of the chairman. Well, it was never recalled, and no reason given, and I should say all besides the chairman felt very great fools. Although the meeting was private, someone took the news next morning over to a well-known City house, and he might as well have proclaimed it from the top of the Tower.

The inference was that the few buyers brought personal pressure to bear, and the whole thing was squashed, and, I am afraid, never to be revived. I have referred to them as the *few*—say 15 per cent. of the whole—and I am proud to compliment the 85 per cent., thanking them for their orders and courteous treatment, with a clear conscience on both sides.—Yours, &c.,

London, July 16. ONE OF THE OLD GUARD.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Birmingham.—You should apply to a wholesale house for your small lots.

C. R. L.—We have sent you the names of four manufacturers who can supply them.

D. R.—The question has already been discussed in our correspondence columns without any action being taken.

Junior.—You could not refuse to do what you were asked without breaking your agreement. It was reasonable service.

C. T. MALING & SONS,

TRADE MARK C T M ESTAB.D 1762.

Ford Potteries, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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China and Earthenware.

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France.—H. Mulotte & Cie, 14, Rue de Paradis, Paris. | **Australasia.**—Berryman & Co.(Mr. A. E. Potts),Sydney & Wellington
Country Representative.—Mr. C. G. Probert.

LONDON SHOW ROOMS—18, CHARTERHOUSE ST., E.C. MR. J. E. HEATH. *Telephone: 928 CENTRAL.*

THE TREATISE ON THE CERAMIC INDUSTRIES

is a Complete Manual for Pottery and Tile Works. It is from the French of EMILLE BOURRY, and Translated and Edited by W. P. RIX.

The book has nearly 800 pages and over 300 Illustrations, and the Contents include useful Information on Clays and other Raw Materials, Drying, Moulding, Firing, Decoration, and Glazes.

Among the Wares dealt with are Terracotta, Fireclay Goods, Tiles, Stoneware, Porcelain, Earthenware, &c.

The price is 21/- net, post free in U.K. ; British Colonies, 22/- net ; other Colonies, 23/6 net, and the Work is published by SCOTT, GREENWOOD & SON, 19, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

Henry F. & Co.—The ware is foreign—we cannot say whose—and the decoration is in imitation of a regular English pattern.

H. T., Yorkshire.—We think you must mean fire-proof china and not fire-proof glass. We have sent you the names of makers of the former.

Surburban Dealer.—It will be better for you, and for the youth, if you apprentice your son to another dealer. A son will learn his business better under a stranger.

C., Herts. [3,488].—There are no published records available that we can refer to for the mark you give. We do not pose as experts as to the age, make, or value of old china.

F., Scotland [3,485].—After a very long search we regret to find that you have quoted incorrect figures in your application. They refer to a registered design of entirely different class and description.

H., Yorkshire [0772].—We have never heard of fireproof glass, and think you must mean fireproof china. We have made inquiries and cannot find any maker of fireproof china who has ever made such a jar as you describe.

R. Kent [3,489].—The design No. 256,838 was registered about thirteen years ago by J. Dimmock & Co., Albion Works, Hanley. This pattern was purchased at their sale in 1905 by the Thornaby Pottery Co., the Pottery, Thornaby-on-Tees.

James L.—Yes, an English manufacturer could make it easily enough, but you would, perhaps, not be willing to pay his price for a single piece. Whatever the price agreed upon, few manufacturers would care to make only one piece to pattern.

T., Stoke [3,487].—The mark you give is one formerly used by Hope & Carter, Fountain Place Works, Burslem, Staffs., and relates to their Chinese pattern, which was one of the designs purchased by G. L. Ashworth & Bros., Hanley, Staffs., in 1882, when the former firm gave up business.

J., Kent [3,483].—We think that the dinner service you refer to is one of the productions of C. J. Mason, who occupied the Daisy Bank Works, Longton, Staffs. In 1813 he took out a patent for improved ironstone china. G. L. Ashworth & Bros., of Hanley, are now reproducing the Mason shapes and patterns and will, no doubt, be able to tell you more about the service than we can.

S., Scotland.—There are no records available for tracing the manufacturer of toilet ware bearing the old registered mark you sketch, which is certainly 23 years old, and may be considerably more. Our best advice is for you to send description to some of the old and better-class firms in the Potteries and trust to some one recognising it—Mintons, Jones, Cauldon, Copeland, Bishop, Ashworth, Wedgwood, &c. If you examine the ware carefully, on some of the pieces you may come across a manufacturer's trade mark or name.

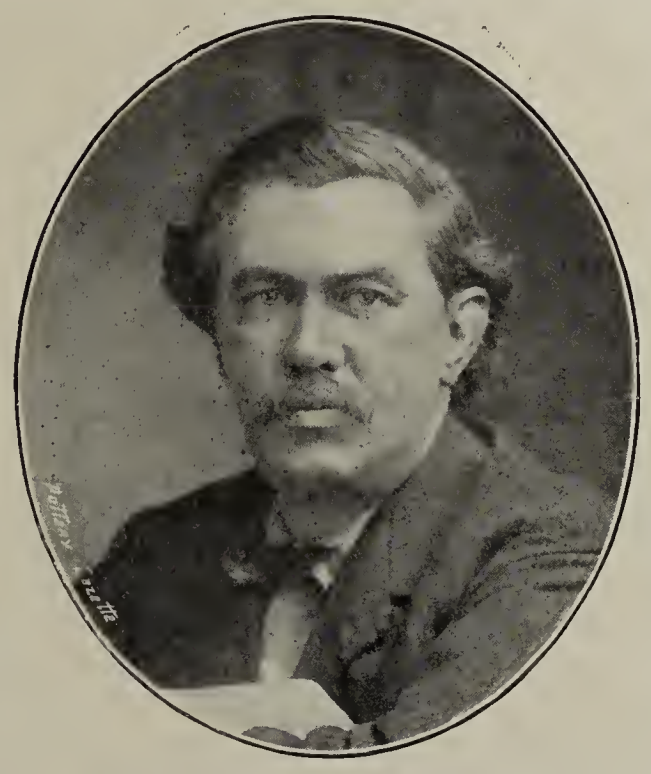
CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRY.

C. [756] asks for address of The Empire Filter Co. or their successors.

A Second-Hand Bottle Market.—Near the entrance to the out-patients' departments of some hospitals stands a bottle vendor, with various kinds of bottles and pots on a stall in front of him. The institutions do not provide people with utensils for their physic or ointment; they must find their own. So the hawker is at hand to see to those who are ignorant of the rule, or have absent-mindedly left the necessaries at home. All his wares are second-hand, most of the pots having contained jam, and some of the bottles destined for cod-liver oil or other fluid having brought sparkling Burgundy or a choice liqueur to a dinner table. His scale of charges is usually 1d. each, or 2d. for a poison bottle.

MR. WM. BURTON, M.A., F.C.S.

IT has often been remarked that titular honours do not fall to the lot of labourers in the fields of science and industry so frequently as they go in other directions. In a social atmosphere like ours, royal favours are valuable, but their value is enhanced by their judicious disposal. If the guests at a royal garden party or the recipients of birthday honours were selected by His Majesty himself, it would not be open to any one to criticise the selections. But it is well known that the selections are mostly made in the Lord Chamberlain's office, and it is also well known that it is His Majesty's wish on these occasions to receive typical representatives of all classes in which there are any worthy of recognition. In the recent birthday honours list recipients are found practically from all classes—except scientists. This is to be regretted, not so much in the interests of the scientists themselves as in the interests of science. We are an industrial nation, and the prosperity of our industries depends largely upon science. The nation owes a great deal to its industrial chemists. It can never discharge the debt, but it ought, at least, to acknowledge the liability.



[Photo by J. Russell & Sons, Baker-street, W.

MR. WILLIAM BURTON, M.A., F.C.S.

The whole pottery trade is honoured by the distinction recently conferred on Mr. William Burton by the Senate of Manchester University. The valuable practical results of Mr. Burton's chemical researches are well known, and general satisfaction is expressed at this academic recognition of them. There was a large gathering in Whitworth Hall on July 4. The proceedings were interesting, but we can only refer to one portion of them.

Professor Alexander, in presenting Mr. William Burton for the honorary degree of Master of Arts, said: From the days of Plato to the days of Ruskin, an honourable place amongst civilisers has been accorded to the artists who practise the handicraft of pottery. They beautify the common things of life. Ennobling the objects of domestic use and the materials of architecture, they make us familiar with the forms of beauty, "like a breeze blowing health from a fair country." Let me make a nation's pot and tiles, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, and I will leave you to make their laws. When an originator in this kind arises amongst us at our very doors, linking science with handicraft in the service of beauty, and recording in worthy literature the history of past achievement in his art, it is peculiarly our privilege to offer him such honour as we may—to enrol the inventor of the Lancastrian ware among the graduates of a Lancastrian University. In the name of the Senate I present to you, William Burton, among chemists a potter, among potters a scientific chemist, and an artist everywhere, for the degree of Master of Arts in this University.

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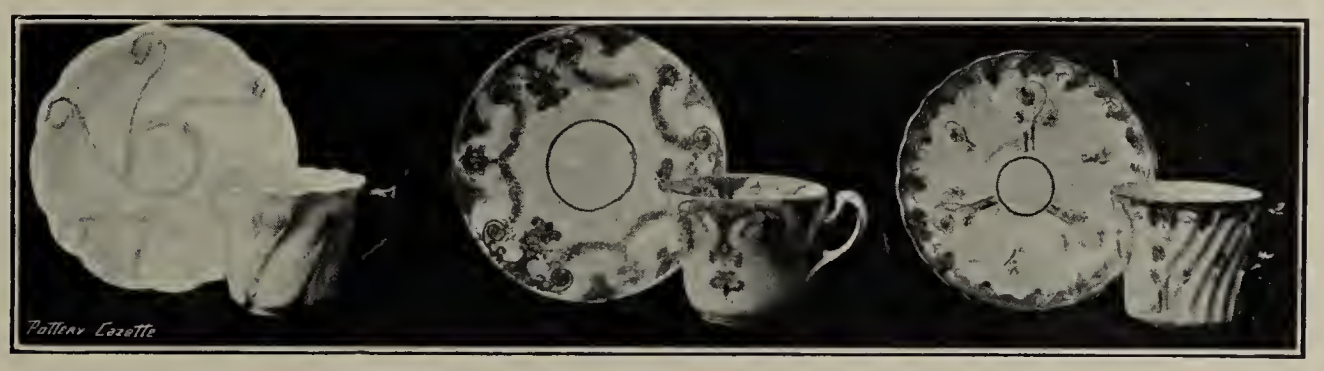
NEW ZEALAND—28, FORT STREET, AUCKLAND.

AUSTRALIA—51, PALING'S BUILDINGS, SYDNEY.

Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Wildblood, Heath & Sons, Peel Works, Longton, are manufacturers of china ware—principally tea sets and breakfast sets—in great variety. They have their London showrooms at 4, Thavics-inn, Holborn-circus, E.C., and I saw their Mr. Fred. H. Heath there a few days ago. They have a full collection of their samples in London, and Mr. Heath was then showing some recent additions of novelties in both shapes and decorations in "Clifton China." We give illustrations of some of these. The one to the left is an entirely new embossed form supplied in white china with gold handle. It is the firm's latest shape, and is a distinct novelty in white ware. It has been modelled with this object in view, but no doubt it will be decorated in course of time. The centre cup and saucer are "Victoria" shape with "topaz" decoration—in marone and in green. It is a very neat design, and will be effective in many colour treatments. The same Victoria shape is shown at the London rooms in several decorations. The "Jewel" pattern is a pleasing one. The cup and saucer on the right are in the "Empress" shape—a well-modelled spiral-fluted form. The edges are almost imperceptibly serrated. The cup is a good, flat-bottomed shape, and the decoration on the lines of what used to be called "new art patterns" is neat and attractive. Several other decorations are applied to this shape with success. The firm are supplying some rich enamelled decorations—red, blue, and gold in Japanese styles. They supply all table ware in Queen's white fluted and Princess white in stock lines, and arms ware in "Clifton" china.



WILDBLOOD, HEATH & SONS, LONGTON.

Cartwright & Edwards, Ltd., of Borough Pottery and Victoria Works, Longton, are manufacturers of earthenware and china. Alderman Aaron Edwards (the chairman of directors) is Mayor of Longton this year for the sixth time, and the jubilee of the firm was celebrated in May last. At the Borough Pottery, the firm manufacture all kinds of earthenware both for home and export, and at the Victoria Works, which was taken over in 1900, common and better-class china tea sets are produced. Cartwright & Edwards make a speciality at the Borough Works of their white "Queen" fluted earthenware, in teas and fittings. This has only been made about two years, but there has been such an extraordinary demand for it that it is now taking almost one half of the output. They also make set jugs, butters, &c., in the same ware. The ware is exceedingly thin, and it can hardly be distinguished from China except by an expert. The firm are just about to put on the market a new fluted dinner set to match the "Queen" white tea ware. This should prove a good selling line. A new shape in dinner ware has been introduced at the Borough Pottery. This goes by the name of "Royal." It is in a prettily embossed pattern, and is sent out both white and decorated. At the Victoria China Works, there is a nice range of tea sets in printed, gilt sprays, and other more expensive decorations.

Colclough & Co., Cromartie Works, Longton, are one of the oldest established firms of china and earthenware factors and decorators in the southern part of the Potteries. They supply china, earthenware, majolica and jet goods, large quantities of which are kept in stock. They make a speciality of cheap assorted crates containing all manner of articles in up-to-date shapes and decorations. These are especially suitable for shopkeepers, market dealers, and others connected with the retail branches of the trade. An endeavour is made to send out packages containing "a bit of everything. The firm have had many years experience in their particular department of trade, and they are accustomed to meet the needs of all their customers. Every article in the crates is described, and the cost tabulated.

Hill & Co., china manufacturers. Windsor Works, Clayton-st., Longton, do a general trade in china, and offer a very good selection of wares. They are at present extending their premises, and preparing for the expected revival of trade a little later in the year. They are doing a good business with their white fluted ware. Their bell-shaped tea ware is a new article and looks very pretty, enamelled in red, black, and water-green. Another variety of tea ware, the "Ena," is named after the Queen of Spain, and the decoration in heliotrope, rose-colour and dark green, goes by the name of "Jewel." Hill & Co. have "Seconds" tea ware, done up in a very heavy Japanese pattern, and this is very much in demand for the Christmas trade. Other popular tea-sets are "The Tyne" shape printed in mat-blue, apple-green or peacock, or enamelled, and filled up in mat-blue, rose-colour and pink and orange; the "Oban" shape, printed in wood-brown and enamelled in violet-rose colour, yellow and dark green; "Venice," a pretty low shape, printed in Sepia, and filled up in mauve, maroon, yellow, and old gold; the silver, Worcester and Carlton. The firm make a lot of badge ware for hotels and restaurants. They carry heavy stocks in general lines, and orders can generally be executed by return.

Clough & Lester, Smallfield Works, Market-st., Longton, are a well-known house for good class seconds in earthenware, semi-porcelain and china. They make a speciality of assorted crates. The proprietors have contracts with four of the largest firms in the Potteries for the supply of their seconds ware, and they are therefore in a favourable position to dispose of this class of goods in any quantity that may be desired. Their business has out-grown their former accommodation, and they have just entered large new premises, which contain an enormous stock of goods of every variety. Clough & Lester have in stock a large quantity of semi-porcelain flow-blue ware, which is a main line at the moment amongst market men. But almost any line can be had, and in any quantity required. The firm have had experience as retailers themselves, and they have therefore a thorough knowledge of what market dealers require. Indeed they boast that they have originated from the potters' stall, and they claim that they have an inside knowledge of the particular class of goods that is required for sale by dealers in the markets.

The Royal Aller Vale and Watcombe Art Potteries, Newton Abbot, Devon, are manufacturers of richly coloured and glazed art ware. The company are represented in London by Mr. F. Findlay, Buchanan-buildings, 24, Holborn, E.C. There is a large selection of their numerous productions on show at the London rooms, and they are always open. Several novelties have been introduced lately, and are now included amongst the samples in London. For the greater part these are in ornamentation, but there are new forms as well in several of the lines. Amongst several new schemes of decoration, the "Wild Rose" is one of the brightest. It is a full design in brilliant colours on art shapes. Three pieces with this lively decoration are shown in the illustration. They are sufficiently varied in shape to show that this pattern is suitable for any form. The tops and bottoms of the pieces are coloured green, and the flowers are on a light ground between them. We illustrate a two-handled vase, a covered hot water jug, and a crock on feet. There are many sizes of these "crocks," and as many sizes of flower pots, in the wild rose pattern. The pieces are brown inside. The same pattern is applied to tea ware, jugs, and table ware generally. Another novelty is the "Sunset" decoration. This consists of landscapes, water scenes, windmills, and other buildings in the Dutch style, with sunset effects. We illustrate three pieces of this, a tall three-handled vase, a hot water or cocoa jug and a teapot. These scenes are in green, brown, and blue. "Sunset" is applied to all the useful as well as the art shapes of the company, and it looks well on table ware. The third series we show in our group is a pretty application of pansies or daisies on light ground, with green bands at the top and bottom of the pieces. There is a two-handled jar and cover, a tall water jug, and a vase with curved hollow sides. The pattern is applied to a large number of pieces, such as jugs, vases, spills, biscuit and marmalade jars, There is a good assortment of the famous Devonshire motto ware. The quaint inscriptions are on blue, green, and salmon grounds. The mottoes are on useful as well as on ornamental pieces. Devonshire country scenes hold their position in public favour. We understand they are still selling well. They are carefully produced in colours on shaded grounds. The "Iris" decoration—a blue flower on ivory ground—is shown on some new shapes. There are some amusing additions to the popular grotesque ware. Some quaint pottery in the old English style is shown, the product of the company's Royal Essex Pottery, Castle Hedingham. This pottery has been patronised by Her Majesty Queen Alexandra.



ROYAL ALLER VALE AND WATCOMBE ART POTTERY. [*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."*

Mr. Joseph Gray, Britannia Pottery, William-st., Hanley, is an old established manufacturer devoting himself to every-day selling lines. The intention of the firm is to make "something useful for everybody, and stuff for the million." They turn out ware of every kind for the home, as well for toilet and culinary purposes as for the ornamentation of the house. They also make toilets of every variety, quantities of jugs, teas of many shapes, flower pots, vases, &c. Their lettered ware for the pantry is an interesting feature. The ware is decidedly pretty and effective.

POTTERY MAKING IN SPAIN.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

AS is the case with almost all the arts and crafts of Southern Spain, the craft of ceramics bears the indelible imprint of Moorish influence, handed down from that rose-coloured age when the swarthy sons of North Africa bore sway in the sunlit land north of the Straits of Gibraltar. On the shelves of careful Spanish housewives in Andalusia, and in the huts of El Grande Soko in Tangier, strange to say, the observer will find many specimens of the potter's art, counterparts of which are manufactured to-day in both Spain and Morocco. Nowhere is the Moorish survival in pottery making more apparent than in the high-sitting old city of Granada, the ancient municipality from which Boabdil, the Moor, was driven more than 400 years ago by the armies of Ferdinand and Isabella. A single inspection of some of the priceless old vases and tiles in the Alhambra—that wonderful old palace of the Moorish kings which to-day is the pride of Spain—will amply satisfy the person interested in pottery and porcelain of the source from which modern Spanish manufacturers draw their methods and designs. Even some of the kilns in which pottery is now burned are said to have been in use during the Moorish reign. Whether or not this be true, it is certain that some of them are worn and blackened enough to make the statement appear quite probable. Some idea of the pride which the Spaniards of to-day take in their ceramic attainments may be gained from the fact that even the transient tourist, who may never have given a serious thought to the matter of ceramics, is importuned by the guides to visit the *ceramico* of Granada before he has been in the city a full day. To the person who is interested in pottery-making, the invitation does not need to be repeated. After seeing the factory it is the common verdict of both initiated and uninitiated, that the place has an interest almost equal to that of the Alhambra itself.



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

A VASE IN THE ALHAMBRA.

It was our good fortune one bright afternoon to set forth with a guide to discover the mysteries of Spanish ceramic-making, and, if possible, to compare the methods in use in the land of the Dons with those of the British Isles, America, and other places. Ordinarily the employment of a guide, especially if one speaks the language of the country in which one may be travelling, is superfluous, but the foreigner who attempts unaided by local knowledge to find the *ceramico* of Granada, will have his hands full. The way lies through many intricate streets of the ancient portion of the town—narrow, winding thoroughfares—and up a high hill covered with crumbling walls which enclose flourishing vineyards. It was at the end of such a journey that our guide led us through an antique arched portal into the patio that at first glance looked to be half dwelling and half factory. But through another gateway could be seen an enclosure, in the centre of which was a great mound of plastic yellow clay, glittering with moisture. We were met in the outer enclosure by a good-natured Spanish gentleman, who stated that he was the manager of the establishment, and that he would take great pleasure in showing us all the sights afforded by the place, and that we should have any or all information he could possibly give us.

He began by pointing out a boy of fifteen years or thereabouts, who was seated upon a chair decorating bowls which had been glazed but not fired. On all sides of him were pieces of pottery fresh from the wheels, ready for their coating of dull, bluish-black glaze. It was interesting to observe the dexterity with which the youth applied the designs, entirely free-hand. Whether or not his sudden burst of speed was for our benefit, cannot be said, but the fact remains that he was decorating big bowls at the rate of about four a minute—and doing it well. The *maestro* stated that the boy could decorate the big water-jugs almost as rapidly. The youngster, who is almost entitled to be called an artist, in his way, looked up at our arrival and riveted his eyes upon the camera. It was evident that he shared the common desire of Spanish boys to be photographed upon all possible occasions. The manager graciously gave his permission for the work to be stopped long enough for a picture to be made. Then the boy returned to his task



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

THE "CERAMICO" AT GRANADA.

of painting a bowl every fifteen seconds. So trained had his eye and arm become through long practice that he could probably have decorated the pottery just as well with his eyes shut as with them open. In fact, there were many moments in which his glance was following us and his fingers still continuing the design.

Leaving this interesting piece of mechanism, we proceeded into the big enclosure. It was paved with brick and smelled strongly of damp clay. Here were over a score of men engaged in fashioning bowls and water-jugs and earthen basins and many other forms of pottery desired by Spanish and Moroccan markets. Over in one corner was a small shed under which could be discerned two men turning a vertical crank-shaft by hand. Closer inspection revealed the fact that they were grinding glaze in water. They were blind and looked as patient as do donkeys in a tread-mill. Other workmen were scooping up quantities of the great plastic mass of clay and fashioning it into shape upon the wheels. Still others were carrying yellow pots to the kiln for burning. At first glance we had supposed the wall about the enclosure to be of ordinary thickness, but now our conductor pointed out that a portion of it was a double wall, roofed over with brick to form a kiln. A workman produced a ladder, stood it against the wall and asked us if we cared to ascend. Then it was that we saw for ourselves that the top of the wall was twenty feet wide and composed of heavy burned bricks with numerous flat stones lying about. From beneath the stones thin jets of vapour were escaping. We had been there only a few moments when we became conscious that the top of the wall was "calliente" (hot), as the Spanish has it. The manager joyously noted our discovery, and, removing one of the flat stones, discovered a round hole through which could be seen the white-hot interior of the kiln. "Very hot," he exclaimed. "We burn the pottery there for twenty-four hours."

The inspection of the ceramico was concluded by a visit to the warehouse where the finished pottery was lying ready for market. Most of it was white earthenware, decorated in blue. With one exception the designs were practically all from the Moorish. This exception was an adaptation of the arms of Spain, a rather complicated design which, like the others, was laid on free-hand by the boy we had seen. It is shown in one of the photographs accompanying this article. Tourists purchase these dishes to retain as souvenirs of their visit to the ceramico, paying for that enjoyment anywhere from one peseta (twenty cents) to five pesetas. The price depends largely upon how used to the country the tourist may be—lambs always pay more than sheep. And this is another resemblance between the Moors and modern Spaniards. The manager of the ceramico stated that his business was entirely wholesale—except for the souvenir plates—and that prices naturally depended upon the market and the quantity contracted for. He professed to be unable to quote any specific prices, but it is quite sufficient to say that pottery in Spain is cheaper than in any other civilised country, because of the cheapness of labour. One evidence of this fact is that at railroad stations one may purchase, for the equivalent of a penny, graceful little jars, unglazed, containing about a pint of drinking water.



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

SPANISH POTTERY DECORATOR.



Photo. by the "Pottery Gazette."

MODERN SPANISH POTTERY.

Glass "Babies."—The head of the firm called to his office one of the travellers. "I want to ask you," he said, "about your expenses account. Please don't think I am making a complaint; I am only mystified and curious. Here are several bills for luncheon on railway dining cars. They are quite plain in all except one item. I see: 'Luncheon 2s. 6d., whisky 6d., minerals 6d., coffee 3d.. and then—and this is what puzzles me—empty baby 2d.' Every time you take luncheon on a railway train you appear to have an 'empty baby' for twopence. You must have quite a large family of them by this time." The traveller laughed, says "The Manchester Guardian," as he gave his very simple explanation. It has become the fashion for whisky firms to sell tiny bottles of spirits containing sufficient for what is called "a stiff glass." These little bottles are called "baby bottles." The traveller, as he explained, took only "half a baby" with his lunch and carried the other half away for subsequent refreshment, but every time he did this the dining car attendant charged twopence on the bottle—hence the rather puzzling item on the bill. It was only because "the baby" was half empty that he paid for it.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

III.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

(*Continued from page* 805.)

A MONTH has witnessed remarkable developments and improvements in every department of the Exhibition. Several of the beautiful buildings that were in a state of chaos are now completed, the exhibits in the various sections are fully displayed, while Nature has rewarded the efforts of skilful French and English florists by a series of charming pictures of flowers and foliage. The erection of a number of neat sign-boards pointing in the direction of many of the places of interest is a great convenience, even to those who have to visit the Exhibition frequently. They must be of great service to all who go but occasionally. Many of the walks, however, are exceedingly rough. Heavy rollers would speedily improve them, and the authorities would do well to consider the comfort of their visitors in this direction.

THE BRITISH EXHIBITS.

WENGERS, LTD.—In the Palace of Decorative Arts, Wengers, Ltd., Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, have a brilliant display of pottery of all kinds enriched by the colours, enamels, and glazes specially produced by the company for pottery and glass ornamentation. In the centre of their space there is a large glass case, in which are arranged specimens of china, earthenware, majolica, &c., decorated with the beautiful colours supplied by Messrs. Wenger. There are dessert-plates, tea and breakfast pieces, teapots, jugs, plaques, vases, flower-pots, &c., artistically grouped, not to show the wares, but to demonstrate the brilliancy of some and the quiet excellency of others of the colours prepared by the company for the use of potters, glazed-brick manufacturers, glass-makers, and enamellers. Chemistry plays an important—indeed, the principal—part in the ornamentation of pottery to-day. Messrs. Wenger are themselves expert chemists, and most of the colours and chemicals for potters' use, employed in producing the splendid coloured effects exhibited, are the result of their own personal research. The company are exhibiting many fine specimens of china, earthenware, and majolica.



WENGERS, LIMITED, ETRURIA.

In addition to the examples in the large glass case referred to, there are ranged round the stand pedestals and pots, flower vases, plaques, busts, medallions, tiles, figures, and fancy and useful pottery of all kinds. These are interesting as exhibits on their own account, but, of course, their main purpose is to show the superb results produced by the materials prepared for and supplied to pottery and glass manufacturers by the company. While interesting to the usual visitors, this stand is of special importance to manufacturers, and will doubtless have their attention. All who are engaged in ceramic and metal enamelling will appreciate this display. Messrs. Wenger supply practically everything for the potters' use in the way of raw materials, machinery, and accessories, but their exhibit deals only with chemicals, colours, and glazes. They supply metallic oxides, majolica colours and glazes, underglaze colours, on-glaze colours for hard porcelain and earthenware, enamel colours, chromo-lithographic enamel colours, liquid gold, silver, platinum, and lustre colours. For glass and crystal manufacturers, glass enamel colours, liquid gold, silver, and lustres. The large collection of attractive wares forming their exhibit is a striking object-lesson in the results obtainable by the use of the company's specialities. The fine Moorish vase is the the largest piece we have ever seen decorated with liquid gold.

E. Breffit & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorkshire, and 83, Upper Thames-st., London, E.C., have an enclosed case in the Decorative Arts Palace, containing specimens of the numerous varieties of bottles they make. These are for mineral and aerated water and kindred purposes. The collection is a comprehensive one, and gives those who do not know an idea of the extent of the bottle industry. Of course, all the company's productions are articles of utility, and doubtless the exhibitors themselves are as much surprised as anyone to find them included in the "decorative arts." The exhibit is really a good one, but the position assigned it is not likely to add to its usefulness as a trade exhibit.

Sir E. H. Elton, Bart., Clevedon Court, Somerset, is exhibiting a not very large, but certainly very choice, selection of his pottery specialities. His exhibit is in the right place in the Palace of Decorative Art, but, with the perversity which seems to have dictated the location of all pottery exhibits, these beautiful ceramics are surrounded with furniture. It looks as though the Exhibition authorities had determined that British pottery should *not* be seen to advantage. Sir Edmund Elton's unique and artistic wares were entitled to be properly shown. His "stand" consists of four or five shelves on one side of a cross avenue. At the top of the space there is a view of Clevedon Court —one of the prettiest, and most interesting historically, of English country mansions. Visitors to the Exhibition may be interested in learning that Clevedon Court is at once Sir Edmund's residence and his pottery. He is a self-taught and enthusiastic potter. He is a born artist with an acquired taste for potting. When he commenced to make pottery, he took a youth who worked in his garden into his pottery, and that youth, now grown to manhood, is a fellow-potter with his employer. Sir Edmund Elton designs his own forms, and then, with the help of his faithful assistant, George Masters, and a few others, models them and decorates them. If the truth were known, the best of the pieces shown—and there are some excellent specimens—are the work of Sir Edmund's own hand. It is artistic pottery in form and ornamentation. "Sunflower Pottery" or "Elton Ware" is an absolutely unique production. The shapes are either quaint or artistic. The exhibit is restricted to a few only of the several types of "Elton Ware." The tones are mostly blues and greens. There is not a single piece of those charming reds which used to come from Clevedon, but in their place there are specimens of "Gold Crackle" ware, the latest and most admired of all Sir Edmund's productions. Mr. Hillman, who has charge of the exhibits, seems to know all about the ware, and the enthusiastic artist-potter-baronet who makes it. In some respects, "Elton Ware" is above criticism, since it is produced from the sheer love of producing it, and not for gain. But it is artistically beautiful, all the same. The maker takes pleasure in its production, and people of taste will take pleasure in admiring it.

Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancashire, and 10, Upper Thames-st., London, E.C., have a stand in the Decorative Arts Palace, and they have contrived to make it as interesting to the ordinary visitor as to tradesmen, but, of course, from different points of view. The company exhibit sheet and polished plate-glass, silvered glass, patent rolled and rough cast plate-glass, thick plate glass circles for ships' lights, glass shelves, ornamental window glass and decorative panels. Public attention is arrested by two tall glass cylinders, one on each side of the entrance to the stand. These cylinders are the shape in which the metal for sheet glass is blown. The cylinder is then partially heated again, and split down the length, and flattened on a metal table into sheets. The whole of the back of the stand enclosure is covered by a sheet of silvered plate-glass. This is the largest sheet of glass in London. It is useful as a mirror at the back of the stand and the name of company is embossed on it in gold. An interesting and useful exhibit is "Patent Wired Glass," of this several specimens are shown. Meshes of wire of various sizes are incorporated in the glass in its molten state. The sheet is not only made stronger by this wire, but the further advantage is that if by any chance a sheet of wired glass gets broken, the pieces do not fall out to the danger of persons in the vicinity, but are retained in position by the wire. This wire and glass is used for roofs, windows, doors, skylights, verandahs, covered ways, and many other purposes. It is particularly adapted for wind screens for motor cars. Quite recently a motor car fitted with a wired glass screen collided with something, and the chaffeur was thrown forward against the screen. The screen was knocked from its place and the glass badly cracked, but the chaffeur received but little injury. If the glass had been without wire he would have been precipitated through it, and probably killed. The wired glass saved him. The company exhibit this identical screen, just as it was left by the accident, and the above little history is attached to it. The stand is in charge of Mr. C. Ames, jun., who mentioned to me incidentally that the company supplied the whole of the glass used in the exhibition.

LOAN COLLECTIONS.

In the centre of the British section of the Palace of Decorative Arts, there is displayed a very large collection of almost priceless curios. The pieces have been generously lent from some of the most famous collections in the kingdom. There is furniture of all descriptions and of practically all periods, together with tapestries, pianos, brass and lacquered work, overmantels, enamels, and paintings. There are also some remarkable collections of old china, and glass. I can only refer to these last. Mr. C. W. Dyson Perrins, of Malvern, has lent two cases full of old Worcester china. Mr. Perrins has some of the oldest known pieces of Worcester. There are many examples of the famous "Peacock" decoration on apple green ground, on various forms. Two tall vases of Oriental design are shown with this ornamentation. Experts and connoisseurs will alike appreciate the opportunity of inspecting these rare pieces. Alfred Trapnell, Esq., has lent his collection of Bristol porcelain. Amongst many pieces, almost as rare, there

are two tea cups and saucers and a teapot, belonging to the celebrated "Burke-Smith tea service," an account of which was given in the POTTERY GAZETTE for January of this year. (It will be remembered that the "Burke" teapot—a companion one to this "Burke-Smith" teapot was purchased by Mr. Harding at Christie's in December last for £441.) John Cockshut, Esq., has lent two cases of old "Chelsea" porcelain and two cases of old "Worcester," the worth of which cannot be expressed in pounds. These exhibits have been arranged by G. R. Harding, Esq. Charles Kirkby Mason, Esq., has lent a large collection of rare old English table glass of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. There are 130 pieces—principally drinking glasses, with long stems and short bowls. There are more opportunities of seeing collections of old porcelain than of old English glass, so that Mr. Mason has done a good service to lovers of antiques. A pair of gros blue ground Chelsea vases, a single Chinese vase on a shaped Chelsea pedestal, and a pair of Chelsea covered vases, marone ground and panels painted in French style, are lent by "A private gentleman." Apart from the old porcelain and glass, this loan collection, which is immediately behind the "Royal Worcester" stand, is well worth a visit.

Mr. W. L. BARON, The Square, Barnstaple. Last month I stated that I could not find Mr. Baron's exhibit, although the catalogue said he had one in the "grounds." I have since found it, but quite by accident. It is very near the Machinery Hall, but immediately behind a large building devoted to a working exhibit. Mr. Baron's very pretty "Kiosk," cannot be seen unless one goes right round the building referred to. The reason why I had not discovered the "Kiosk" before, was because it has not been accessible at all, until the last few weeks, in consequence of the roads on each side of the building in front of it having been blocked up with empty packages and débris. The stand is a pretty rustic one, with six sides, three of which are open, displaying a large selection of "Barnstaple Artistic Pottery." All the pieces are made and decorated by hand, so that no two pieces are exactly alike. There are innumerable artistic shapes in steens, reds, blues, browns and yellows, and a very large proportion of them are designed by Mr. Baron, who is himself an artist and a certificated art master. In addition to a great number of art forms, he is exhibiting a large variety of grotesque pieces and motto goods.

H. J. & C. MAJOR, LTD., the Patent Tile Works, Bridgwater, Somerset, exhibit (also in the grounds), specimens of patent roofing and ridge tiles, and bricks, tiles of various descriptions and bath scouring bricks.

MR. W. HOWSON TAYLOR, West Smethwick, near Birmingham, is exhibiting his "Ruskin Pottery" in "The Palace of Women's Work." If there is any reason for this extraordinary location for pottery, I suppose it must be in the fact that women are employed in decorating the pieces. Mr. Howson Taylor's productions are artistic and decorative and the Palace of Decorative Arts would have been the most suitable place for them. He shows a number of his original forms in art bowls, vases, flower pots, and smaller miscellaneous pieces. He also exhibits a collection of his very pretty "Ruskin" buttons for ladies' dresses—perhaps these account for his artistic pottery being found amongst the flounces and furbelows. Still, wherever it may be shown, "Ruskin Pottery" will command appreciation for its genuine artistic excellencies. The decorations are all hand work, and the glazes used are all leadless.

MR. GEORGE SCHENCK, Nursery-rd., Mitcham, is another of the unfortunate potters who have their exhibits in a wrong place. Why pottery should be placed all over the Exhibition instead of in a proper Pottery section, passes comprehension. Mr. Schenck shows his wares in No. 12—Palace of Various Industries. He shows art pottery in various forms—glazed tiles, plaques, hearths, architectural pottery, panels, busts, pots, &c. He also exhibits tiles and slabs with lustre decorations.

JOHN HALL & Co. (Stourbridge) LTD., manufacturers of glass-house pots, best fire-bricks, &c., are exhibiting a number of their specialities inside Messrs. Thos. Webb & Sons' working glass house, in the grounds of the Exhibition. There could not be a more appropriate place for the display of their pots, stoppers, rings and collars, pot-setting, and other fire-bricks, seeing that they supplied the pots and the bricks for the construction of this miniature glass works. Glass-house pots, fire-clay goods for glass works and potteries, are specialities with the company, and a number of specimens were arranged round the sides of the building. These include pottery bricks, fire-backs, perforated and muffle bricks and tiles, gas retorts and bricks. Messrs. Hall & Co. supply highly silicious and highly aluminous fire clays for special purposes. They exhibit also honeycomb, diamond, and cupola bricks, and are prepared to supply fire-clay specialities for any duties, according to specifications and drawings submitted.

GEORGE R. HARRISON, LTD., Lye Fire Clay and Brick Works, near Stourbridge, have an exhibit in the Machinery Hall. They are showing segmental, horizontal, and inclined gas retorts and fire-clay goods of all kinds; special muffled bricks for enamel ovens or furnaces and all kinds of fire-bricks. They supply special silica fire-bricks for intense heats. They have an attractive stand, and for the interest of non-technical visitors they show burned and raw clays.

We cannot conclude our account of British pottery and glass exhibits without one more protest against the unfair treatment of our manufacturers by the Exhibition authorities. They have come far short of fulfilling the alluring promises made in their original prospectus, an extract from which we quoted last month. Then, again, a section of the Press has done nothing to uphold the prestige of our manufactures (we speak only of pottery and glass now) at the Exhibition, but has done much to belittle it. Not a single newspaper has noticed that French furniture exhibits occupy the whole length of the *British side* of the Palace of Decorative Arts, while British exhibits of pottery and glass of the highest class are relegated to a side avenue. We repeat, and we have in our possession proofs of the statement, that it is not the fault of our manufacturers that there are so few exhibits of British pottery and glass. Applicants for space were informed that they could not be told what position would be allotted them until they had paid 50 per cent. of the rent asked for. It was not likely that makers of either fine glass or artistic porcelain—things which require a good light for effective display—would pay rent for a stand without knowing exactly the position of it.

We are perfectly satisfied with the quality of the exhibits furnished by the trades we represent, but we regret, and all who have any interest in our national industries should regret, the limited extent of them. Given reasonable treatment on the part of the executive of the Exhibition, it is probable that a space equal to the whole of the British side of the Palace of Decorative Arts would have been filled with exhibits of high-class British porcelain, pottery, and glass. As it is, the display made is creditable to the manufacturers exhibiting and to the national industries, and yet the section of the Newspaper Press referred to absolutely ignores it. It does more than this—it goes out of its way to deny its existence.

There is a long article in a London newspaper of July 3,

headed "The Question of English China." In the course of it the writer says: "You may find at Shepherd's Bush galleries of machinery, salons full of pictures, silks, satins, and diamonds, and all the hundred-and-one things that go to make life possible and beautiful—but you will not find any English china, not a piece of it. Its absence is an eloquent testimony to the crippled condition of the trade itself. People who are struggling hard to make a living have neither time nor money to spend on show-cases. My attention was drawn to this fact by the display of French porcelain which various well-known firms had sent over." Unfortunately, the condition ef tho pottery and glass trades is not a good one at present, but in addition to those exhibiting we have manufacturers who would have been patriotic enough to spend their money in showing to the world what our workmen in these beautiful industries are capable of producing—but the authorities of thc Exhibition refused them the opportunity. The article from which we have quoted was intended to show that the present depression in our trades is due to "Free Trade," and that the adoption of "Protection" would remedy the evil. We are in favour of a protective policy ourselves, but even "Protection" is hardly desirable at the expense of truth. Our manufacturers would, no doubt, benefit by a protective tariff, but what they want first and most of all is truth and fair treatment. With consummate irony the writer of the article concludes thus: "English china and earthenware is famous the world over, not only for its beauty, but for its durability. We eat from it, and we wash in it, and we collect it, but when it comes to lifting our little finger to save it from gradual extinction, we do nothing." No, but something very much worse. It is mendacious, ignorant, and irresponsible writers such as he who are doing all in their power to expedite the extinction of it.

In the interests of our manufacturers, and of the industries we represent, we feel bound to protest against the false impression created by the fewness of the pottery and glass exhibits at Shepherd's Bush, and we say the Exhibition authorities are directly responsible for it.

(*To be continued.*)

Parliamentary Notes.

(FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.)

The Truck Acts in the Potteries.—In the House of Commons on July 23, Sir Charles Dilke asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if his attention had been directed to the statements with regard to truck in the Potteries on pages 197, 198 of the Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops; and if he would inquire of the chairman of the Departmental Committee on Truck if the practices there referred to, involving customary payments and stoppages, were being dealt with by the Departmental Committee. Mr. Gladstone replied in the affirmative. He was aware of the statements to which Sir Charles Dilke referred, and he understood that the points raised had been under the consideration of the Departmental Committee on Truck.

Lead Poisoning at Tunstall.—In thc House of Commons, on July 2, Sir Charles Dilke asked the Secretary of State for the Homc Department whether there had been reported to the Home Office an extraordinary incidence of lead poisoning at the Woodland Pottery, Tunstall; whether a portion of Rule 2 in the amended special rulcs, cstablished by the award of Lord James of Hereford, declared that if any factory to which the rulc applied should, by reason of the occurrencc of cases of lead poisoning, appear to the Secretary of State to be in an unsatisfactory condition, he might prohibit the use of lead; whether this rule had been put in force; and whether he would consider the propriety of applying it to such cascs. Mr. Gladstone, in reply, said: Yes, sir; eleven cases of lead poisoning at these works (three of which, however, are doubtful) have been reported to the Factory Department during the current year, as compared with three in 1907, none in 1906, two in 1905, nine in 1904, and one in 1903. Proceedings were taken in April last against the firm, and application made under Section 18 for an order prohibiting the works being used until the necessary altcrations had been made. On the firm giving an undertaking to remedy the dcfective arrangement for drying and ware-cleaning to which the heavy incidence of poisoning is attributed, the stipendiary, with the concurrence of the medical inspector and lady inspector in charge of the case, adjourned the hearing. Thc altcrations, which are a difficult matter, and will cost, I understand, some £5,000, are now being carried out, and are to be completed by Aug. 23. As regards the second part of the question, there is such a power as mentioned in the special rules. It is a power which is intended only for very exceptional cases, and has not hitherto been used. In vicw of the action of the stipendiary, I do not think I could properly direct action to be taken under this special power at present; but the works will be kept under observation, and if the heavy incidence of poisoning continues, I shall consider what further action, whether under the rule or otherwise, is required.

Admiralty China and Earthenware Contracts.—In the House of Commons on July 22, Mr. Wedgwood asked the First Lord of the Admiralty if he would give the number of the manufacturers on the Admiralty list for the supply of china and earthenware; were the tenders for these goods called for annually, and, if so, when, or were thcy ordered for each warship on fitting out; what firms on the list were asked to tender for the last yearly purchase or the last first-class battleship completed; which of these firms actually tendered; had one particular manufacturer's sample moulds to be worked to; and was there any reason to believe that the special sample used restricted competition. Mr. M'Kenna in reply said:—There are about 15 or 16 firms who quote for the bulk of the articles of this nature. The articles of china and earthenware in the naval service differ considerably in quality for various services, and are divided into four groups. The contracts for three of the groups are made, as a rule, once in four or five years. For the fourth group the contract is made annually, as the requirements are large. For three of the groups, all the firms on the list were asked to tender. For one of the groups of special quality, only five firms were invited to tender. Generally speaking, the usual large proportion of firms have responded to the invitations to tender. One of the five firms stated that they were unable to quote to Admiralty patterns. Otherwise no suggestion of restriction of competition has been made. The Admiralty exhibits patterns, but firms make their own moulds to correspond therewith. One of the reasons for making contracts over a period of years is to enable firms to recoup themselves for any outlay on moulds. The patterns of one firm may be as good as those of another, but uniformity of pattern in this instance is neccssary for the naval service to prevent odd sizes and descriptions of officers' table ware in use. Rcplacements have to be made all over the world, and the keeping of separatc stocks of various patterns is not economical or convenient in the circumstances statcd. There should be no difficulty in making the Admiralty pattern.

New Glassworks in Sicily.—A private capitalist has started the erection of a glassworks in the suburbs of Palermo.

SOME CHINA AND GLASS SHOPS IN KENT.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

(*Continued from page* 808.)

DOVER.

THE name and the fame of Dover are known throughout the world. Its cliffs, its castle, and its harbour are all interesting attractions to visitors. The castle is the most dominant object in the town—a position it maintains in spite of the importance of the harbour. Antiquarians from all parts of the world come to see the Roman pharos which stands within the walls of the castle, and is probably the most primitive Christian relic in Christendom. I am writing from memory now, as my stay was too short to allow of a visit to the castle or the cliffs; but I have frequently visited Dover in past years. On this occasion I arrived in the evening, and in walking down Castle-st. I did look in at "The Maison Dieu Hall," one of the extraordinary places of interest for strangers. It has undergone as many changes as the town itself, though they have not been spread over so many centuries. It was founded in the thirteenth century as a hospital for pilgrims of all nations. In the time of Queen Elizabeth it was used as a victualling store; Charles I. altered it into a fortress. Some time after it was used as a stable, and it was successively a slaughter-house, a brew-house, and a bake-house. In 1834 the Board of Ordnance again used it as a store, and afterwards sold it to the Corporation, who converted it into a court of justice and attached a gaol to it. From time to time the interior has been improved and beautified, and now it is one of the sights of Dover. The stained glass windows are commemorative of local historical events. I was favoured with half an hour's inspection of this interesting building, but saw no more of the principal Cinque port of England than some of the streets, many of the shops, one of the hotels, and the railway station.

Mr. J. R. EATON, 183, Snargate-st., Dover, has a handsome shop—externally and internally. It has a double front, and the windows each side of the doorway are well dressed with high-class goods. I am sorry Mr. Eaton was not in when I called, though I did so twice, but in the same day. Snargate is rather a narrow and irregular street, running from east to west under the Northern Heights. At one time it was the principal business thoroughfare in the town. I do not know that it is surpassed to-day as a business centre, but there are wider and better thoroughfares than it. Within my recollection a new residential neighbourhood has been opened out in the direction of Castle Hill, and I now find that many new shops have also been established in that direction. There is no shop in the town, however, that has such an exclusive high-class business as Mr. Eaton—judging from the display in his shop—so that he will no doubt retain all his customers without difficulty. I am sorry I did not see him, because I should have liked to compliment him upon his stock and the arrangement of it, and I feel sure he would have given me some interesting particulars of his business. I hope, however, to have another opportunity of calling upon him. I may say that he displays a choice assortment of art ware and a large selection of exquisite tea and breakfast sets, dinner services and toilet ware, and a good show of high-class glassware.

Mr. A. H. POINTER, 173 and 174, Snargate-st., is one of the best-known tradesmen of Dover, as he is also one of the oldest. He has been established there thirty-six years, and, of course, has seen many and great changes in the trade, and in the street, in that time. I may say—and I mean no disrespect in the remark—that the trade has also seen some considerable change in Mr. Pointer in the same period. For instance, I myself notice a considerable change in Mr. Pointer's business from what it was twenty years ago. If I remember rightly, he then stocked dinner, tea, and breakfast ware, toilet sets, and other domestic pottery, though he sold toys as well. Now he keeps no household pottery. He calls his shop "The Royal Bazaar," and prides himself on keeping the largest and also the cheapest house in Dover for every description of toys, dolls, games, &c. I called at the "Royal Bazaar" early in the morning, and found Mr. Pointer busy at his door unpacking a case from abroad. I called a little later on and had a chat with him in his shop. He has a large selection of baskets, and a quantity of fancy china suitable for presents, and he makes a big feature of what we call "present ware," "badged ware," and view ware. I asked him if he got much of it from British manufacturers. He astounded me with the vehemence of his reply. "Not a piece!" I said I was sorry to hear that, and asked him why not. "Because they did not take the least trouble to do business with me. Of course," he said, "I cannot do business with manufacturers of the best classes of pottery, but I found the makers of medium class pottery unwilling to put themselves to the least trouble to do a trade. This was at the time I was developing my 'view ware' and 'present ware' trade." Mr. Pointer then described his experiences with English manufacturers to whom he applied for quotations for large quantities of cups to a shape he sent them, and with an inscription which he also sent. No one sent him the quotation he asked for. Two manufacturers sent him a price for engraving the inscription, and a sample of a shape of their own they could supply, saying they could not send exactly what he wanted, "as it was not their shape." He made the same inquiry abroad, and the reply was, a sample cup exactly his shape, with the inscription printed on it, and a quotation per gross, without any reference to the cost of engraving the plate. Mr. Pointer enlarged on this subject. He says at that time he was very desirous of selling English goods, and he has no doubt he could have sold them and would have been selling them ever since if manufacturers had taken a little trouble to supply what he wanted. Of course I have heard similar complaints before, but I have never heard any dealer who felt more aggrieved at the treatment he says he received, than Mr. Pointer does. I heard in the town that he does an immense trade in foreign present and view ware. There are hundreds of dealers in the country doing the same, and it does seem a pity that this large trade could not be kept in this country. Mr. Pointer has followed labour questions closely, and he has much sympathy for pottery and glass manufacturers in the attitude of trade unions. He says, without mincing the matter, that workmen are responsible for driving much trade out of the country.

Mr. W. B. ALLEN, 4, Biggin-st., is one of the regular subscribers to the POTTERY GAZETTE, and when calling on him I naturally looked out for a glass and china shop—or at any rate for a shop with glass and china in it. But there was nothing of the kind to be seen at No. 4, though the name over the window showed it was Mr. Allen's shop. I went in and asked for the proprietor, and that gentleman came smiling and asked what he could do for me. I handed him my card and asked if I was in the right shop, as I expected to find him a china dealer. "Oh, yes," he said, "that's all right." I looked round and found he was a dealer in high class toys—English and foreign—in all sorts of fancy goods and novelties, and in Japanese and Oriental wares generally. He has a well-stocked shop in a good position near the Town Hall, and

I should think is doing a good trade. After chatting a little I ventured to ask him how he was interested in pottery and glass. "Well," he said, "I do not do anything in them, though I have another business besides this. I am a cabinet-maker and upholsterer and bedding maker, not dealer. I take THE POTTERY GAZETTE because I like it. There are many things in it useful and instructive to a person in any trade, and I always look out for it and read it with interest. I get many useful hints from it." I thanked him for his kind words, and said I hoped it would continue to interest him. This was what a pill-maker would call an "unsolicited testimonial." I don't know whether I blushed or not, but it would have been excusable if I had. I know the proprietors strive to make the GAZETTE useful to members of our own trades. They will, I am sure, be pleased to hear that it has a wider sphere of influence.

customers of Dover, for they must include others besides the smaller shopkeepers, but Mrs. Cook is evidently a woman of considerable tact, as well as wide experience. Tact in business is not appreciated in our distributing trades as it should be. It has been the foundation of the success of many dealers, and the want of it the cause of the failure of many others. I had a short, but interesting, chat with Mrs. Cook, who has a good knowledge of her customers, and that is the first step towards knowing how to treat them. The bulk of the stock may be described as "good medium class," but there is also a selection of best goods, in both porcelain and glass. I have frequently met with ladies controlling retail china shops, but I do not remember meeting with another who managed a business in both the wholesale and retail branches.

Mr. HERBERT POINTER, 52, High-st., has a glass and china business in the newer part of the town. He is a



FIG. 1.—CORNER OF CHINA ROOM: MR. P. PETERS.

Mr. G. H. CARRIER, 45, Adrian-st., Dover, has a wholesale and retail glass, china, and earthenware business. Adrian-st., is a busy thoroughfare, running parallel, or nearly so, with Snargate-st. No. 45 is known as "The Old Stores," and has been a pottery and glass depôt for a long time. The business formerly belonged to Mr. G. H. Carrier, but the premises have lately been occupied by Mr. J. R. Eaton. They have, however, now reverted to their original owner who is offering a large and well selected stock of good useful and ornamental pottery and glass, the useful very largely predominating. There is an extensive frontage, two large windows with a central doorway. The business is conducted by a manageress, Mrs. E. Cook, who is an excellent business woman, with a thorough knowledge of the pottery and glass trades. No little nerve must be required to deal with the wholesale son of Mr. A. H. Pointer, whose business in Snargate-st. I have already referred to. Mr. Herbert Pointer does a glass and china trade only, and he keeps a very good assortment of the usual domestic requisites. He was not in at the time of my visit, but I saw Mrs. Pointer, who takes an active part in the business. High-st. is an important roadway, leading out to the newer residential district of which I have spoken. It is probable that Mr. Pointer, in opening this shop, had in view the fact that the public living out west would not care to go to the centre of the town to do their shopping. The other shops in the neighbourhood indicate that High-st. will, in the future, be one of the leading streets for retail trade.

C. & H. AUSTIN, 17, High-st., are glass, china, and earthenware dealers, and also general and furnishing ironmongers. They have a good position for a retail trade, which, of

ourse, they cultivate, but they do more in the way of urnishing throughout. I had a short interview with one f the brothers. He has had considerable experience in uying and selling pottery, and inveighs against the impor- ation of foreign goods in our trade. He believes that abour questions have had much to do with foreign made oods obtaining such a position in our market. The stock f pottery and glass they keep is principally in useful lomestic goods, and of the better medium class qualities.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Tunbridge Wells is one of the most popular of our nland watering-places. It has a municipal authority frequency of fast trains to and from London and the cheap fares encourage residents to do much shopping in town that, in their opinion, should be done locally. I have frequently to listen to this view of the position, but find enterprising dealers are taking means to show residents that it is to their interests to encourage local dealers. The shopkeepers in Tunbridge Wells—at any rate, in our trades—seem to be doing this.

Mr. PHILIP PETERS, 18 and 20, Monson-rd., and 56, Mount Pleasant, has never had much reason to complain of the competition of outsiders. That is the impression created by an inspection of his two establishments and an acquaintance with the early history of them. In the June



FIG. 2. GLASS SHOW ROOM: MR. P. PETERS.

ully alive to the demands of the times. This policy, and he many natural beauties of the town and neighbourhood eem a guarantee for the continued prosperity of the avourite Spa. It is a sort of "half-way house" between London and Hastings, Eastbourne and Brighton. It is well served by two railways, which keep it in close touch with the metropolis and the South Coast watering-places named. The boarding-house keepers and hotel pro- prietors speak highly of the facilities afforded by the railway companies. The retail shopkeepers are not so ubilant on that subject. Their complaint is that the number of THE POTTERY GAZETTE will be found the account of a short interview I had with Mr. Peters at which he explained the circumstances under which he commenced dealing in pottery and glass. My present duty refers to his two shops and very extensive wholesale warehouse and stock rooms. The two shops in Monson- rd. communicate internally, and are practically one shop. No. 20 was the first opened, and the premises next door were acquired to meet the rapidly increasing business. Miss Peters has had charge of this side of the business from the commencement, and she has accomplished much in

building up such an important connection. Every grade of pottery and glass is on show, and a considerable stock is held of even the best lines; while in good medium-class and cheaper qualities there is an immense stock. The shops were fitted up expressly for the trade, and there is every convenience for displaying goods to advantage. Miss Peters seems to have a good eye for effect, and to have a true sense of order and method. Of course, this business has grown up under her own direction from the very smallest shop imaginable, and this accounts for her complete acquaintance with every detail of it. She has capable assistants, and they are trained to her own methods. Mr. Peters felt the want of an early business training, so he apprenticed his son to a very different trade to his own. As soon as his indentures were completed, however, Mr. Peters, jun., came into the pottery and glass trade with his father and sister, and his thorough training in business habits and commercial matters generally fitted him exactly for the position he in time took up. He set himself assiduously to master the intricacies of the pottery and glass trades (and they are not few). Business habits he had acquired, so that applying them to the industries that were new to him was not a difficult matter. Mr. Philip Peters took advantage of an opportunity which presented itself for securing a shop fronting Mount Pleasant-rd. which runs at right angles with Monson-rd. He not only did this, but he erected extensive warehouses and stock-rooms in rear, which extend to the rear of his premises in Monson-rd. There is a handsome retail shop on the lines of those in Monson-rd., and Mr. Peters, jun., superintends an extensive wholesale trade and controls the warehouse and stock rooms. I was shown round the premises, and have some notes of the various departments and their convenient arrangements and fittings, but space will not permit me to reproduce them. I must content myself by saying that the selection of goods in every grade is most complete, and presents variety enough to suit all tastes. In addition to the well-appointed shop floors, there are showrooms on the first floor and a very fine one in a lofty and well-lighted basement. The illustration Fig. 1 shows a corner of the large china and earthenware showroom. The stand in the centre, with white ware displayed under it, is a large one with ample space all round it. At the back are seen useful and fancy domestic goods and hospital ware. In other parts of the same room there are dinner and toilet ware, pots and pedestals, afternoon tea sets, and sundries. Fig. 2 is a reproduction of a photograph of one of the glass showrooms. There are some china pieces, but not many. The room is essentially a glass showroom. Glass does not come out well in photography, but it will be seen that the display is not only a large one, but that it includes many high class productions. The "Maypole Decoration" is there, though the inscription on the card announcing the fact is not very clear. These two rooms indicate the character and suggest the magnitude of the business done. Those who say that a business limited to pottery and glass will not pay at the present day, and argue from that that the stores system of mixted trading must take the business away from the mere pottery and glass distributor, should see what has been accomplished by Mr. Peters, his son, and his daughter. They undertake matchings, execute repairs, lend out pottery and glass for special occasions, and do all they can to meet the wishes of their customers. They come personally into contact with most of their customers, and know them, and address them by name. This personal element is the secret of success in a retail trade, and it gives the china and glass dealer an advantage the stores can never secure.

Mr. Frank Featherstone, Belgrave Glass and China Stores, Goods Station-rd., Tunbridge Wells, has a really splendid position for any retail business. The way he has made use of it shows beyond doubt that it is an ideal situation for a china shop. The premises are in the shape of a "wedge," but not a narrow wedge by any means. A wide thoroughfare divides itself into two good streets. One runs to the left of the Belgrave China Stores, and the other to the right. The wedge end of the shop is of course in the fork made by this "parting of the ways," the shop getting wider as it extends along its two frontages. For a considerable distance, therefore, there are windows on each side, and one at the end of this fine shop. The whole premises are handsomely fitted, and as showrooms the arrangements are up to date in every respect. Mr. Featherstone makes a grand display in every branch of glass, china and earthenware for domestic purposes. He has plenty of variety in high-class useful and ornamental goods, and in another department he shows a still larger assortment of kitchen ware. Visitors are assisted in purchasing by the way in which sets and services are shown. One feature struck me as an adaptation of the drapers' methods. It is no secret that ladies "love bargains," and it is reported that in drapery establishments they will often buy things because they think they are "cheap," without much regard to the question as to whether they want them or not. "Bargain counters," and "remnant stalls" are not congenial to glass and china shops, but Mr. Featherstone seems to appeal to the patron of them by offering a number of special lines in dinner sets, 27 pieces up to 54 pieces, in tea sets from 21 pieces to 40 pieces, and toilet services of 5, 6, 8, or 10 pieces at reduced prices. He also has a corner for the curious (and the economical) where there are odd plates, "all sizes and prices," and an assortment of odd ewers and basins. We need not say he does not parade these, but they are on hand when wanted. He has in his shop and showrooms a fine show of high-class china and glass for table use, and also a judicious selection of vases, china clock sets, jardiniers, ornaments and fancy goods generally. Our illustration, Fig. 3, shows the interior of his well-arranged shop on the ground floor, and Fig. 4, shows the glass and china show-room on the first floor. The goods displayed in these indicate better than verbal description the class of trade done. Mr. Featherstone is enterprising, and in addition to his family trade he caters for hotels, restaurants, schools, boarding houses, and public institutions.

Wenban Brothers (late A. T. Reeve & Co.), 55, St. John's-rd., Tunbridge Wells, are wholesale and retail china and glass merchants, who also do an extensive business as ironmongers and hardware dealers generally. They keep a large stock in all branches and are able to supply a householder with most of the useful things he requires. The stock of pottery of all kinds, and domestic glassware consists principally of medium-class lines. They have best goods also, but good medium services and sets are shown in extensive variety. They show a nice assortment of attractive printed stock patterns in toilet, dinner, tea and breakfast ware.

CANTERBURY.

Canterbury, now a city with about 25,000 inhabitants, is of far greater historical than commercial importance. It is a good market for hops and corn, but there is no other prominent speciality. Whatever may be the object of an Englishman's first visit to Canterbury, he cannot be insensible to the venerable religious and historical associations of the place. It was the site of an old Roman city and was the capital of Ethelbert, the fourth Saxon King of Kent. It was in his reign that Augustine and his fellow missionaries arrived there from Rome. They established their monastery there, and this was the origin

of the position the city has held ever since, as the metropolis of the English Church. From the time of Augustine (605) to the present day, the Archbishop of Canterbury has been Primate of England, and the predominating ecclesiastical character of the city is seen in the numerous remains of buildings connected with the Church which abound in the streets today. I must not say more about the ecclesiastical history of the city, but I cannot refrain from referring to the curious fact that, while Canterbury remains the sec of the Primate, no archbishop has resided there since the 17th century.



FIG. 3.—INTERIOR OF SHOP: MR. F. FEATHERSTONE.



FIG. 4.—GLASS AND CHINA SHOW ROOM: MR. F. FEATHERSTONE.

Canterbury is situated in the middle of a large agricultural area, and the Corn and Hop Exchange indicates the character of the principal products brought to its market. Next to supplying the necessities of the residents, the tradesmen of Canterbury have to depend for their trade upon those who come to the city to sell and to buy corn and hops, and upon the visitors, who are numerous. The visitors are well provided for; in all instances the retail shops of Canterbury can furnish an ample supply of all the necessities and most of the luxuries of the day.

Mr. J. ABRAHAMS, 4, High-st., does this most efficiently as far as china, glass and earthenware are concerned. Mr. Abrahams is well known to manufacturers in our trade. He has an extensive business in Westbourne-grove, London, and he was in London at the time of my visit to Canterbury. He has, however, a capable manager there, and

his shop is all that a retail china shop should be. He has a large stock, selected with regard to the various requirements of the district, and attractively arranged. Mr. Abrahams' business has been established upwards of three-quarters of a century. He has a thorough knowledge of every branch of our trade, and with his double outlet he is able to buy largely—an important advantage to a distributor. Domestic ware, of course, forms the bulk of the stock, which includes the latest shapes and newest designs in toilet services, dinner sets, tea and breakfast sets, trinket sets, dessert services, and miscellaneous table ware. The different classes of Mr. Abrahams' customers are all provided for. I noticed goods of the very best English porcelain and earthenware manufacturers. Indeed, most makers of repute have contributed something to this varied stock. There is the same variety in table glass, from the best cut glass down to inexpensive grades for every-day use. Ornaments and fancy goods figure largely in the display. China, earthenware, and majolica vases, jardiniers, pedestals, flower pots, umbrella stands, and countless specialities intended for wedding and other presents. Mr. Abrahams stocks glass and china specialities for hotels, restaurants, clubs &c.

COURT BROTHERS, Burgate-st., Canterbury, have a large stock of china, glass and earthenware as one of the many branches of their general furnishing business. They are complete house furnishers, and as no house is completely furnished without a suitable supply of china and glass, the firm submit a large assortment of these for their customers to select from. As they make a distinct department of pottery and glass, they have naturally acquired a good connection for these goods, apart from their furnishing trade.—Messrs. PENN & Co., 45 and 46, Burgate, are also house furnishers who stock pottery and glass, and who keep a good variety of useful lines in both.

On my way back to town I called at

CHATHAM,

but could only just look in at one or two shops. Though a large and busy town, retailers meet with strong competition from the stores. The "services" are in great force at Chatham, and they are seldom liberal customers with shopkeepers. Mr. C. J. SIMS, glass and china merchant, has a very nice shop in a good position opposite the General Post-office. It is well fitted and stocked, and has a bright, attractive appearance. He has also a shop at 313, High-st. I noticed an announcement "Agent for Royal Doulton, Worcester, Foley and Bisto Ware." Of course Mr. Sims keeps the goods of many other makers of repute, but the names he gives prominence to show that in addition to good medium-class lines, of which the bulk of his stock consists, he does a trade in high-class goods. Mr. Sims is an energetic and practical man, and does not mind taking trouble to please his customers. He makes a speciality of repairs, and invites customers to send valuable articles which he undertakes to repair strongly. If a dealer can please a customer with repairs and matching, he is likely to secure his orders for other things.—MR. H. BRINING, 265, High-st., Chatham, is a glass and china dealer, with a good miscellaneous stock in medium qualities. Mr. Brining is a general and furnishing ironmonger, keeping cutlery, gasfittings, trunks, tinware, enamel ware and lamps. High-st. is a busy locality, and was very lively at the time of my visit. The business was formerly that of J. Randell & Co.—At

ROCHESTER

Mr. GEORGE WELLS has a good shop, well situated in Eastgate, where he seems to be doing a fairly good trade in medium, useful goods. He has had many years' experience in the business, with which he is fully conversant.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN JUNE.

THE POTTERY TRADES.—Employment in the pottery trade was dull on the whole, and worse than a year ago. In Staffordshire it was bad, short time being general. It was fair at Bristol, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Swadlincote, and in Scotland and Devonshire. With earthenware makers employment continued slack in South Yorkshire and the River Aire district, and in the Potteries. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment was bad. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester and dull at Gateshead and Glasgow.

THE GLASS TRADES.—Employment continued fair on the whole, but was not so good as a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,127 workpeople in the week ended June 27, and paying £9,970 in wages, showed a decrease of 1·0 per cent. in the number of workpeople, and of 0·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 5·0 per cent. in numbers employed and of 5·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being common to all branches of the trade. Employment with glass bottle makers was moderate in Yorkshire, good at Bristol, and fair at Portobello and Dublin; at Glasgow and in the North of England it continued moderate. In Lancashire it was bad, and worse than a month ago. With medical glass bottle makers employment was fairly good at Rotherham, and moderate at Barnsley. With flint-glass makers employment was fairly good at Birmingham, and fair at Stourbridge and in the Wordsley district; in Scotland it was fairly good. Employment with flint-glass cutters showed a decline. With London glass blowers employment was not so good, but plate-glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham reported an improvement on the previous month. It continued fair with sheet-glass flatteners at St. Helens. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was very bad, short time being general, and many men were unemployed during the month. Employment with decorative glass workers at Manchester and Liverpool was fair. Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on pay-day in week ending June 27 :—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,465	£6,914
Plate Glass	720	888
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,737	1,907
Other Branches	205	261
Total	8,127	£9,970

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid them on pay-day in week ending June 27 :—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	818	£945
Yorkshire	4,371	5,514
Lancashire	658	774
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,215	1,517
Scotland	746	911
Other parts of United Kingdom	319	309
Total	8,127	£9,970

Bankruptcy Statistics.—During the first six months of the present year nine china, glass, and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales, as compared with thirteen gazetted in the corresponding period of last year.

FAMILIAR FACES IN THE POTTING TRADE.

MAJOR CECIL WEDGWOOD, D.S.O.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

MR. CECIL WEDGWOOD, the subject of our present sketch, is undoubtedly one of the most interesting figures in the business and public life of the Potteries to-day. Yet it is only a few short years ago that he first entered the arena of public affairs, and the position he has won for himself in the meantime has been gained by sheer force of character and high business ability. Great names carry with them great responsibilities, and for full a century and a half the venerated name of the great "father" of the English potting industry has been worthily and honourably associated with all that is best and noblest in the life of the North Staffordshire district. Consequently, in process of time, the people of the Potteries have come to expect much from the members of the well-known Etruria family. In any capacity a Wedgwood is always sure of a warm welcome from the people of the district, whether he comes among them as a local member of Parliament, as a member of a municipal body, of an education authority, or as a "captain of industry;" but they will judge him more critically, and by a higher standard than they do most men, and they will look to him instinctively for lofty ideals and for fruitful accomplishment. But although so much is expected of them, bearers of the name of Wedgwood have ever been ready to answer to the call of public duty, and, among the other heads of the family, Mr. Cecil Wedgwood has right worthily sustained the traditions of his ancestors, not only by proving himself to be a man of conspicuous commercial capacity, but also a citizen ardently desirous of assisting to promote the common good, and, in addition, a loyal and patriotic Englishman, ready, in the hour of his country's storm and stress, to take up arms in her cause, and help to fight her battles in distant lands. The simple letters "D.S.O.," which now follow his name, speak more eloquently than any words can tell of the work he did as a soldier and administrator in South Africa.



[*Photo. by Gribble, Paarl, Cape Colony.*

MAJOR CECIL WEDGWOOD, D.S.O.

One has only to meet Mr. Cecil Wedgwood to know by intuition that he has been a soldier. His tall and commanding presence tells as much at a glance, and he gives, too, an impression of soldierly decision and power. He is the impersonation of vitality and character, and with these qualities he combines the natural chivalry and frank kindliness which is inseparable from the English gentleman. Recently he has come to be in strong demand in North Staffordshire for presidential positions, owing largely to the fact that he makes an admirable chairman, straight and forceful in address, and strong to control should elements of discord be present. Resourceful in business affairs, broad and statesmanlike in his outlook, a hard worker and a deep thinker, Mr. Wedgwood is essentially one of the "strong men" of the Potteries at the present time, and as such he is entitled to prominent place in any portfolio of the business men of the district.

Mr. Cecil Wedgwood was born on March 28, 1863, and is thus in his forty-sixth year. His father was the late Mr. Godfrey Wedgwood, and his mother a daughter of Sir John Hawkshaw, C.E., of Great George-st., Westminster, and Eaton-place. His birth took place at Hem Heath, near Trentham, but, his mother dying shortly afterwards, he went to live at his grandfather's, at the Upper House, Barlaston, now the residence of his uncle, Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood. Here he remained until he was fourteen years of age, when his father marrying again, the family went to Dilhorne, removing two years later to the historic Caverswall Castle, where they remained for ten years. During this period Mr. Wedgwood's education was receiving careful attention. His first master, it is interesting to recall, was Mr. Alfred Smith, the first clerk to the Hanley School Board, who lived at Basford, and taught Mr. Wedgwood privately at Barlaston, every morning, for some time. Afterwards, leaving home, Mr. Wedgwood became a scholar at Mr. Lake's school at Caterham, Surrey, and then, in 1877, he went to Clifton College. Here he became deeply interested in history and literature, and he speaks with grateful recollection of one master in particular, the Rev. Mr. Brown. This gentleman, who taught the Upper Fifth and Sixth Modern, was the author of some well-known Manx poems, and was regarded in the college as a genius for teaching. During the first years of Mr. Wedgwood's residence at Clifton the headmaster was Dr. Percival, now Bishop of Hereford, while his last two years there were spent under the headmastership of Mr. Wilson, now Archdeacon Wilson, who, with his daughter, Miss Mona Wilson, has taken an active part in the agitation against the use of lead in the potting trade. While at Clifton, Mr. Wedgwood gained distinction as a swimmer and a footballer, and he also became an adept in the use of the singlestick and boxing gloves. He left the college in 1881 and proceeded to the University of Geneva, where he spent the better part of the subsequent twelve months

in attending lectures. Finally, well equipped with a sound commercial knowledge, he returned to North Staffordshire in 1882 and at once entered the famous business at Etruria. Twenty-six years have elapsed since then, and during twenty of them Mr. Wedgwood has taken a leading part in the management. Mr. Wedgwood was permitted to adopt no half measures in learning the intricacies of the industry, but, right onwards from the time of his first appearance at Etruria, he was compelled to "go through the mill" in every branch. He began at the mixing end, and afterwards joined the potters, and so on till he had every department of the practical side at his finger ends. When he entered the business in 1882, his father, the late Mr. Godfrey Wedgwood, was the senior partner, the others being Mr. Clement Wedgwood and Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood. In the spring of 1889 Mr. Clement Wedgwood died, and shortly afterwards Mr. Godfrey Wedgwood retired, owing to increasing ill-health, and his place was then taken by his son. The management of the business thus devolved in 1889 upon the shoulders of Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood and the subject of our present sketch, and they ran in double harness for some years until joined by Mr. Frank Wedgwood, who, however, did not arrive at Etruria, until 1889 or 1890, and, like his cousin before him, spent a lengthy period learning the practical side of the trade before being taken into the management. Later on Mr. Kennard Wedgwood, another cousin of Mr. Cecil, entered the business, and, though never an actual member of the firm, he assisted greatly in the management while Messrs. Cecil and Frank Wedgwood were in South Africa. Mr. Kennard Wedgwood is now the firm's American director, and entirely controls their American business.

Several very interesting changes have taken place at Etruria since Mr. Wedgwood first became identified with the business. The manufacture of china by the Wedgwood firm was then in its infancy, and large developmets have been seen in this direction since. Then too, after his arrival, the manufacture of flooring and wall tiles was developed very largely and was continued until as recently as 1902, when it was abandoned in order to enable the firm to concentrate attention entirely upon the jasper, earthenware and china departments. From time to time new ideas in the decoration of jasper ware have been tried, but the firm has never hitherto been really successful in bringing about a modern adaptation of jasper. Customers have made it abundantly clear that when they buy jasper they want it just as it was produced by "Old J. W."—as he is familiarly spoken of at Etruria—and nothing in a new dress will do. One new departure in jasper, however, has been entered upon within the last eighteen months which seems to have a great future before it, *i.e.*, jasper heraldic ware. Charming little pieces of the familiar blue ware, decorated with the arms of various towns in white, are now being made in considerable numbers. The cost of making the moulds to reproduce the coats of arms is great, so that, as yet, only a comparatively small number of towns have been "badged," but additions are constantly being made. The jasper pieces are magnificently executed, and certainly make handsome ornaments. Another development of recent years on the manufacturing side has been the reproduction of the fine old cream coloured Queen's ware, decorated with reproductions of the original hand-painted designs of the great artists of the Josiah Wedgwood epoch.

A notable administrative change has been carried out within the past few years by the conversion of the business into a private limited liability company, a change which was dictated by family considerations, and has in no way affected the control of the works. When this alteration was first contemplated, Mr. Cecil Wodgwood discharged the laborious task of going through the whole of the old partnership deeds relating to the business and codifying them, a work which, as may be supposed, necessitated the exercise of great care and the expenditure of a vast amount of time. When the conversion took place, Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood, who was the senior partner at the time, became chairman of the company, and has remained so ever since, the other directors being Mr. Cecil Wedgwood and Mr. Frank Wedgwood, the latter of whom is also the secretary of the company. Several other important changes have occurred during Mr. Cecil Wedgwood's period of association with the business. Not the least noteworthy of these has been the construction of a sound, fire-proof building detached from all other parts of the works, to contain all the firm's valuable old jasper moulds. Previously these moulds were kept at the top of the works, where they might very easily have been damaged by fire. The works, too, has altered not a little in appearance within Mr. Cecil Wedgwood's time, the sinking of the premises, owing to mining operations, having led to the closing up of the branches of the canal on the works, besides causing numerous other difficulties. Amid all the changes which have been in progress, the firm have preserved a studious solicitude for the comfort and well-being of their workpeople. An example of this is to be found in the fact that Mrs. Clement Wedgwood has recently borne the expense of providing for them at the works a very nice set of baths, including a swimming bath, while, as another example, it may be mentioned that only a month ago the firm started the experiment of providing cheap dinners for the operatives. A dining room has now been opened near the new museum, and here the employees are able to obtain a splendid meal at a remarkably low cost; cuts off the joint, with two vegetables, are provided for 3d. or 4d.

Did space permit, it would be easy to refer to many other features which have characterised the conduct of the business during Mr. Cecil Wedgwood's connection with it. For instance, the great expansion which has taken place in the firm's Continental trade might be dwelt upon, and also the establishment of an office in the United States with Mr. Kennard Wedgwood as the American director. One recalls, too, that it was while Mr. Wm. Burton was engaged at Etruria as chemist, during the early days of Mr. Cecil Wedgwood's career there, that he laid the foundation of that reputation as a potter-scientist which has gained him recognition as perhaps the greatest expert on potting in the country. Again, allusion must be made to the triumph the Wedgwood firm achieved a few years ago, when Mr. J. A. Service, who was their American representative at the time, secured them the order for the famous Roosevelt dinner set for White House. Over seventy patterns were submitted to the American President and his wife to select from, the competitors including the leading firms of the day. American manufacturers seemed quite confident that the order would be kept in the United States, and great was their chagrin when Messrs. Wedgwood's design was chosen in preference to any of theirs. Impartial critics, however, admit the superiority of the Etruria pattern, which was wonderfully neat and rich, and free from any suggestion of "showiness." Each of the thirteen hundred odd pieces bore the great seal of the United States as a crest, with a neat and simple rim pattern in gold. So fine was some of the artistic work that a great many of the smaller crests had to be painted under magnifying glass, this being excellently executed by Mr. Goodwyn, the firm's artist and designer. One other important event must be touched upon before leaving the subject of recent developments at Etruria, and that is the formation of the Wedgwood Museum. Mr. Wedgwood had long felt it to be a pity that the many priceless treasures of old Wedgwood which

the works contained were not more efficiently housed, and after viewing Lord Tweedmouth's collection, and the collection in the Worcester Museum, he suggested that the firm should form a museum of their own. The other members of the family readily fell in with the idea, which was carried into effect with as little delay as possible, the result being that the old tile warehouse has been transformed into a veritable treasure house of Wedgwood relics which connoisseurs come from all parts to see. Not only are there specimens of the earliest Wedgwood ware, but waxes, moulds, "trials," pictures, account books, and a host of other articles of remarkable interest, all of them reminiscent of the great Josiah Wedgwood and the band of talented artists whom he gathered round him. Many of the exhibits were packed up and stored away in various parts of the works, and nobody really knew what treasures the rooms possessed until a thorough investigation came to be made. The museum is of absorbing interest and has already proved itself to be a valuable business undertaking, having materially assisted in creating a revival in the demand for old jasper. In point of fact it has added what may be termed an "historical showroom" to the works, and many important orders for reproductions of exhibits have been given by trade customers when visiting the museum.

To come back again to more personal matters the thread of Mr. Cecil Wedgwood's life may conveniently be taken up again at the point where he left the Potteries and proceeded to South Africa, having volunteered for active service at the time when things were looking their blackest for the British forces. The history of the Wedgwood family contains no more glorious page than that which records their ready respose to the call for volunteers. Mr. Cecil Wedgwood and Mr. Frank Wedgwood made arrangements with all speed to leave the conduct of the business in the hands of others, and enrolled themselves for service. Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, now M.P. for the Newcastle-under-Lyme division, did likewise, and so did Mr. Bertram Wedgwood, and Mr. Oliver Hawkshaw, of Great George-st., Westminster, cousin of Mr. Cecil Wedgwood. To the subject of our sketch soldiering was not exactly a novelty, for he had been a member of the militia since 1883. It was in the spring of 1900 that he and his cousin Frank sailed, and soon after reaching the Cape Mr. Cecil Wedgwood was detached from headquarters and sent as Commandant to Wellington, about fifty miles north of Cape Town, accompanied by three companies of the 4th North Staffords, who were commanded by Col. Mirehouse. At that time martial law had not been proclaimed in the Southern districts, and Wellington, being so near to Cape Town and very Dutch in sentiment, proved to be a hotbed of disaffection. Inflammatory speeches were being made on all sides, sedition was everywhere rife, and strong measures were needed to stem the tide which was flowing in favour of the Boers. In the spring of the following year, Mr. Wedgwood was made commandant of Paarl, a much larger area, which included Wellington, and of the scenery of which he speaks in enthusiastic terms. Martial law had by this time been proclaimed, so that to deal with seditious movements was a more easy matter, but, on the other hand, the responsibility of controlling so large an area was enormous. He was answerable for the railway, for the troops, for the carrying out of martial law, for the collection of horses, the provision of fodder, and for a thousand and one other details. Difficult situations were always cropping up and needing to be dealt with promptly. Thus, at the time when plague had broken out in Cape Town, it was reported that a case had occurred at the village of Hermon, in Commandant Wedgwood's district. A company of troops was stationed at the village at the time, and, in these circumstances, Mr. Wedgwood shut off the village completely, and placed it in quarantine, refusing to allow anyone to enter or to come out of it. His action caused some of the authorities at Cape Town to grow terribly angry, and demands were repeatedly made that he should open the village, but the commandant refused until twelve days had elapsed, and the period of quarantine was at an end. After upwards of a year of this sort of thing, Major Wedgwood requested that he might be sent back to his regiment, then quartered at Carnarvon, in the North of Cape Colony. The application was granted, but the major found that he had only taken a step out of the frying pan into the fire, for, immediately on arriving at Carnarvon, he was appointed Commandant of the district, and had to begin his former duties all over again. Meanwhile his cousins, Messrs. Frank and Josiah Wedgwood were being kept busy elsewhere. Captain Frank Wedgwood was detailed as one of the escort which conveyed the redoubtable Cronje to his island prison at St. Helena, and he spent some little time with the famous Boer general. Afterwards he became special A.D.C. to Lord Milner at Government House, and subsequently he was made commandant at Victoria-road, a railway centre on the north of Cape Colony. Mr. Josiah Wedgwood during this time was engaged with the Elswick Battery, and afterwards was appointed a resident magistrate. After having been at Carnarvon for some little time, Major Cecil Wedgwood was compelled to return home for three months to attend to an important business matter, but in December, 1901, he went back to the Cape, and was placed in charge of a column engaged in protecting engineers who were building block houses between Williston and Carnarvon. This was most interesting work, and kept the troops well occupied and constantly on the alert. An odd incident which occurred at Paarl is worth narrating. Major Wedgwood was one day visited by one of the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes' fruit farmers, who brought with him a Wedgwood jasper medallion which he was anxious to identify. Mr. Wedgwood was obliged to confess that he was quite unable to recognise the figure, and, making a rough sketch of the medallion, he sent it to Etruria with instructions that search should be made among the models with a view to the figure being identified. This being done, the actual model was discovered, showing the medallion to represent Carl Linnæus, the founder of modern botany. Up till that time Mr. Cecil Wedgwood had never seen this particular medallion, but the discovery proved useful, for when, on May 23 last year, the bi-centenary of Linnæus was celebrated in Sweden, a great many of the medallions were produced and sent to that country, where they were eagerly purchased. Major Wedgwood remained in command of the column at Carnarvon for some months, and was then appointed commandant at De Aar, a position, which he retained up to the time of his return home—an event which the writer well remembers was made the occasion of a rousing reception by the workpeople at Etruria. The workpeople presented him with a very handsome silver tray inscribed with his name, a similar gift being made to Mr. Frank Wedgwood. During his period of service with the forces, Major Wedgwood was twice mentioned in despatches, and, besides two medals, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, which latter honour he had the proud distinction of receiving at the hands of his Majesty himself. On his return to England he retired from the militia with the army rank of major. Soon after coming home, both Major Wedgwood and his cousin Captain Frank Wedgwood were presented with the freedom of the county borough of Hanley, in recognition of the work they had accomplished.

From this time forward, Mr. Cecil Wedgwood has figured a great deal in the public life of the district. He is now a valued member of the Hanley Town Council, while for

the past two years, following in his father's footsteps, he has filled the presidential chair of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce, with marked success. When the important question of the Federation of the Potteries was brought forward recently, on the suggestion of the president of the local government board, and an association representing the great commercial interests of North Staffordshire was formed to help the movement forward, Mr. Wedgwood was, by common consent, chosen as the president, and right well has he fulfilled the duties of that office, having by his personal influence done much to help federation forward. Mr. Wedgwood, in conversation with the writer recently, expressed his profound conviction that federation will bring great good to the district. Mr. Wedgwood is an avowed supporter of tariff reform, like his uncle, Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood, in which respect these two gentlemen differ diametrically from Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P., and Mr. Frank Wedgwood, who are no less strong advocates of Free Trade. The late Mr. Godfrey Wedgwood also was an ardent Free Trader. Mr. Cecil Wedgwood is the president of the local Glee and Madrigal Society, and for many years he has discharged the duties of treasurer of the North Staffordshire Provident Association, an organisation which he has just helped to pilot safely through the most critical stage of its useful career. For the rest Mr. Wedgwood is a member of the National Service League, and is very much convinced of the wisdom of universal service, both for the safety of the country and the development of the physique of its population, and he also belongs to the Maritime League. In his younger days he was an enthusiastic footballer, and played forward for the Midland Counties Rugby Union. Mr. Wedgwood married in London, in 1888, Miss Lucy Gibson, daughter of Mr. Wm. Gibson, of Cork, and there are two daughters of the union. For the last few years the family have resided at the Woodhouse, Cheadle.

Obituary.

WILLIAM DALE.—Aged 82.

WE regret to record the death of one of the oldest members of the pottery and glass trades in the Kingdom—Mr. William Dale, senior partner in the firm of William Dale & Son, glass, china, and earthenware merchants, Cleveland-square, Liverpool. Though feeling the weight of his advanced years, the late Mr. Dale seems to have found satisfaction in giving such attention as he could to business, almost to the last. He, however, had not been in health for some time, and after much suffering he passed away on July 5 at his residence, 20, Winstanley-rd., New Ferry, Birkenhead. The deceased was a native of Staffordshire, and was early in life connected with the pottery trades. He went, when still young, into the service of Messrs. Livingstone & Stonier, glass and china dealers, Lord-st., Liverpool, and after remaining some years with them he ventured into business on his own account. At that time the earthenware trade in the home market was in a flourishing condition, and he developed a considerable business in Cleveland-square. When the home trade declined, as it did about 1865 to 1869, the firm paid more attention to export markets and established a good trade with West Africa at the time when there was a brisk demand in that market. The firm have been successful as wholesale and export merchants since that date. The deceased had not taken much part in the control of the business for some time before his death, though he manifested a continued interest in it. His son, Mr. Arthur Dale, and his grandson, Mr. A. E. Dale, have practically controlled the business for some years, and they will continue it. The late Mr. Dale was personally well known and respected in the Potteries and by a large connection in the retail trade. The funeral took place at Bebington Cemetery on July 8, and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends and many of the employees of the firm.

JOSEPH FLACH.—Aged 50.

WE regret to learn that Mr. Joseph Flach, commission merchant, of 16, Water-lane, Great Tower-st., E.C., died on the 11th ult. at his residence, 47, Bethune-rd., Stoke Newington, N. A few weeks ago Mr. Flach took a severe cold, pleurisy followed, and an operation was necessitated, from the effects of which he never recovered. The deceased was fifty years of age. He was a Bavarian; but, though he commenced his business training in Germany and Paris, he has spent the greater part of his life in London. He began business on his own account as an importer of continental drug produce in 1882, and acquired an extensive connection. At the time of his death he was regarded as one of the leading importers in his particular lines in London. During the last decade he extended his business in several directions, acting as manufacturers' representative in London to several Paris houses, one of his houses being that of Poulenc Frères, manufacturing chemists, 92, Vieille du Temple, Paris. They have acquired a high reputation in this country for their liquid gold, brown gold, lustre colours, and enamel colours for the use of potters. Mr. Flach was largely instrumental in the extension of the business in the United Kingdom. The firm have an exhibit at the Franco-British Exhibition, in which the deceased took a great interest, and our last interview with him was connected with the stand. The deceased was an ardent advocate for duty-free alcohol for industrial purposes. He leaves a widow and eight children, his eldest son, Mr. James Flach, succeeding him in the business. Mr. James Flach has had a continental experience, and for some time past has been associated with his father in business.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

(ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1907.)

THE annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1907 has been published. It recapitulates the various acts passed in relation to factories and workshops, and makes special reference to rules and regulations passed for dangerous trades. The returns of persons employed in potteries under Special Rules show that in 1907 the total number of persons employed in the 536 factories of the United Kingdom was 62,846. Of these, 47,466 were employed in Staffordshire, and 15,380 in the rest of the United Kingdom. The number of persons employed in lead processes in the whole of the United Kingdom was 6,865—namely, 4,504 males and 2,361 females. Of this total of 6,865, there were 5,299 persons (3,371 males and 1,928 females) employed in Staffordshire and 1,566 (namely 1,133 males and 433 females) were employed in the rest of the United Kingdom. The total number of persons employed in processes not involving exposure to lead, was 55,981. Of these 20,194 were males and 21,973 were females employed in Staffordshire, and 9,104 were males and 4,710 females employed in the rest of the United Kingdom.

The returns show that lead was used in 289 potteries under Special Rules in the North Staffordshire District and 166 (excluding four where the occupier alone used lead) elsewhere, or 455 in all. Ordinary inspection is a much longer function than in past time. So many industries are now subject to Special Rules and Regulations and the operation of the particulars and home-work clauses, that a thorough examination of each detail prevents the arrangement of a day's work over a large area, and much time has to be devoted both to taking notes and carefully transcribing them in proper form for subsequent reference and action.

Mr. GRAVES quotes Mr. Werner's approval of a successful enclosed

sifting plant for tile dust, and an excellent sifting apparatus for fired flint dust, now installed. He had to complain of persistent disuse of overalls among the men at a place where liberal provision was made.

Mr. WALMSLEY furnishes some notes of his last experiences at Stoke-on-Trent :—What still appears to require more attention on the part of occupiers is to ensure that the Rules are complied with on the part of the operatives and by the firm's subordinates. An instance of this arose during the latter part of my time in North Staffordshire. One morning I observed two girls from a pottery cross to a greengrocer's shop, they returned each eating an apple. They were wearing overalls and cap. When I followed into the works and spoke to them, they hid the apples under their overalls. They were colour grinders, their hands were covered with colour, and they had not even taken the trouble to wash before leaving the factory. They had avoided the lodgeman, who, on my reprimanding him, said it was impossible always to prevent the girls leaving as these two had done. The firm promised to take stringent measures in future to prevent such irregularities. Occupiers or their agents I found at times were not exercising enough care in seeing that the casual lead-workers possessed their book with record of monthly examination. Occasional mention was made to me of this neglect, but it was difficult to discover without definite information. One case, however, was found wherein a lead-worker had presented his book to the forcman of the department, who, seeing that the surgeon had signed the book, did not carefully note the date. The man, it seems, had not been examined for a few months. This oversight was afterwards discovered and the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association issued a cautionary letter to the various firms. The number of lead cases during the year, which in the earlier part seemed likely to be comparatively low, began to increase steadily, much to my disappointment. There seemed to be no special reason, as the lead-workers generally are fairly careful from their own standpoint, though not enough so from an Inspector's.

Mr. ROGERS sends the following from the same district :—The most notable feature of the year has been the successful attempt to introduce machines for scouring china. It has long been realised in the Potteries that china-scouring is a dangerous process, and though done under hoods, with an exhaust draught, it has not been possible to avoid getting a certain amount of flint dust into the air of the workrooms. The machines are of two entirely different kinds ; one being on the principle of the sand-blast, and the other consisting of a revolving drum in which the ware, having been placed in cradles, is subject to scouring by broken "pitcher." These machines give great satisfaction to the potters who have adopted them, and at the same time allow practically no dust to escape into the workrooms. A new dipping machine is in use at one factory, but its utility is somewhat limited owing to the fact that it can only be used for ware of a certain kind. It is expected, however, that developments will follow in the near future. The temperature of some of the potters' shops is still higher than could be desired, but the matter has received careful attention during the year. The number of cases of lead-poisoning has not shown the decrease that was anticipated, and at first sight this is discouraging. In many cases, however, the illness caused by working in lead has been coming on for years, and therefore the number of cases of lead poisoning reported in 1907 is not entirely controlled by the circumstances under which the work has been done in that year. Investigation has shown that some of the persons suffering from lead-poisoning, especially women and girls, have not had sufficient nourishing food, and this may to some extent account for their susceptibility to lead. It is to be regretted that some lead-workers who feel unwell, fearing that they may be suffering from the early symptoms of plumbism, try to conceal their true state of health from medical examiners, and thus subject themselves to more severe attacks later on. One of the coroners has on several occasions referred to this when holding an inquiry into the cause of death of a lead-worker.

Mr. GARVIE (Wolverhampton) speaks with approval of the new method of scouring china previously mentioned, in a revolving cylinder with exhaust, and proceeds :—Earthenware and china works are seldom quite regular, and their freedom from plumbism here renders them somewhat lacking in care and thoroughness. Smoking has practically ceased among dippers. Many paintresses still regard overalls, especially head-coverings, as articles of ornament rather than use. The fatal case of a majolica paintress revealed that she had concealed her history from the certifying surgeon.

CHINA SCOURING.

In the course of his report, the Superintending Inspector for dangerous trades says :—The conversion of the Special Rules for this industry into Regulations has been under consideration. The Workmen's Compensation Act of 1906, which came into force in July, 1907, has made lead poisoning a scheduled disease, compensable under the Act, and has therefore removed the need for schedule B, which required from the occupier the adoption of a compensation scheme unless he used a glaze of less solubility than five per cent.

Two methods of china scouring have recently been introduced to which allusion may usefully be made. One was introduced by Messrs. J. Aynsley & Son, Portland Works, Longton, the principle of which is the scouring by sand blast. The results of this method are very satisfactory from the point of view of health, as the mechanism is so completely boxed in as to reduce the escape of dust to a minimum. It is also a labour-saving method, and should on this ground alone appeal to manufacturers ; and the articles appear to be thoroughly cleaned by the blast. This system has been adopted by a few firms, but it is has perhaps scarcely yet emerged from the experimental stage.

The other method, known as "The Hygienic Scouring Apparatus (Wainford's Patent)" consists of a cylinder in which the ware is placed within wooden racks, coarse sand being introduced. When the machine rotates, the sand is showered against the ware and the flint thereby removed. The fine flint dust is drawn off from the barrel by means of an air duct connected with a fan. This system has been already introduced in several potteries with very satisfactory results. It has the merits of saving labour, and securing a thoroughly smooth surface to the ware ; and from the point of view of health, it is a great improvement on the old system of scouring.

THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY.

In his report on the work done by the Government Laboratory for the Home Office, Professor T. E. Thorpe says :—Ninety-seven samples consisted of pottery glazes and of glazed pottery. It will be remembered that manufacturers of pottery are now divided into four classes, viz. :—

(1) Those who use only leadless glazes.
(2) Those who undertake to use glaze which, when tested according to the official process, shall contain not more than 2 per cent. of soluble lead compounds,
(3) Those who undertake that the soluble lead shall not exceed 5 per cent. of the glaze, and
(4) Those who do not undertake any limitation with regard to the employment of lead compounds.

A "lead-less glaze" is defined as one that contains less than 1 per cent. of lead, and of 50 samples purporting to be of this class 45 were found to be within this limit, two exceeded the limit by one-tenth and two-tenths of 1 per cent., respectively, and those contained from 1.9 to 3.8 per cent. of lead.

Of the second-class only a single sample was examined, and this was found to be within the required limit. In the 5 per cent. solubility division, 30 samples were examined and of these eight contained more than 5 per cent. of soluble lead monoxide. In two of these cases the excess amounted to less than 1 per cent., but in six instances the excess was considerable, the percentage of soluble lead monoxide ranging from 8 to 67 per cent. The earthenware articles which were examined as to the character of the glaze consisted of plates, saucers, finger-plates, white glazed brick, and glazed drain-pipes.

LADY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

MISS VINES touches on changes of method in manufacture which are likely to prove beneficial from the standpoint of health :—"In the Potteries there have been experiments in the gas-firing of potters' ovens with, I understand, satisfactory results. There is no need to point out what an advantage the general introduction of gas-firing would be to the 50,000 workpeople engaged in the pottery industry and also to the district, with its population of over 200,000 persons, as a whole. The introduction this year of china scouring machines should also prove advantageous and lead to a decrease of pulmonary diseases among the scourers. But so radical a change in old methods as that of gas-firing, if largely adopted, would doubtless also lead to progress, especially from a health point of view, in other directions, a progress which I hope at no distant date to be able to chronicle."

MISS VINES, referring to Dipping Houses, touches again on the means of be adopted by pottery manufacturers in overcoming the excessively high temperatures found so often in earthenware and china works, and having there a specially injurious influence :—"This question, as remarked in last year's Annual Report, owing to the dangerous processes carried on in them is, in connection with dipping houses, especially important ; for high temperatures, causing as they do, exhaustion among women and girl dippers' assistants, predispose to lead poisoning. The best remedy for the prevention of these high temperatures in the dipping house is the provision of separate drying rooms. Where these are not provided the following points should be borne in mind :—(1) Live steam for heating stilleages and mangles, except when absolutely necessary, should not be used. With exhaust steam it is naturally far easier to maintain a lower temperature. (2) The high temperatures are often due to inefficient or total lack of means of ventilation for carrying off the heat. I have seen, with improved results, ventilators provided directly over stilleages. (3) The failure, in connection with drying plant, to utilise sufficient currents of air. It appears, as was recently observed to me by a manufacturer, to be a fact not generally realised, that ventilation and currents of air may be as

useful and as great a factor in the process of drying as heat. (4) The necessity for the consultation of experts as to proper arrangements of apparatus. At present mangles are not infrequently badly arranged. Perpendicular mangles when properly fixed and ventilated are far preferable to horizontal ones, but it has to be borne in mind that owing to the cramped space between them, such mangles should never be erected double. Horizontal mangles, except when exhaust steam is employed, should never in my opinion, be placed in a dipping house, and where they run at length outside the shop it would probably be advantageous if the heating pipes were cut short several feet from where the worker stands, both at the feed and gathering ends. (5) The pipes for heating stilleages sometimes appear to be unnecessarily large. Feed pipes of smaller diameter might be more frequently used than at present.

Industrial Poisoning and Disease.

The principal lady inspector, Miss Anderson, says :—"Lead industries again in 1907 furnish the chief material as regards instances of disease for our care and consideration in the direction of prevention; the main achievements are completion and publication of the joint report on Tinning of Metals by the Medical Inspector and myself, and the submtting of recommendations by various members of my staff and myself for transformation of Earthenware and China Rules into Regulations. The steady four months' work by Miss Vines in the North Staffordshire potteries and many inquiries by Miss Paterson, Miss Squire and others into reported cases of lead poisoning in miscellaneous industries certainly tend in the same direction.

Miss Vines' summary as regards plumbism and its causes in the potteries group of industries follows :—"The number of reported lead cases from earthenware and china works this year has been 103, as against 107 cases in 1906 and 84 cases in 1905. Among women and girls, however, the number reported in 1907 shows a greater decrease than among men and boys. In 1906 there were 59—five of which were outside the Potteries district—reported cases of women and girls. In 1907 the total among women and girls is 51, eight of these being outside the Staffordshire Potteries. Thus, in 1907, among women and girls, there have been 43 as compared with 55 cases in 1906 in the North Stafford district. From one point of view this is encouraging, but it has to be remembered that an increase of illness among the men necessitates a larger number of women leaving their homes and going out to work." She says that women and girls have told her that they cannot avoid "getting the dust" in work quite distinct from ware cleaning and she quotes cases of neglect on the part of managers to show that the Rule providing for the proper removal of dust was carried out.

Miss Vines quotes a number of the cases of illness reported to her. It is a formidable list, numerically, but many of the cases are very trivial to be included in an inspector's official report. "E. L., aged 21, dippers' assistant, thinks her illness was partly caused by, &c." Miss Vines points again to the high ratio of cases in a single transfer works to which much time and thought has been given by the Department in the matter of exhaust ventilation :—"There have again this year been several lead cases reported, a total of seven, among women and girls, some of the latter being 16 and 17 years old, from one transfer works in the Potteries." The light nature of the colour dusted on to the transfers and the cleaning of the machinery by hand are the chief sources of injury. Miss Vines also touches on two cases in the Potteries of eczematous ulceration of the skin of the fingers which have come under her notice. One, she says, "was that of a colour blower, the other that of an enamel paintress. The disease appeared to be due to the use of the liquid with which the colour was mixed. Eczematous ulceration of the skin produced by dust or caustic or corrosive liquids being now an injury to which the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, has been extended, persons who have contracted it in the manner specified in the course of their employment have a better chance than formerly of recovery."

When dealing with the employment of married women, Miss Vines says:—"During the course of a recent inspection of a large pottery, I was interested to find that all married women were being gradually eliminated from the dipping house. No married women were taken on afresh, and no women might return after confinement. This arrangement was especially interesting in view of information given me this year by two mothers visited by me, when they were suffering from lead-poisoning." The inspector quotes cases showing the injurious efforts of working in lead, on child-bearing.

The Truck Acts.

Miss Vines says :—The subject of Truck in the Potteries, owing to its being so entangled with old customs and systems of payments is very complicated. Mr. Harold Wright, the Potteries stipendiary magistrate, on the conclusion of the hearing of several prosecutions recently taken by me in connection with illegal deductions under the Truck Act, 1896, asked if it were not possible for employers to do away with these stoppages altogether and pay wages in one lump sum including everything. It did seem to him, he observed, that these deductions not only fell hardly on the work-people, but on the manufacturers, also, because where stoppages were taken as they were in this district a good deal of ill-feeling and friction between employer and employed were engendered. And I am convinced that if manufacturers could see their way to following the stipendiary's advice the results would be all to the good. But if deductions clearly regulated by the Truck Act are abolished by them so also I think should be percentages and allowances. (See Annual Report for 1906, p. 244.) It seems open to question whether these percentages and allowances to the masters are not in fact deductions within the meaning of the Truck Act, 1896. Here is an illustration :—Inquiring of a woman in a clay-shop as to her deductions, she informed me that she was not deducted, but was subject to a percentage of 3d. in the pound off her earnings. When she had been taken on, she said, about a year previously and the first settling day had come round, not being used to the custom, she had inquired the meaning of "percentage" and was told it was for gas and kale. The question is, can the substitution of another name, viz., "percentage" for the words gas and kale free an employer from obligation to comply with the regulations of the Truck Act. It seems unreasonable that this should be so.

After quoting a number of cases to show the prevalence of the system of deductions in the Potteries, the inspector says :—"The Pottery Gazette for May, on page 557, asks 'Is it not time that an earnest and united effort was made in the trade to increase prices? . . . . The Maëlstrom of cheapness has violently attacked the pottery and glass trades.' Again, on page 597, the Potteries correspondent tells how a prominent manufacturer, in conversation on the subject of the china trade, complained bitterly about the present prices for china, the lowness of which, he continued was entirely unwarranted. 'Foreign competition,' he remarked, 'is not responsible for it at all; it is due simply and solely to the competition among the manufacturers themselves. They are dropping down to prices never heard of before. There is no need at all for this undercutting; it is a disastrous policy for anyone to pursue.' Then, if selling prices were raised, the anomaly of workers, who are not shareholders, giving so large a contribution towards the working expenses of the factory could be abolished. Surely, at any rate, the time has come for the employers themselves to be responsible for sweeping. Now, even when workers are not deducted for this purpose, the employer is seldom responsible for the kale. But in order that the workrooms may be kept clean the workpeople, as the management informed the Inspector, 'voluntarily' employ an attendant and 'voluntarily' make him payments for sweeping. I know it is an old custom, but one in which, in my judgment, the older order might well be changed and give place to the new. So also with reference to the deductions for gas made from the workpeople. These very from 1½d. to 6d. weekly, while some firms make no charge or deduction whatever for lighting. At one very small factory I noted a survival of the old custom of workpeople bringing their own lights."

Referring to the method of computing the deduction to be made for lights, Miss Vines says :—"The proprietor's contention is that, owing to the amount of gas burnt on foggy and other dark days, the deductions made for gas, although in some weeks more than the actual cost, do not cover the annual cost. My opinion is that, notwithstanding this fact, the deduction made in any given week from any one worker should not exceed the cost of the lighting actually used in that week by that particular worker."

Upon this the principal lady inspector remarks as follows :—"This view certainly appears to be supported by the Truck Act, 1896, in its provision that such charges should not exceed a 'reasonable rent or charge having regard to all the circumstances of the case': it is an essential circumstance of the case that the worker is paid weekly, and liable to a very short notice of termination of his contract of employment. If a charge for light is made to cover varying seasons or more than the cost for the week in question, it could only be reasonable if some guarantee were given to the worker of continuity of employment. In this sense the occupier of the pottery in question was instructed, and when he understood that the only alternative to conforming to our views was his appearing in support of a test case in the stipendiary's court, he decided to amend his scale of charges in compliance with our direction. This reading of the section will be pressed on the attention of other potteries, as need arises."

(To be continued.)

International Pottery Exhibition at Faenza.—The Secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce has received a communication from the British Chamber of Commeree for Italy, stating that this Exhibition will be held in August and September. In order that the expenses of British exhibitors may be as small as possible, the Italian State Railways have granted a reduction of 60 per cent. in rates of freight over their lines, and the Italian Minister of Finance has also granted great facilities in regard to Customs formalities.

Foreign Notes.

Coarse Chinaware to the weight of 5,381 cwt. was exported from Amoy last year. The weight of the export in 1906 was 5,592 cwts.

The Pottery Imports of Messina come entirely from North Italy. The glassware is supplied chiefly from Lyons in France and St. Louis in Alsace.

New Cadiz Glass Factory.—It is proposed to establish a factory of glass on the beach outside Cadiz, where the sand is said to be of a very suitable quality.

China and Earthenware to the value of £167,508 was imported into Boston, U.S.A., last year, as compared with £196,907 worth in 1906 and £204,708 worth in 1905.

The Norwegian Glass Trade.—The Belgian Consul-General at Christiania reports that during 1907 prices of glass and glassware tended to stiffen, the demand for these goods having increased considerably. As, however, the cost of production also increased the net profits realised cannot certainly be any better than in 1906.

Pottery, China and Glass imports at Basra fell off £513 last year. Tin and enamel are rapidly superseding them, especially among the poorer classes, iron enamel being preferred to the cheap and inferior china and glass goods imported from Austria-Hungary and Germany. Earthenware increased £204. German and Austro-Hungarian earthenware is much in demand among the poorer classes on account of its cheapness.

Mineral Water Company's Bottle Factory.—The report of Apollinaris & Johannis, Ltd., states that a considerable rise in the price for bottles, together with the decreased sales, has caused a diminution in the net profits. The directors have taken an important step in authorising the erection of a bottle factory in the neighbourhood of the Apollinaris spring. The factory has been built near the Rhine at Sinzig, and when completed will, it is anticipated, have a beneficial effect on the business.

Glass and Pottery in Morocco.—The French Vice-Consul at Mazagan states that in Morocco very common table glasses have a good sale at from 5 fr. to 7 fr. per 100 c.i.f. Mazagan; payment is effected with 3 per cent. discount for cash, or at 90 days without discount. In 1907 French crockery ware was imported to a much larger extent than in 1906 and got ahead of Belgian and German trade. As in former years the imports from abroad consist of plates, dishes, basins and coffee cups. The average prices paid are as follows:—Plates, 1·50 frs. to 2 frs. per dozen; basins, 15 fr. to 25 fr. per 100 c.i.f. Mazagan, payment at 90 days.

British Glassmakers for Portugal.—During the past few weeks representatives of a Portuguese glassmaking firm have been making arrangements at St. Helens for local glassmakers to go to a well-known Lisbon works, and now six glassmakers, six gatherers, and other men have left St. Helens to work at Lisbon. It is stated that for the past thirty years the firm have been making glass bottles, &c., but they have recently entered on the sheet-glass trade, and have engaged a number of the out-of-work St. Helens glassmakers. It is said that the men will be followed by a full complement of splitters and flatteners, and that the Portuguese works will provide an outlet for superfluous St. Helens labour.

A Spanish Pottery.—A British Consular Report just received from Seville says that in the report for 1906 appeared a short description of the pottery of San Juan, as an instance of British commercial enterprise. This work is supervised by British managers. The coal used is imported from the United Kingdom, likewise the clay, china stone, colours and borax. About 300 people are employed. The pottery finds a market in the Peninsula, the Canary and Balearic Islands. Owing to general depression in trade and the unsatisfactory results of the grain crops in Andalusia, trading for 1907 showed a decrease on previous years. At the time of writing business is good and prospects for the future promising.

Kiukiang Chinaware Exports.—Fine chinaware rose from 71,278 cwts., valued at £243,995, in 1906 to 80,776 cwts., valued at £280,824, in 1907, the increase being thus 9,498 cwts., valued at £36,829. There is a growing demand for this product in northern ports, probably because the people are gradually recovering from their losses in the "Boxer year" (1900), and replacing articles destroyed at that time. A large quantity is sent to Tientsin, Fêng T'ien and regions beyond. From Ching-Tê-Chên, the place of production, what is required immediately is sent through Kiukiang and thence by steamer, but demands of no great urgency are met by consignments sent overland to ports in Chekiang and Canton. The customs returns thus form no index of the total output.

Pottery and Glass in Crete.—Owing to the poverty which still exists in the island, the demand for finer chinaware, such as dinner, tea, and coffee services, is limited. These are at present supplied from Bavaria, North Bohemia, Saxony, and Italy. Earthenware is imported principally from Germany (Saraguemines, Alsace) and from the United Kingdom, at low prices, also from France and the Milan district. Tiles are imported from France by a Marseilles firm, and are sold in lots of 1,000. Buyers are now accustomed to the pattern sold by the firm in question and it is therefore advisable to conform to the same pattern. The usual size is 25 by 42 centims. (10 by 16¾ ins.), and the price quoted is 64 f. to 65 f. (£2 11s. 3d. to £2 12s. 1d.) per 1,000 on the Marseilles quay. Hollow glassware is supplied almost entirely from Austria-Hungary, as well as blown and ground glassware. There is a moderate demand for brandy bottles. Aerated water bottles with patent stoppers are brought from the United Kingdom; lately, however, an Austro-Hungarian firm has been competing successfully in this line.

The Glass Trade in the Charleroi Basin.—The French Consul at Charleroi, in a report dated June 25, and just published, states that since the beginning of 1908 business in glass and glassware has been steadily dwindling; orders are getting scarcer from month to month in spite of the reductions offered, and exports are almost at a standstill. The exports in 1907 were poor from January to April, but this year the four months show a drop of 15,200,000 kilos. on 1907 even. Japan has taken 110,000 cases less: China and Hong Kong, 52,000; U.S.A., 30,000; Canada, 16,000; Australia, 13,000; Great Britain, 13,000 and British India 10,000 cases less. The returns for all these lands again show a heavy fall in May, from 66,000 cases less for Canada down to 2,600 less for British India. To get orders makers are compelled to ask heavy reductions, and it seems as if the small margin of profit will have to be reduced still further in the near future. This depression is unanimously attributed to the keen competition waged between Belgian makers. Another serious feature of the situation is that, although only a few firms are working full time, hands are getting scarce, as they are abandoning glass-making for better paid industries; hence, when business recovers there will be a dearth of skilled operatives. As a matter of fact, of the 43 establishments existing in Belgium only 18 are working, and altogether 54 per cent. of Belgium's means of production is now inactive, and still other furnaces are about to be closed. Added to this, great strides in glass-making are being made in America, and imports have already fallen off more than half. Altogether the outlook is by no means cheerful.

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR JUNE, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended June 30.		Six Months ended June 30.		Month ended June 30.		Six Months ended June 30.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany	cwts.	13,327	6,311	47,334	40,042	£7,188	£4,591	£39,745	£30,882
,, France	,,	9,286	2,529	31,422	20,764	5,385	5,607	31,685	37,485
,, United States of America	,,	42,798	25,159	257,487	203,289	51,357	32,612	306,020	263,064
,, Brazil	,,	15,828	16,584	95,470	105,503	12,989	8,692	75,030	61,655
,, Argentine Republic	,,	31,066	23,778	191,708	154,973	11,265	15,260	92,168	101,871
,, British South Africa	,,	4,887	7,187	67,947	43,333	5,841	5,228	45,212	37,689
,, British East Indies	,,	18,332	16,951	171.917	181,418	11,373	12,566	82,595	93,772
,, Australia	,,	16,476	11,251	95,225	93,723	18,543	14,325	108,333	106,268
,, New Zealand	,,	6,239	5,853	38,876	47,527	8,497	8,092	53,257	52,531
,, Canada	,,	34,240	35,144	158,014	200,693	27,049	21,891	142.313	142,199
,, Other Countries	,,	94,088	102,911	490,549	465,563	47,839	53,281	288,737	297,862
Made up as follows:									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	,,	1,581	1,479	9,225	9,146	12,259	8,975	82,099	64,775
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		6,141		41,563		5,075		37,683
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	125,562	7,410	750,729	48,865	156,163	6,825	934,958	37,292
Sanitary Ware	,,		15,227		88,802		22,841		133,667
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		81,779		609,258		106,540		767,094
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	54	541	146	4.543	64	1,104	245	6,964
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	146,752	133,642	809,617	713,522	25,190	21,662	154,555	123,230
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	12,618	7,439	76,232	41,129	13,650	9,123	93,238	54.573
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	4,127	3,637	30,654	26,767
,, Other Countries	,,	—	—	—	—	123,190	100,868	654,633	627,447
Made up as follows:									
Plate Glass	cwts.	17,150	11,380	78,896	73,301	28,385	18,283	129,287	118,415
Flint Glass	,,	4,866	5,351	33,964	28,620	16.259	15,802	101,265	87,820
Glass Bottles	gross	70,482	54,446	420,746	388,805	47,056	36,028	269,819	260,204
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	47,004	42,617	233,143	230,230	35,517	34,392	184,916	187,775

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR JUNE.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	5,087	4,813	24,791	29,723	23,087	22,077	122,560	135,655
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		19		2,208		29		643
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	25,063	1,804	163,491	16.440	48,230	1,592	315,150	10,007
Sanitary Ware	,,		20		321		39		645
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		22,550		141,181		44,124		289,423
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	35	48	100	131	134	156	334	480
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	3,682	9,673	28,847	53,105	1,444	3,110	6,686	19,216
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware)	,,	2,277	1,554	12,541	11,338	2,626	2,685	15,942	17,572
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	90,576	86,232	638,958	590,753	47,769	49,871	353,991	331,981
Plate Glass	,,	34,264	33,059	228,208	167,399	41,939	41,109	281,853	208,742
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	57,230	54,563	380,494	334,822	81,501	82,580	552,133	498,365
Glass Bottles	gross	113,482	130,009	762,580	799,984	48,873	54,603	316,555	331,524
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	2,190	317	8,069	4,105	2,382	498	9,969	5,437

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR JUNE.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	381	2,674	7,907	9,791	1,670	12,404	35,640	47,787
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		—		32		—		55
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	593	194	5,802	211	1,216	202	10,752	223
Sanitary Ware	,,		—		5		—		4
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		415		3,053		1,136		7,618
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	—	2	15	2	—	5	42	5
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	2	11	99	1,357	3	68	24	1,102
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	42	10	78	56	69	33	138	144
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	1,295	450	3,981	4,115	542	247	1,875	2,247
Plate Glass	,,	172	63	3,397	748	245	72	3,736	845
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	320	389	3.005	2,371	815	1,959	7,313	8.283
Glass Bottles	gross	5,446	5,486	23.929	26,332	3,056	2,535	13,777	13,856
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	473	338	3,896	2,323	1,027	766	8.555	5,834

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, May 28 to June 27, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to June 27, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	338	459	2,839	2,918
„ New York	370	651	2,949	3,633
„ Baltimore	1,369	1,440	9,547	9,895
„ Philadelphia	534	197	2,642	1,267
„ New Orleans	556	221	2,986	3,730
„ Newport News	—	203	370	700
„ San Francisco	—	76	39	224
„ Portland, Me.	244	137	3,771	3,774
„ Galveston	149	84	507	750
„ Portland, Or.	—	89	—	109
„ Inland Points	145	343	392	483
Total	3,705	3,900	26,042	27,483

Reviews.

Enamelling : By Lewis Foreman Day, F.S.A., Decorative Artist, Author of "Everyday Art," "Nature in Ornament," &e. London : B. T. Batsford. 7s. 6d. net.

Mr. Lewis F. Day is well known to manufacturers in all industries as a praetieal designer and worker. For more than a quarter of a eentury he has been a designer of decorations for walls and eeilings, textiles, china, earthenware, majolica tiles, and glass, and in faet in all manufactures into which ornament enters. Mr. Day was one of the promotors of the "Arts and Crafts Society." The present work is a eomparative aecount of the development and practice of the art of enamelling. The author frankly tells us in his prefaee he is not an enameller. What he offers to the reader is an "introduction to the master workmen who have given enamel the value it has in our eyes, and a passport to the enjoyment and the intelligent use of the museums in whieh it is stored up." The author says the book is not presented as a learned historical treatise, but as a work for artists, eraftsmen, students and lovers of enamelling. What he has given us is a comprehensive review of the whole art of enamelling from the earliest times to the present day. He tells us that his object has been to present to us "in handy, readable and easily intelligible shape the gist of what he has learnt from Kondakow, Von Falke, Franks, Labarte, and other learned but less helpful speeialists." He adds : "As to the praetice of the art, I may claim a closer acquaintanee with technique, with vitreous eolour, and especially with design, than belong to the usual equipment of the seholar." In a foot-note, the author makes a graceful aeknowledgement. He says : "On the ehemistry of the subjeet I have had the invaluable assistance of my friend Mr. William Burton, F.C.S., than whom there is no better authority."

The author knows his subjeet intimately, and though many of the ehapters are necessarily technical, he has so arranged his matter that the whole work will be found interesting to all who are lovers of enamelling, but who make no pretensions to an acquaintance with the practiee of the art. The work is divided into four sections : "History and Surmise : what we know or think we know," "Jewellers' Enamel, teehnieally and artistieally eonsidered" ; "Painters' Enamel, historically and artistieally considered" ; and "Enamel Colour, historically and chemically eonsidered." Thesc seetions are subdivided into twenty-six ehapters.

Naturally, when our readers speak or think of "enamelling," they regard the subjeet from the point of view of their own industry. Enamelling is an important branch of pottery deeoration, it is true. But pottery deeoration is but one of many applications of the beautiful art of enamelling. The illustrations, of which there are no fewer than 114, are so well selected and so judieiously arranged that they really represent the history of the art. With these illustrations, and the author's pleasantly written work, a stranger to the subjeet will be able to acquire a very intelligent knowledge of it.

Mr. Lewis Day begins at the beginning and tells us in the first chapter what enamel is. "Popularly speaking, any hard, glassy outer coating is enamel. We speak of the enamel of the teeth, and in so doing eannot be said to use language loosely. In the commercial sense, a paint which gives a smooth and glossy surfaee—it may be to the wall of a room, it may be to a eomplexion the reverse of smooth—goes by the name of enamel. Teehnieally, enamel is a eoating of eolour fused on to glass, pottery, metal, or whatever mineral substance will stand heat enough to fuse it. The eolour upon glass or glazed earthenware is also, no doubt, in the strietest sense, "enamel" because it is vitreous and burnt on ; and the "phrase 'enamel eolour' is expressly employed to indieate colour that is not *in* the glaze or *under* the glaze, but annealed to its surfaee. There is no reason why a pieee of enamelled glass or porcelain should not be called an enamel, but enamel with the 'indefinite artiele' before it has come to be used in a limited sense. *An* enamel is now generally understood to mean enamel upon metal."

We have given this lengthy extraet because the term "enamelled pattern" is somewhat indefinitely applied to pottery deeorations, and while there is no reason to disturb the trade meaning of it, we think it may be interesting to our readers to learn from such an authority what enamel is.

The author says enamel is inseparable from glass-working. . . enamel colour eonsists praetically of eoloured glass, powdered, mixed up into what is called a "paste," when it is dry melted on to the metal. He points out that this term "paste" had an attraetion for early writers on enamel, and he thinks their eonstant use of it has done something to obseure the simple fact that enamel is only glass. The sueeessive ehapters deal with aneient enamel, Roman, Celtic, Byzantine, Gothie and Barbarian enamel. The jeweller's enamel—cloisonné, champlevé, repoussé, &e., &e. In the section treating of painters' enamel, the author describes painting in translucent eolours, Venetian enamel, painting in grisaille, and painting in "on-enamel" eolour. He points out the distinction to be

drawn between enamel and merely *on-enamel*, or as a potter would say, "on glaze" colour. There is all the difference between painting *in* enamel and painting *on* it. Enamel at its best and brightest, is neither on the glaze nor under the glaze, but in it, held in solution.

On-enamel colour was used by Leonard Limousin, if not before his time, at first only by way of exception, not so much to give the tone of flesh, as to enable the painter to model his flesh with a certainty that the "pâte-sur-pâte" process did not allow. The extended use of it and the habit of dependence upon it for colour was a distinct departure and marked the beginning of a downward course. "'Twas ever thus!" The practice called in to help out a method ousts it in the end. Eventually enamel, such as it was, fell into the hands of the porcelain painters, and might have been practised in any porcelain factory. Very likely it was. It was practised certain in the neighbourhood of Paris, at Dresden, at Battersea, and at Liverpool, where there were china works. There are plenty of seventeenth and eighteenth century enamelled copper vessels made in Germany which are very like porcelain and were no doubt made in imitation of it. The pretence implies a white ground. The best painted work on white was the Chinese. The painted enamels of Canton are executed precisely in the manner of porcelain painting; they are so like it in pattern, too, that there can be little doubt they were the work of the very men who painted the porcelain known to collectors as belonging to the "famille rose," or "famille verte." The saucer illustrated in Fig. 1 might, except for the quality of its tin enamel ground, be famille rose porcelain. The four-sided saucer shown in Fig. 2 is brown upon white with a gold outline and has not the strong characteristics of porcelain observable in Fig. 1. The richest painted work of the Chinese is where none of the white is allowed to come to the surface. The author says: "The truth is, Canton enamels were in the main only a base imitation of porcelain and it was as such the Chinese themselves esteemed them. As a substitute for



FIG. 1.—SAUCER, CANTON ENAMEL.

semi-translucent porcelain, tin enamel was at the best a very poor thing. No wonder then that by the end of the eighteenth century the use of it died out, not to be revived until our own day for the purpose of export."

The Chinese were most skilled workmen and brought to enamel painting all their experience in porcelain. It is said that Limoges enamels were sent to China in the time of Louis XIV. to be copied, just as we sent out heraldic designs to be painted on dessert services.



FIG. 2.—CANTON ENAMEL, XIXTH CENTURY.

In the chapter on "The Palette of the Enameller," the author gives a short but interesting survey of the bases of enamel colours, and in doing so makes a graceful reference to a gentleman who will be well remembered by our readers in connection with another scientific detail of pottery manufacture. Mr. Lewis Day says: "The chemistry of enamel colours has been duly expounded by trustworthy experts, by none more helpfully than by Mr. H. H. Cunynghame, a writer not only determined to test the truth of statements commonly taken on trust, but thoroughly competent to do so. Fortunately, too, as an amateur he was under no temptation of withholding from craftsmen generally secrets which some workmen would still guard with a jealousy belonging rather to trade than to artistic practice."

The book will be found equally useful to those who practise enamelling, and entertaining to those who do not. It is written in the author's happiest vein, and is well worth careful perusal. It is a well-printed, handsome volume, as all Mr. Batsford's productions are, and is well bound. It contains 115 illustrations from photographs and drawings, two of which, by permission of the publisher, we reproduce here.

A History and Description of Italian Majolica. By M. L. Solon. With a Preface by William Burton, F.C.S. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 42s. net.

WE have not known very much about the early history of majolica hitherto, and what little we have known has been misleading. For a long time it was popular tradition that majolica was first copied from some plates brought by the Pisans from the island of Majolica (or Majorca) in the twelfth century. This has been shown to be highly improbable, since the use of tin enamel was known to Italian potters long before they found out the secret of lustre colours. We know from various sources that lustred pottery was largely imported into Italy during the fifteenth century, and the inference is that the brilliant lustre on the imported Moorish ware incited the potters of Italy to

efforts to find out how to compose—and to fire—the metallic salts required to produce the lustre. But this was long after the Pisan victory at Majorca. Evidently the date was wrong. Another error pertained to the name. The name of "majolica" is now (and for a long time has been) commonly applied to all the Italian enamelled pottery of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, whereas it was to lustred ware only that the Italians gave the name of "majolica." It was not the ware, but the lustre only that was a fresh discovery in the fifteenth century. The accounts given by several old Italian writers on the subject are confusing and misleading. For these reasons we welcome this "History and Description of Italian Majolica" even before we have opened it. Our satisfaction is immediate and great, because of our knowledge of the author. As an authority on pottery, Mr. M. L. Solon is always entitled to be heard, and is listened to by potters with respect, but he is especially fitted to write about the decorated pottery of the Italian Renaissance. As to this, Mr. Burton, in his short preface, says: "No one who has any pretensions to a knowledge of pottery can fail to realise the eminent qualifications Mr. Solon possesses for such a task."

The author is one of the most distinguished ceramic artists living. He has an unrivalled acquaintance with what has been previously written on the subject. Moreover, he is an experienced writer himself. He has given us the "History and Description of the old French Faïence," "A Brief History of Old English Porcelain," "The Art of the Old English Potter," and other contributions to the history of ceramics. In his preface, Mr. Burton, himself a writer and a potter, says: "Mr. Solon brings to this work the ripe experience of a life already longer than the Psalmist's span, spent in the study of the history of pottery in its larger aspects, and, above all, that intimate knowledge of technique gained by half a century's work as a ceramic artist, executing with his own hand the visions of his fancy." The reader of these pages may therefore be assured that they present a new account of the origin of the painted and lustred tin-enamelled wares of Italy, drawn from all the latest sources of information by an unrivalled hand.

The work describes the rise and progress of enamelled pottery in Italy during the fifteenth century, the literature of majolica, the nature and manufacture of majolica, and certain formulæ for majolica colours. The author mentions Hispano-Moresque ware as the probable source of Italian majolica. He gives a review of lead-glazed pottery from the thirteenth to the fifteenth century. He tells us about the early majolica plaques for insertion in walls, about Italian majolica at the opening of the sixteenth century and the distinctive features of the early factories, and so he brings his history down to the imitations of Italian majolica in other countries, and to modern Italian forgeries.

The author describes Italian pottery in the different States. His chapters or sections are headed respectively: The Marshes, Tuscany, Roman States, Duchy of Urbino, Venetian States, Northern Provinces, Lombardy, States of Genoa, and Neapolitan States. He says: "Whether Faenza stands first in order of date among the majolica factories at work in Italy during the second half of the fifteenth century is still an open question." The evidences adduced in support of the antiquity of the ceramic industry in Faenza are many, and a few of them appear almost conclusive. Yet the author adds: "We may believe that much more ancient products than those of Faenza are still in existence, but that, none of them having been inscribed with a name or a date, they will remain—until they are recognised—of no documentary value for the general historian." Speaking of the commercial importance of Faenza, he says: "A regularly established trade with several foreign nations made the town and its wares so well known in the European market that the name of 'faience' was ultimately applied, without distinction of origin, to every kind of pottery which offered some similarity of aspect to the painted vessels that came from Faenza. The idle theory that the term came from the name of a French village is really not worth discussing."

[This little piece of information may be slightly irrelevant to the main subject, but it is both curious and interesting.]

We do not propose to refer to the many fine specimens of majolica illustrated and described; for these we must refer the reader to Mr. Solon's fascinating book. We shall, however, adopt the unusual course of drawing attention to work which the author declines to include in his book on majolica—that of "The Della Robbia." It is, we confess, a startling revelation to learn from so high an authority that the manufactures of Luca Della Robbia and his talented followers have no right to be included in a book on majolica. "It is not from want of due appreciation of his admirable work or lack of respect for his never-fading memory. . . . Such a great artist was he that his merits as a craftsman sink into insignificance. The process that he used, but which he did not invent, was a very simple one. It consisted in coating terra-cotta biscuit with a stanniferous enamel, either white or coloured, by the addition of metallic oxides. From the technical or



ENAMELLED TERRA COTTA VASE BY DELLA ROBBIA.
(*In British Museum.*)

(Reproduced by permission of Cassell & Co., Ltd.)

the artistic point of view, enamelled terra-cotta has little if anything to do with majolica. The former is completed by the purely mechanical application of an opaque and vitrifiable covering over statues or bas-reliefs. A full knowledge of the effects obtained from the cunning use of transparent colours and a spirited handling of the painting-brush is required for the production of the latter. A book on majolica has, therefore, no right to include the master-pieces of Luca Della Robbia and his talented followers. Their productions demand independent and adequate treatment.''

The author quotes from '' Vasari's Lives of the Painters '' to show that Luca Della Robbia's fame rests on his method of painting figures and historical representations on flat surfaces of terra-cotta. So skilfully were they painted, that were they painted in oils on panels they could not be more beautiful. Vasari adds his belief that Luca would have succeeded in perfecting his method if death had not prematurely snatched him away. Mr. Solon says that these technical improvements witnessed by Vasari are unrepresented in our day. The few architectural vases attributed to the Della Robbia are simply covered with opaque enamels. The illustration we give (from a block kindly lent to us by the publishers) represents an enamelled terra-cotta vase by Della Robbia now in the British Museum. The vase is in light blue, with flowers and fruit in polychrome. We feel we have hardly done justice to this master-work on '' Italian Majolica '' by giving such prominence to a production which the author declares is not '' Italian majolica,'' but we think many of our readers will consider the reference both interesting and instructive.

The present work is one of the most interesting of the valuable series of histories of the great schools of pottery for which we are indebted to Messrs. Cassell and their able editor, Mr. Burton. There is a full index, and the marks on a number of manufactures are reproduced, with a useful, and necessary, comment on the importance to be attached to pottery marks in general. The book is uniform with the other volumes of the series. It is beautifully printed, and strongly bound in art cloth and gilt. There are twenty-four coloured plates and a great number of half-tone illustrations.

POINTS IN SAGGAR MANUFACTURE.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

(*Concluded from page* 815.)

FORMING THE SAGGARS.

THERE are several methods for shaping the saggars, but at present the simple hand-making is by far the most popular, though machine-made saggars are increasing in favour, and saggars made by casting appear to have several advantages which may bring them into more general use in years to come.

In making saggars by hand, the workman uses a bench on which are screwed to strips of wood about an inch in thickness and 9 in. or so apart, the actual distance between them being regulated by the height of the saggar to be made. The workman takes a lump of clay-paste from the heap and brings it down with some considerable force on the sawdust-covered surface of his bench and between the two strips. He then beats it out into a flat bat, slightly thicker than the strips of wood. If the man is skilled he can gauge the thickness sufficiently accurately, but some men cut off the unnecessary thickness of clay by running a tightly stretched wire along the top of the wood strips and bridging across them.

The object of sprinkling the bench top with sawdust is to prevent the clay from sticking to the bench, some men prefer sand or fine grog, but these have the disadvantage of flying off during the firing and so spoiling some of the pottery, whilst the sawdust being burnt off in the preliminary firing of the saggar can do no harm when the saggar is filled.

Having prepared his bat, the maker next rolls a drum or wooden core the shape of the saggar over it, and winds the clay on to the drum. The clay bat is then cut off where it overlaps, and the joint is worked out by carefully kneading the clay and then smoothing it over, a little clay slip being used to make the weld more secure.

The bottom of the saggar is formed in a similar bat beaten out in an iron ring of the correct size and shape and rather larger than the finished saggar. In making this bottom bat it is specially necessary to have it of an even thickness throughout, as thin portions will be weak, and may result in a fracture of the saggar with consequent damage to its contents, especially if it be used for heavy ware. Some saggar-makers always arrange to leave a little extra thickness in the middle, but the extent to which this can be permitted depends on the kind of ware which is fired.

When ready to attach to the bottom to the oval forming the sides of the saggar, the maker removes the iron ring, places the bottom on a board on the rotating table, and places the clay-covered drum on top. He then runs a blunt piece of wood round the drum so as to make a small groove in the bottom bat, and, filling this with clay slip, he proceeds to knead the bottom and sides together so as to form one mass. The joint having been completed, and the sides being in this way rigidly attached to the bottom, the maker cuts off the superfluous clay, and finishes it off by wiping it with a piece of wet sponge or cloth whilst revolving the table.

When the sides of the saggar are sufficiently stiff to stand alone, the workman withdraws the drum and finishes the inside of the saggar in a similar manner, special care being taken to see that the joint is properly made on the inside. The saggar is then removed to the drying chamber.

To obtain a satisfactory joint between the bottom and sides of the saggar it is necessary to have a bottom bat of ample yet not excessive size, and to work the clay thoroughly with the fingers in a manner which it is almost impossible to describe, and which requires a fair amount of practice to do rapidly, yet completely.

Any irregularities in the shape of the saggar may be removed by gently patting it with the open hand, providing they are not too serious.

In some cases the sides of the saggars are produced in a pugmill fitted with a special mouthpiece so arranged that the clay is delivered in the form of a tube, which only requires to be cut to the right length in order to produce the sides of the saggars without any jointing being necessary, as is the case when they are hand-made. The disadvantage of this arrangement is that unless a large number of mouthpieces and drums are kept in stock it is not possible to make saggars of different sizes, and the method just described is, therefore, more suited to a saggar-making firm than to the ordinary potter.

Modifications of the ordinary sanitary pipe press have also been used with some success and have the advantage of delivering the '' pipe '' in a vertical instead of a horizontal position, but for the reasons just given they will not become popular.

The use of a machine-press for making the sides of the saggar has also the disadvantage that the clay must be softer than when the older hand-making method is used.

The only disadvantage of the hand-making of saggars is the large amount of skill needed in the jointing, which necessitates a lengthy training before a man can do this class of

work reliably. Whilst it is much better to work in the way just described, it is equally satisfactory, though more costly, to make saggars in plaster moulds in the same way that large pieces of sanitary pottery are manufactured. The additional cost due to wear and tear of moulds, however, more than makes up for the lower wages paid to saggar-makers who work by this method and the use of the wooden drum, just described, is by far the cheaper way.

Occasionally saggars are made on *inside moulds*, which are really blocks of plaster shaped like the inside of a saggar, the thickness of the saggar walls and bottom being regulated by the use of a special scraper or "profile." This arrangement, whilst requiring less skill than the use of a drum, and being slightly less expensive than the use of ordinary plaster moulds, is still too costly where a large number of saggars are required. In spite of this grave disadvantage, this method is popular in some of the smaller potteries.

In recent years much advance has been made by the use of power presses in the production of saggars, and though the difficulties which arise in connection with these machines have not been completely overcome, there are a sufficient number of firms using them satisfactorily to warrant their extended use by those saggar makers who have a sufficiently large output.

Saggar presses are of two main kinds—(a) those which work with the clay paste direct, and (b) those which have to be fed with slabs or bats of paste. The presses which produce the sides only (in the form of a continuous tube) have already been referred to; they work with the clay as it comes from the mixer, and require the bottom of the saggar to be fixed by hand. The second form of press produces a complete saggar.

Screw presses are usually fed with a bat of clay for the bottom, and a lining strip to form the sides of the saggar. The die of the press then descends and unites sides and bottom into one mass of saggar shape, and the clay can be removed after the die has again risen by a reversal of the screw of the press. To obtain good results, it is necessary to oil the die and box well with a thick petroleum oil, and to work with a considerable pressure, especially during the last portion of the downward stroke of the press. The great disadvantage of this method of working is the necessity of having a hundred or more bottom plates for the box, as the saggar cannot be lifted off the bottom plate, but must be kept on it until quite dry. The attempt to use plaster plates instead of metal has not proved satisfactory. A screw press of the pattern usually employed for saggars will make about 300 to 500 saggars a day with the help of a man and two strong lads.

Screw presses are usually worked by hand, as this enables the man working them to give a sharp sudden tug at the end of the stroke. When driven by engine power a somewhat greater output can be obtained without materially altering the cost of production.

When a power press is used a mass of clay may be fed into the box and hollowed out slightly by hand so as to avoid the necessity of the machine pressing out too large an excess of clay. The descending die then presses the clay to the shape of a saggar, and a better contact between the sides and bottom is made than when two separate bats are placed in the machine. For very shallow saggars a simple block of clay paste is placed in the press, and even with higher saggars this method is sometimes adopted, the freshly formed saggar being re-pressed two or three times in order to get it to the correct shape.

A saggar press which is popular in France is so arranged that the table of the press is lowered when the pressure is removed, and in this way, it is claimed, a better-shaped saggar than those made by the ordinary form of rising table is produced. It is difficult to understand why any difference should be produced, and there are obvious reasons why the rising table should be preferred.

Toggle or knee-lever presses are more powerful than screw presses, and are specially useful for saggars where great pressure is almost invariably required. If fitted with a rotating table they are more easily filled and rapidly worked than when a single die and box is used. The usual pattern of toggle press is very similar to that employed in the manufacture of sand-lime blocks and other artificial stones, and enormous pressures can readily be obtained with the expenditure of relatively little power.

The rotating table is specially valuable in preventing accidents, as the workman's hands are quite away from the press itself when filling the boxes with clay—a great advantage in these days of heavy compensation.

It is not unusual in such a press to make the box with temporary sides, which can be removed from the finished saggar and placed back into their places ready for the production of a new one. This arrangement lessens the tendency to draw the sides of the saggar out of shape when taking it out of the mould, and, with a revolving table to the press, consumes practically no time, one man filling the moulds and the other emptying them and working the machine. Such a press will make about a thousand saggars in a full day's work, or 1,200 if two men and a lad are employed to each press.

Presses worked by *hydraulic power* are in use in two or three works for saggar-making, but they are very slow, though extremely powerful. They do not appear to possess any advantage to the saggar maker over toggle presses, and as the latter are much more rapid the former are not often met with in the trade.

The method of making saggars by *casting* has not as yet come into vogue in this country, as it is only quite recently that it has been possible to cast clay ware from a slip so rich in grog as that necessary for saggar-making, but the method devised by Dr. Weber, of Strepnitz, appears to be quite satisfactory when once the correct proportions of the different materials have been ascertained.

The Weber invention depends on the fact that in the presence of small quantities of free alkali clays become much more fluid, and produce slips which flow more easily whilst containing less water than those ordinarily employed. The alkaline slip must be kept constantly stirred, as otherwise it sets to a kind of jelly and is useless. Providing the proportions of alkali and water are correctly adjusted, very coarse grog can be quite easily used, and articles can be cast without difficulty in a slip containing particles of grog half-an-inch in diameter.

What is still more curious is that the contraction of the cast goods is so little more than the ordinary shrinkage of clay paste as not at all to interfere with the manufacture.

The Weber plant consists of a mixing tank into which is fed the roughly mixed clay and grog, previously measured out into the correct proportions. Water is added in measured quantities to the contents of the tank and carries with it the necessary amount of alkali. The whole contents of the tank are then stirred vigorously by means of a mechanical stirrer. On opening a valve near the bottom of the mixing tank, the slip runs out into the moulds, and these are filled in the usual method of casting. The moulds remain filled for about 24 hours, and the clay mass has then become so hard that the saggar can be taken out of the mould, dried and burned ready for use.

It will be obvious that this arrangement will only prove remunerative where large numbers of saggars are constantly being made, and is therefore more adapted to a special saggar manufacturer rather than to ordinary potters, but the ability to cast articles from a clay of such usual coarseness as that used for saggars is a great step forward in the right direction, and may eventually end in the production

of saggars at a little more than half the present cost, whilst producing saggars of less density but equal strength to those now made in power presses.

The advantages of such a method of manufacture are clear to all who are acquainted with pottery methods, and need not be set out in detail here. Not the least advantage is that little or no training is needed for a man to become clever at casting, and consequently the wages of the saggar maker can be considerably reduced per saggar made.

Another point in favour of cast saggars is the greater evenness of their composition, as the material being continually stirred until the casting has taken place little or no unevenness can arise. The method is in use in several places on the Continent and in one English works, but it will be some little time before it becomes really well-known, as several minor details of manufacture have yet to be mastered.

Pressed or Hand Made Saggars ?

Opinions are widely divergent as to whether machine made or hand made saggars are better, some potters preferring one and some the other. There is a general agreement that for earthenware pressed saggars are satisfactory, but for the firing of china ware and porcelain goods, they do not as readily stand the high temperatures as do hand made saggars. This difference is not improbably due more to the lack of skill in their manufacture than to any defects in the press itself, and may, probably, be remedied by those potters who care to go into the matter more carefully. Several firms have found that when they purchased all their saggars and took precautions that their workmen should not know which was which, the machine-pressed saggars proved to be of identically the same durability as those made by hand, not the slightest difference being detected. It is, nevertheless, clear that there is more opportunity for the material to become somewhat "unmixed" when subjected to the pushing it receives in a machine, and this may account, in some cases, for the uneven fracture of machine-made saggars when broken, in spite of the fact that the clay supplied to them had been well mixed. The amount of aggregation of grog particles which can take place in this way must, however, be always small, and it is not impossible that faulty mixing is really the cause, though the press usually gets the blame.

A greater disadvantage of pressed saggars is their small porosity or permeability, which makes them less able to withstand sudden changes in temperature than the less dense saggars made by hand. This difficulty can, however, be entirely overcome by mixing a little hardwood sawdust with the clay paste before pressing. Unless something of this nature is added, pressed saggars will be found difficult to dry thoroughly, and to crack easily in the oven.

Pressed saggars are so much cheaper than those made by hand that even if they have a somewhat shorter life, they would soon repay themselves. It is, however, very doubtful whether a properly made machine pressed saggar of a composition specially adapted to machine made goods, is not every whit as satisfactory and durable as a similar saggar made by hand in the usual way.

Drying.

Ample drying accommodation is required, as saggars cannot be safely dried with any speed, and it is necessary that they should be quite free from moisture when they enter the kilns. It is best to place them at first in a place only slightly warmed, but to finish the drying at a high temperature. Pressed saggars, being usually denser, require more careful drying, but all may be efficiently treated by the use of stillages made of steam pipes, the saggars being placed on boards at first but later being set directly on to the pipes.

Burning.

Saggars are most conveniently fired on top of the ordinary bungs in the biscuit oven, and provided that they are dry on entering the kiln no special care in firing is necessary. They should not be used without first firing, though some potters are in the habit of placing goods in them. This is seldom economical in actual work. After drawing the oven the newly made saggars should be examined with special care, and all cracked and damaged ones thrown out.

Costs.

The costs of saggar manufacture vary so greatly that it is not worth while to give detailed figures. A considerable economy may be effected by potters who have their saggars made on the premises by paying the saggar maker a definite sum per week to keep the stock of saggars at a certain amount. This makes it to his advantage to see that the placers and oven men, treat the saggars properly and is better than the method of paying like ordinary piece work. Care must, however, be taken that the number of saggars is maintained at the right amount, and this can only be ascertained by frequent stocktaking.

It is also better to have the date of manufacture scratched on the saggars when they are made, as this prevents false counts, as well as keeping a check on the duration of the saggars. One firm number all their saggars consecutively, and keep a separate record of each. This entails much clerical labour, but the firm maintain that it is worth it.

In ascertaining the costs of saggars made in different ways it is necessary to take into account the life of the saggar as well as the original cost of labour, tools and materials. Too many potters reckon the last but fail to include the first of these factors, and thus arrive at seriously erroneous conclusions. Many more merely guess at the length of service of the different saggars, and this method is as unreliable as the former. The only reliable method of comparison is to keep complete and accurate records.

Defects and Remedies.

The most important defects in saggar-making are due to carelessness and ignorance, though sometimes untoward circumstances interfere.

Wrong weights of materials used in the mixing is a frequent source of trouble, especially when the materials are measured by "barrowfuls." The obvious remedy is more care in the proportioning and in the measuring or weighing out.

Wrong materials is a less frequent cause of anxiety, as a notable change in the clay would probably be detected immediately, and the greater part of the grog should be made by grinding up old saggars.

Defective mixing is a common cause of split saggars, and can only be overcome by the greatest care and oversight. It is one of the most frequent sources of defective saggars, and when troubles arise the mixing should be suspected first of all unless the fracture of the damaged saggars shows distinctly that some other cause has been at work.

Errors in sifting the clay or grog also produce dunts and cracks. The grading of the grog into different sizes has already been mentioned, and should be carefully carried out.

Excess of water in the clay paste will make the goods dry irregularly, and may cause them to twist and even to crack. The paste should be worked as stiffly as possible and the jointing should be most carefully watched.

Cracks and splits are usually due to some of the foregoing errors, but may be produced as the result of too rapid drying or careless firing. If the cracks are near the bottom of the saggar the skill of the maker should be called in question, though even well jointed saggars will crack along the lower parts of the sides if too quickly heated at first.

Twists and warping may be set down to the use of a mixture too rich in clay and to careless drying, though occasionally a clumsy assistant will knock the saggars out of shape in carrying them, especially if they are rather too heavy for him to move alone.

Lack of durability is a defect which may arise from so many causes that to describe them would be to practically write this article over again under this heading as most of the causes have already been mentioned Apart from carelessness, a short life in a saggar is usually due to the use of incorrectly graded grog and to the employment of wrong proportions of this and clay. At the same time the problem may be made more complex by unskilled manufacture, especially when men are employed on machine presses who do not know thoroughly what is required to adapt a saggar clay to enable it to work well in a press.

THE END.

Legal.

Glass Cylinder Dispute.—In the City of London Court, on July 10, before his Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., an action was brought by Moller, Jungwirth & Griebel, glass manufacturers, Ilmenau, Germany, to recover the sum of £35 14s. for glass cylinders manufactured for the defendants, M. Bateman & Co., glass merchants, 27, Shoe-lane, E.C. Mr. Merlin appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. de Herbert for the defendants. Mr. Merlin said that the question for the Court was whether the cylinders were made in accordance with the orders of the defendants, and whether defendants had exercised certain acts of ownership over the goods which entitled plaintiffs under the circumstances to say that the defendants could not reject them. Out of 51 cylinders supplied to defendants, only 23 were now in their possession. Mr. de Herbert said that the glasses sued for were not cylinders at all. They were mathematical cones. Mr. Breyer, plaintiff's London agent, said that the defendants complained about the goods and said that the glass must be quite clear and free from bubbles. He said that he would do his best to make them satisfactory, but that they could not guarantee that the glass would be faultless. There was no guarantee on the subject. Mr. Herbert said that the defendants had never accepted any of the goods supplied. Mr. Bateman told the plaintiffs that they were no good. The cylinders were not parallel outside ; therefore they were not cylinders. Mr. Breyer said that the cylinders sued for were commercially satisfactory and merchantable. They were fair cylinders as such. Mr. Herbert said that some of them were almost lemon-shaped. They were produced for the inspection of the Court. Mr. Bateman said that he could not sell or use the cylinders sued for. He had not all that were supplied, because some had got broken. The cylinders were badly blown. Judge Lumley Smith said he did not suppose that an absolutely perfect cylinder had ever been made. In his opinion plaintiffs were entitled to recover, and gave judgment for them with costs.

A Buyer's Authority.—In the City of London Court, on July 16, before his Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by Laurie, Lazarus & Benjamin, 6, St. Andrew-st., E.C., to recover the sum of £6 18s. 9d. for china and glass supplied to Williams & Co., china and glass merchants, 12, London-rd., Southampton. Mr. Isaacs, plaintiffs' solicitor, said that following the sale they sent to the defendants an invoice and then defendants wrote and said that they had not given the order, or, at any rate, that no order was given in their name. Mr. Benjamin called at the defendants' business premises and saw the buyer. He asked the buyer to call at the stock-room of the Star Hotel and see his samples of china and glass. The buyer came, and placed an order and it was taken down. The goods were despatched, and then the defendants said they had nothing to do with what their buyer had done. Mr. Benjamin, one of the plaintiffs, was called and supported the statement of his solicitor. The buyer gave him a trade reference which appeared on the written order. The reference was satisfactory and the goods were sent. In cross examination the witness said that the buyer did not say that the order must be confirmed by the principal. He took the word of the buyer. Judge Rentoul : That would be natural, of course. Mr. Williams, the defendant, said that the so-called buyer was employed by him for a considerable time. He gave him special permission sometimes to select goods that he thought would be suitable for the business, and if he approved of them he would order them. Otherwise the buyer, whose name was Bell, was not empowered to order anything. Bell, no doubt, went and saw plaintiffs' things, and probably made certain selections. He (defendant) did not think the goods were suitable, and he did not order them. Plantiffs, without waiting for any confirmation, sent the goods in. Bell simply looked over the goods to see if they were suitable. Directly the invoice came, without losing any time, he sent back at once to say that the goods were not ordered, and that he would not take them in. Mr. Benjamin said that the order was an absolute one. There were no conditions. John Perry, assistant to the plaintiffs, said he was with Mr. Benjamin when the order was given, and he booked it after the inspection. It was an absolute order. Bell made his selection. He could not say if Bell was sober. He was certainly very careful in his selections. Mr. Isaac said that the goods were despatched before the defendants sent any cancellation. Mr. H. J. Bell was then called for the plaintiffs. He said he remembered Mr. Benjamin calling and asking him to go to the stock-room, which he did. He selected some goods subject to Mr. Williams' approval. He never gave any order at all. Mr. Isaacs urged that the fact that an invoice was sent showed that there was a sale. Mr. Bell, in cross-examination, said that he had selected goods for the defendant on 20 occasions, and in four instances no order had been given. He told Mr. Williams that he had made a selection on condition that Benjamin would see him at Shirley-rd., the other shop. Mr. Isaacs said that the defendants' letter of repudiation was a month after the sale. Mr. Williams said he did not write and tell the plaintiffs not to send the goods until the invoice came. How could he ? No order was given. Judge Rentoul said that both the agent and the principal denied the agency. Therefore he could do nothing but find for the defendants. Mr. Isaacs hoped that costs would be disallowed. Trade would be impossible if all men were to act as the defendants had done. Judge Rentoul said he would disallow the defendant's costs. Bell was in the defendant's employment and he had put people to trouble enough. Judgment for defendants, without costs.

A Tumbler Dispute.—On July 21, before His Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., in the City of London Court, Mr. H. W. Bear, glass merchant, Mark-lane, E.C., sued the Star and Garter Hotel Co., Richmond Hill, to recover the sum of £3 for tumblers supplied bearing the name of the defendant company. Plaintiff said that he sold the defendant company 500 tumblers for £5. There were two different sizes. Defendants disputed the matter and said that the quantity ordered had not been delivered. From inquiries it was found that some were broken. Witness had no proof of the exact quantity delivered and he then said he would take £3, for which he had sued the defendants. The representative of the defendant company said he wanted all the 500 glasses ordered. Only 279 had been delivered out of 500. Judge Rentoul said that if he bought a tea set of cups and saucers and only the cups were sent,he could not reject the whole. The representative of the defendant company said that he had sent £2 10s., and that had been rejected. Plaintiff said that the summons had been issued before that. Judge Rentoul found for the plaintiff for £2 10s. and costs.

A China Company's Assets.—At the Hanley County Court, before Judge Ruegg, K.C., on July 22, Mr. B. C. Brough, barrister, on behalf of the liquidators of Frank Butcher, Ltd., china dealer, applied that Alexander Garrioch, of 31, Blackfriars-st., Edinburgh, be restrained from further proceeding on an execution levied on the goods of the company. In support of his application, Mr. Brough said that the company was in voluntary liquidation. Frank Butcher carried on business as a china dealer prior to 1907, when he sold his business, and a company was formed. In May of the present year the company decided to go into liquidation, and the assets were offered for sale. Certain of the creditors then commenced proceedings in order, as it were, to get in first. The English creditors had been restrained by the High Court under a similar application to the one he was then making, but the Scottish creditors seemed to congratulate themselves that the English Court had no jurisdiction to interfere with them, and had obtained a sheriff's order to distrain. Mr. W. H. Abberley, who appeared to oppose the application, said that the whole of the company's property was in Scotland. Mr. Brough replied that the company was an English one, having its registered offices in the Potteries. His Honour said he could not restrain the officers of the law from proceeding further with their original execution. He had no jurisdiction over those officers. He consented, however, to make an order against the execution creditor, for what it was worth, restraining him from proceeding any further in the action.

Credit in the Glass Trade.—In the City of London Court,on July 21, before His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a claim was made by De Grelle, Houdret & Co., 130, London-wall, E.C., agents for a large firm of glass merchants, against E. J. Pigrim & Co., glass bevellers, St. James-buildings, St. James-st., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to recover the sum of £37 4s. 3d. for glass sold to them. Mr. Gwyer, plaintiffs' counsel,said that the plaintiffs and defendants had had two previous transactions together. On Oct. 28 last defendants wrote to the plaintiffs and ordered glass to the value of the sum now claimed. Defendants said they would like to know if the plaintiffs would give them credit for three months for £50. Plaintiffs said they would not do so, and that the glass must be paid for before delivery as before. That was not done and the glass now sued for was waiting the defendants at their risk at Newcastle. Mr. G. H. Head, defendants' counsel, said it was a term of the contract that the goods should be delivered before they were paid for. Plaintiffs

demanded a cheque first and defendants said that the goods ought to be delivered at their business premises and then they would have been paid for. The glass had never been tendered to the defendants ; and as it was a condition precedent to payment that the goods should be tendered the plaintiffs could not recover. Mr. Gwyer said there was no substance in that point. Defendants wrote in January and said that they would get the glass away as soon as possible. Mr. Head remarked that the letter was written by the defendants' manager without their authority or knowledge. Mr. R. C. Travina, plaintiffs' clerk, said they never agreed to give defendants delivery of the goods before payment. In cross-examination he said there was an ordinary market for the glass ; but there was a question of the condition of the goods at the present time. The glass had been packed for some months and it might be stained or deteriorated in consequence of being in cases so long. Defendants had no right to take the goods or to have inspection before payment. Mr. Pilgrim, the defendant, said he never told his manager to write the letter referred to. It was agreed that he was to have credit or to have inspection before payment. He certainly did not know that the plaintiffs would not give him credit. He thought that if they were not prepared to give him credit they would have dropped the order because at the time he had not the means of paying cash before delivery. Mr. Head argued that when goods were sold by description the seller was bound to give the buyer a reasonable time in which to examine them. At the most the plaintiffs could only recover the difference between the contract price and the price at which they could have sold the glass in the open market. The property in the goods had not passed, and therefore the sellers had no right to bring an action for the price. There were no damages that the plaintiffs had sustained. Judge Rentoul said that judgment must be given for the plaintiffs. Mr. Head said that the defendants would appeal.

An Advertisement Account.—In the Lord Mayor's Court, on July 13, before Sir F. Bosanquet, K.C., Common Serjeant, and a jury, the Mercantile Agency Co., Ltd., Leadenhall-st., E.C., sued the Chicago Flexible Shaft Co., 22, Denman-st., E.C., for £28 14s., the price of advertisements inserted in "The Colonial Buyers' Guide." The defendants denied that they were indebted, and also alleged fraud. The plaintiffs' case was that towards the close of 1905 the defendants placed an order with them for twelve insertions, the price being £30. It was agreed that goods should be received from the defendants to the value of £60. No representation were made, it was stated, as to the circulation of the publication, or as to whether all the advertisements in it were current. Mr. R. W. Baxter, the managing director, was called to give evidence, and admitted that during the past few months the number of copies printed did not exceed 500 a month. Some of the advertisements which appeared in 1905 referred to firms which had gone into liquidation some years before. Advertisements were continued so long as the plaintiffs had goods which they wished to dispose of. The Common Serjeant pointed out that the defendants did not dispute the contract until it was all over. He therefore directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiffs. The jury returned a verdict accordingly, but a stay was granted if an appeal was entered within a week.

Is China Clay a Mineral?—(Abstract of "Times" Report.) On July 15 Mr. Justice Eve delivered judgment in the case of "Great Western Railway Co. v. Carpalla United China Clay Co." This was an action to restrain the working of china clay, and raised a question of great importance to the railway company. The right to work the clay depended upon the question whether china clay was a mineral within the meaning of section 77 of the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845. His Lordship, in giving judgment, said : In the year 1896 the Great Western Railway Company became the owners of the undertaking, property, railway, and works of the Cornwall Minerals Railway Co. The conveyance contains no reference to mines or minerals. The mutual rights of the parties, therefore, as regards mines and minerals are regulated by the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845. Section 77, which is introduced by these words, "And with respect to mines lying under or near the railway be it enacted as follows," is in these terms :—"The company shall not be entitled to any mines of coal, ironstone, slate, or other minerals under any land purchased by them except only such parts thereof as shall be necessary to be dug or carried away, or used in the construction of the works, unless the same shall have been expressly purchased, and all such mines excepting as aforesaid shall be deemed to be excepted out of the conveyance of such lands, unless they shall have been expressly named therein and conveyed thereby." . . . The defendants, the Carpalla United China Clay Co., and their predecessors for many years past have been digging from land belonging to their co-defendant, Viscount Clifden, immediately adjoining the land sold to the railway company, large quantities of a rock known as china clay rock. The workings have been carried on under setts or licences granted by Lord Clifden and his predecessors, and in April of last year were approaching at one part very close to the boundary of the railway company's land. By section 78 of the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act it is provided that if the owner, lessee, or occupier of any minerals lying under the railway or any of the works connected therewith or within 40 yards therefrom be desirous of working the same, he shall give the company written notice of his intention so to do 30 days before the commencement of the working, and on receipt of the notice the railway company can inspect the mines, and, if it appears that the working of such mines or minerals is likely to damage the works of the railway, the company can, by paying compensation therefor to the owner, lessee, or occupier, prevent the working or getting of the same. If, however, the company do not within the 30 days express their willingness to treat with the owner, lessee, or occupier, for the payment of such compensation, then by section 79 the owner, lessee, or occupier is allowed to work the mines, and so long as he does so in a proper and usual manner he is not liable for any damage or obstruction occasioned to the railway by such working. In April, 1907, Lord Clifden and the defendant company served upon the railway company statutory notices of their respective intentions to dig, work, mine, and search for the china clay, china stone, and mica clay lying under the railway and works connected therewith, and in, under, and throughout lands adjoining to and within the distance of 40 yards from the said railway and works. Upon receipt of the notices the railway company did not, within the statutory period or at any time thereafter, express their willingness to treat with the defendants or either of them for the payment of compensation, and in the month of October, 1907, commenced this action, wherein they claim an injunction to restrain the defendants from excavating upon the lands near or adjacent to the railway so or in such manner as to let down or otherwise injure the said railway or the land upon which the same is situated, or to deprive the plaintiffs of their right to have the same railway and land laterally supported by the said adjacent lands, and from entering into or upon the plaintiffs' railway and land and excavating thereon, or removing the china clay and other the soil or subsoil thereof. The claim to this relief is founded on the assertion that the substance sought to be excavated and removed is, in fact, part of and not a mineral under the land purchased by the company, and this is the issue which I have to determine. The notices of intention to work specify three substances—china clay, china stone, and mica clay—but it is admitted that there is no china stone to be worked here, and mica clay is only a clay of a coarser and rougher texture deposited in the process of producing china clay, and at these particular pits is discarded as refuse. For all practical purposes, therefore, the intention to excavate and work may be regarded as an intention to excavate and work for the purposes of obtaining china clay, and it is to this substance, its nature, composition, texture, and characteristics, to the materials from which its component elements are derived, and to the agencies which have brought about the conditions in or under which these materials are found, that the evidence has been mainly directed. The substance known as china clay or kaolin is a clay possessing exceptional qualities, primarily of colour and to a lesser degree of purity and softness, which render it suitable for use principally in the manufacture of porcelain, and to some extent in the manufature of high-class paper, and in the bleaching of calico. That it has many characteristics common to other clays is demonstrated by the geological examinations and chemical analysis made by the eminent scientists who have given evidence at this trial. It is produced by submitting to a process of hydration a rock or substance known as china clay rock. This rock, which occurs in nests or pockets in the granite formation only, is found in a state of more or less decomposition, and generally charged with moisture to a greater or less extent. The nest or pocket is, as a rule, situate on the slope of a hill, and its presence is indicated by a slight depression on the surface corresponding to the superficial area of the nest or pocket. According to the evidence of Mr. Coon, who speaks with an experience of 30 years as an engineer and as a merchant and manager in connection with the china clay industry, the china clay rock never comes to the surface ; it is always found under what is called an overburden. To get at the china clay rock the overburden is removed. The china clay rock is then excavated, broken up with picks, and exposed to the action of running water on a slope. The coarser and heavier elements of its composition are precipitated early in the process, and then, by a series of operations involving chiefly successive checks of the flow of water and consequent successive deposits of the heavier particles present in solutions, the lightest and finest elements are ultimately left in suspense in the water, and these, when finally precipitated and dried, constitute the commercial article known as china clay. This is the substance which the defendants contend is a mineral within the statute, and which the plaintiffs allege to be the soil or subsoil which they have already purchased, and on which their railway has been built. In order to determine which of these contentions is right it is necessary to inquire into the composition and origin of the china clay. China clay rock occurs in the granite formation only. Granite is an igneous rock the mineral constitution of which differs in various places but which may be said to be practically of general uniform crystalline constitution composed of felspar, quartz, and mica. Granite when exposed to atmospheric or other agencies becomes decomposed to an extent varying with its mineral constitution, and the first element which is the subject of decomposition is the felspar. The decomposed felspar results in

the formation of a clayey material, and china clay rock is granite in which the felspar has been wholly decomposed and replaced by this clay. Different opinions are held by geologists and others as to the agency by which this complete decomposition has been brought about. Between these conflicting opinions it is fortunately not necessary for me to decide. It is sufficient for my purpose to find as a fact that there are in the granite formation in the part of the country with which I have to deal in this case nests or pockets of varying superficial areas, and in most instances of unknown depths, wherein is to be found a granite in which the felspars have been wholly decomposed and replaced with the clayey material already mentioned. It is further established by the evidence that these nests or pockets are sporadic, and that their existence adds materially to the value of the land, and that their presence or absence is not to be accounted for by any apparent differences in the overlying granite or other materials. The decomposed felspar—the clayey substance which has replaced the felspar—constitutes, say the defendants, the china clay. All we do, they add, is to extract this clayey substance by a sifting or washing process, whereby we disengage it from the other material with which it is found in mechanical combination. I cannot myself see that it is any answer to this contention to say that in the china clay of commerce there is still to be found a proportion of the other materials with which the clayey substance was originally completely combined. In my opinion china clay or kaolin is the clayey substance in the china clay rock representing the decomposed felspar, and the mere fact that in the process of separating and extracting it from the rock a condition of disengagement is reached which is sufficient for practical commercial purposes, and beyond which it is therefore unnecessary to prolong the process, cannot, in my opinion, alter the real nature of the substance or convert the resultant product from a natural substance into an artificial combination of diverse elements originally combined in wholly different proportions. On the evidence, therefore, I come to the conclusion that china clay is a natural product—that is, the substance representing felspar in granite which has been converted into china clay rock by the complete decomposition of one of its three essential constituents. The question I have now to decide is whether such a clay as I have described is a mineral. It is common ground that it has been so regarded by geologists, mineralogists, and text-book writers for very many years past, not only in this country, but in America, France and Germany. Jameson as early as in 1820, Professor Lapworth himself as late as in 1899, and Dr. Hatch and Professors Dana and Miers at intermediate dates, are all responsible for well-known and authoritative works, wherein it is classed as a mineral. It is true that when the witnesses for the railway company were confronted with these authorities they drew a distinction between kaolin and the china clay of commerce, and suggested that the former might possess attributes which would qualify it as a mineral, but which were not to be found in the latter, but I attach no importance to this distinction, in that I regard kaolin and china clay as convertible terms, and the mere fact that the clay can be turned to commercial uses without being altogether dissociated from foreign substances cannot, in my opinion, alter its real character. The scientific witnesses who were called on behalf of the railway company frankly admitted that down to some time in the latter part of last year they shared in the generally accepted view that kaolin or china clay was a mineral. Indeed in a case tried in 1904, Professors Boyd Dawkins and Lapworth, two of the witnesses who in this case have been called to prove that it is not a mineral, gave evidence that kaolin or china clay—treating the two words as synonymous—is a mineral, a definite chemical composition, and having very frequently a definite crystalline form. These views they have been led to discard, so they told us in the box, by more careful microscopic and local examinations of china clay, and the source from which it is derived and the conclusions to which these examinations have led them are directly opposed to those in which they shared with the scientific world generally down to the summer of last year. They now degrade china clay to an artificial product, a heterogeneous compound or mixture of everything that is in the china clay rock, and unredeemed by any one of the qualities which Dr. Hatch says are the essential characteristics of a mineral—that is to say, definite mineral composition, definite physical qualities, and definite crystal form. On the other hand, Prof. Gregory, with whose evidence I was much impressed, would be no party to what I have called the degradation of kaolin or china clay. In his opinion it is a mineral, the main bulk of which is kaolinite—a crystalline substance which all parties agree is in all senses of the word a mineral. It is right that I should add that none of the plaintiffs' witnesses would admit the presence of kaolinite in the Carpalla kaolin, and on the evidence as it stands I should not be prepared to hold that this has been conclusively established. But what I have to determine is whether the substance is a mineral within the meaning of the Act of Parliament. Having heard all the evidence and listened to the forcible arguments which have been addressed to me, I cannot entertain any doubt as to its being such a mineral. I have no alternative but to dismiss the action with costs.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Warde & Co., china and glass dealers, &c., have opened premises at High-rd., Loughton, Essex.

Darby & Leach, china and glass dealers, have opened new premises at 55, High-rd., Ilford.

Mr. J. Toope, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 65, Great Titchfield-st., W.

A. Lewis & Co., china and glass merchants, have acquired the premises 444, Harrow-rd., Paddington, W.

Mr. G. West, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 93, High-st., Deptford, S.E.

Mr. W. Frampton, china and glass merchant, has recently opened premises at 18, Sydenham-rd., Sydenham, S.E.

Mr. W. E. Helsey, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 55, Church-st., Camberwell, S.E.

Allen's China, Glass and Earthenware Stores are about to be opened at 3 Station-parade, High-rd., Balham, S.W.

Mr. E. Syer, china and glass importer, has removed from 45, Hatton-garden, E.C., to 101, in the same thoroughfare.

J. Campbell & Co., wholesale and retail glass and china merchants, have opened a shop at 52, Great Edward-st., Belfast.

Mr. Nottingham, china and glass merchant, 72, High-rd., Balham, S.W., has opened additional premises at 62, in the same thoroughfare.

Forester & Sons, Ltd., art potters and china manufacturers, have removed from 105, Hatton-garden, to Gamage-buildings, 118, Holborn, E.C.

Mr. Aug. Sharp, under the name of The South Coast Trading Co., has opened the Longfleet Glass and China Stores, 229, Longfleet, Poole, Dorset.

Mr. H. J. Richards, china and glass merchant, has taken the premises 142, Upper Tooting-rd., S.W., which he will open as soon as alterations are completed.

Noel Bros., china and glass merchants, 51, High-st., Kingsland, and elsewhere, have opened additional premises at 666, Lea Bridge-rd., Leyton, E.

Mr. Frank Walker, late manager and buyer for a Barnet firm, has opened a china, glass, and ironmongery establishment at No. 1, Exchange-buildings, High-st., Barnet.

Mr. Fred Carder, who was at one time art master at the Wordsley School of Art, has been on a visit to England. He returned to America by the "Lusitania" on Saturday last.

South Yorkshire Glass Bottle Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £10,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with C. H. Moss, C. W. Organ, and Mrs. E. Glasbey, and carry on business as indicated by title. Private company.

A. King & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £1,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to carry on the business of general merchants, commission agents, manufacturers of and dealers in glass and earthenware goods, &c. Registered office, 114, Fore-st., E.C.

Doulton & Co., Ltd.—The directors propose to pay a further interim dividend for three months of the current year of £1 5s. per cent. on Sept. 30, leaving only the final three months' dividend to Dec. 31, 1908, which will be payable on March 31, 1909.

Contract Open.—The Manchester Corporation Baths, &c., Committee invite tenders for the supply and delivery of 65 porcelain wash baths for Bradford Baths. Forms of tender may be obtained upon application at the City Architect's Office, Town Hall.

West of England China Stone and Clay Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £99,300 in £50 shares. A reincorporation of a concern originally registered as an unlimited company. All the shares have been taken up and paid for in full. Office, Y.M.C.A. Building, Victoria-place, St. Austell.

Mr. Geo. Brandon has sold his furnishing stores at Crofton Park, London, S.E., to Mr. Arthur J. Smith, who has had many years' experience of the china, glass, hardware, and allied trades, and who has no connection with any other business in London or elsewhere. Mr. Smith will continue to trade under the name of George Brandon.

Cocking & Sons, Ltd.—Private company. Registered capital, £25,000 in £1 shares. Objects. to take over the business of manufacturers of bricks, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, terra-cotta, stoneware, plastic materials or products, &c., carried on by G. E. Cocking and F. W. Cocking at Walkeringham, Notts, and at Balby, near Doncaster.

William Boulton, Ltd., pottery engineers, Burslem, exhibited their "New Oval Dish Machine" in operation at the Agricultural Show held at Burslem last week. The machine makes under-cut vegetable dishes and covers, and flat dishes. The perfect elliptical movement and the interchangeability of the rings, permits of the production of oval articles as easily as round ones.

British Clay Exports.—The exports of unmanufactured clay from the United Kingdom during the first six months of the present year amounted to 296,585 tons, valued at £313,382, and included 19,785 tons of fireclay, valued at £17,451. The total for the first six months of last year was 323,172 tons, valued at £350,005 ; for the corresponding period of 1906 the weight was 280,898 tons, and the value £302,716.

Pottery Clay in Wales.—It is reported that a new kind of clay has been discovered at Llwynenion, and that it is admirably suited for the manufacture of earthenware, such as pans, pots, &c. One of the workmen, in experimenting, found that the clay, if properly burned, would make excellent earthenware. To test this, he moulded and burned a couple of small pots, which, it is said, have turned out to be all that could be desired.

Electrical Porcelain.—A paper on this subject was recently read before the Birmingham Electric Club by Mr. H. W. Brady. Particulars were given of the origin of the clays and other ingredients that go to the making of a first-class porcelain insulating material capable of withstanding high electrical pressure. The superiority of English over German insulators was pointed out, and particulars were given of high-tension tests applied to the former up to 900,000 volts. The lecturer also dwelt upon the difficulty of producing porcelain in complicated shapes of exact size owing to the shrinkage under firing at a sufficiently high temperature to secure vitrification, not only of the surface, but throughout the substance.

Tenders Accepted.—For supply of glass tablets for the L.C.C.: G. M. Hammer & Co., Ltd., 370, Strand, W.C.—The Metropolitan Asylums Board has accepted the following tenders for annual supplies of earthenware, china, and glass :—J. Defries & Sons, Ltd., estimated value of goods to be supplied, £1,300 ; Atkinson & Co., £170 ; J. Shingler, £50 ; W. Huntsman, £56.—For supply of crockery for the L.C.C. Stores Committee, from Aug. 1, 1908, to July 31, 1909 :—The British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Longton, £215 ; Cauldon (Brown-Westhead, Moore & Co.), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £26 ; J. Defries & Sons, Ltd., 146-7, Houndsditch, E.C., £68 ; the Empire Porcelain Co., 3 and 4, Bevis Marks, E.C., £45 ; G. L. Gent & Son, 4, Holborn-circus, E.C., £367 ; Grimwades, Ltd., Winton Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, £15 ; Myott, Son & Co., Cobridge, £10 ; Sydney Robson & Co., Milton House, 8, Chiswell-street, E.C., £166 ; Soho Pottery, Ltd., Tunstall, £8.

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Acts during June was 58, but there were no deaths from that cause. There were 13 cases reported in connection with the china and earthenware trades in the same month and no death. In addition to the above, 19 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of which were fatal, were reported during June among house painters and plumbers. During the six months ending June last, the total number of cases of lead poisoning was 319, as compared with 219 cases in 1907. During the same six months there were 70 cases and 5 deaths in connection with the china and earthenware trades, as compared with 38 reported cases and 6 deaths in the first six months of 1907.

Mr. Bernard Moore's Pottery.—Choice specimens of Mr. Benard Moore's most recent successes were exhibited in London on June 30 under highly-favoured conditions. The Duchess of Sutherland gave an "At Home" at Stafford House on that day, and amongst the attractions for the entertainment of her guests were samples of Mr. Moore's pottery. They included copper, red, and rouge flambé, and some original effects in green crystalline. Mr. Moore's productions are no longer mere experiments. They are accepted by those best qualified to judge as successful results of scientific investigation and technical skill. On the same occasion, Mr. C. H. Read, F.S.A., Keeper of British and Mediæval Antiquities at the British Museum, gave an address on "Ancient Pottery."

Death of Mr. W. M. Grose, J.P.—We hear with regret of the death of Mr. William Martin Grose, the senior partner in the firm of Grose & Stocker, china clay merchants, Globe-st., Stoke-on-Trent. About six months ago he went away for the benefit of his health, but unhappily did not derive any. He became weaker, and after a critical period, extending over a fortnight, he died at Llandudno on July 18, in his 67th year. He entered the business as a youth, and took an active part in it practically until a short time before his death. He was of a retiring disposition, and took little part in public affairs. He was a magistrate for the county and frequently sat on the county bench of justices at Newcastle. He was well known and respected throughout the Potteries. The funeral took place on July 21 at The Orme, Llandudno.

Death of Mr. Thomas Coulson.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas Coulson, glass merchant, Barrington-st., South Shields. Mr. Coulson, though he had been ill for nearly twelve months, had only been confined to his bed a few days when he died on July 9 at his residence, 27, Sea View, South Shields, aged 75. In his youth, Mr. Coulson had been engaged at the South Shields Glass Works, but subsequently went to sea for some years. Returning in 1865, he commenced business as a glass merchant in Barrington-st., and was very successful. He took an active part in politics, and also in the religious work of the Congregational Church. He was a leading Freemason in the town, and identified himself with many philanthropic and charitable movements. The interment took place at Harton Cemetery on July 13. His son, who succeeds him in the business, is Mr. Thomas Coulson, the well-known cricketer and captain of the Durham County team.

The Fragile Club.—The annual river excursion of the members of the Fragile Club took place on Saturday, July 18. Many of the members and their friends met at Waterloo Station and proceeded by train to Richmond, where the new steam launch "Viscount" was awaiting them at the landing stage near Richmond Bridge. At 10.30 the steamer started, and a pleasant trip was enjoyed up one of the prettiest of the many delightful stretches of the Thames. No river in the world has on its banks so many or such beautiful and historically interesting

residences and well-kept grounds as the Thames. Mr. Frank E. Spiers, one of the original members of the club, and for some time its indefatigable honorary secretary, is an acknowledged authority on Thames scenery, and he kindly pointed out to those who did not know them the most notable places of interest and the names of their owners. An excellent cold collation was served on board, Mr. Harry Green presiding. The intention originally was to proceed up the river as far as Staines, but it happened to be the day of the Moseley Regatta, and it was found that the son of one of the most esteemed members of the club was taking part in some of the events. It was thereupon decided to cut short the tour up the river and to return in time for the regatta. This was done, and the "Viscount" was moored at a favourable spot for witnessing the eight-oar, four-oar, and sculling contests. There was a heavy downpour of rain during the progress of the contests, but the weather cleared up and the voyage back to Richmond was a very enjoyable one. In spite of the weather the excursion was a pleasant one, and maintained the character of this annual fixture as an interesting social re-union.

Liquid Fuel in Glass Manufacture.—In the course of the second of his Cantor Lectures on "Fuel and its Future," delivered before the Royal Society of Arts, Professor Vivian B. Lewes says:—"During the first half of the last century it was solid fuel only that was employed for the generation of heat and power, but the last half of the century has seen the advent of liquid and gaseous fuels, which, under certain conditions, proved themselves of the greatest value. Certain processes are now largely dependent upon their use, this being due to the ease of application, which has meant economy in labour and greater facility for converting the heat into work. As an example of the ease of application, making a fuel of poor calorific value more effective in use than coal of high quality, one may instance such manufactures as those of glass where, in the heating by solid fuel, the necessary temperature had to be imparted to the mass of raw material through the walls of a thick fireclay retort, the difficulty of application here being dependent upon the fact that the crucible had to be heated to a very high temperature to get the necessary fusing point of the glass mixture. Maintaining this for a considerable period means a big expenditure in fuel and great wear and tear to the furnace and containing vessel. It was clear that if the solid fuel could be gasified, and the clean flame made to play directly on to the surface of the mixture to be fused, instead of having to impart the heat through the walls of the containing vessel, an enormous economy would be obtained, and this is now done by the utilisation of producer gas and regeneration in the continuous tank processes."

A Committee on Half-Timers.—The President of the Board of Education has appointed an Inter-Departmental Committee:—(1) To inquire into and report upon the extent to which existing enactments relating to partial exemption from compulsory school attendance are taken advantage of in urban and rural areas in England and Wales; the occupations in which children so exempted are employed; and the effect of such occupations upon the general education and industrial training of the children. (2) To consider the practical effects of legislation providing for the abolition or restriction of half-time employment upon industries and wage-earning, and upon educational organisation and expenditure. (3) To report whether and to what extent in view of these considerations, it is desirable to amend the law by raising the age at which partial exemption from attendance at public elementary schools is to be permitted, or by raising the minimum age for total exemption concurrently with affording facilities for partial exemption. The Committee will consist of:—M. T. Mackinnon Wood, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Education (chairman); Lord Clifford of Chudleigh; Lord Stanley of Alderley; Mr. Walter R. Rea, M.P.; Mr. H. M. Lindsell, C.B., a Principal Assistant-Secretary of the Board of Education; Mr. G. Bellhouse, one of his Majesty's Superintending Inspectors of Factories; Mr. Joseph Cross, of Accrington, secretary of the Northern Counties Weavers' Amalgamation; Mr. Tom Garnett, of Manchester; Mr. Allen Gee, of Huddersfield, general secretary of the General Union of Weavers and Textile Workers; Mr. Mark Oldroyd, of Dewsbury; with Mr. C. E. Sykes, an examiner of the Board of Education, as secretary.

Trade Festivities.—The employees of the Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., arranged an excursion to the Franco-British Exhibition, as their annual outing. Accordingly, on July 4, about four hundred of them journeyed by an early special train which landed them at Shepherd's Bush by about ten o'clock, so that they had a full day before them. There was no formal programme to be followed. The company formed themselves into groups and each party took its own course. Many of them devoted the whole time to the attractions of the White City, but some of them visited other parts of the metropolis. The company's stand, in the Palace of Decorative Arts, was a centre of attraction, and needless to say was greatly admired. The groups met each other repeatedly during the day and exchanged pleasantries and comments upon what they had seen. The heavy rain was an unwelcome termination to the tour of the grounds, but, in spite of this drawback, the party left London at midnight in merry mood and well pleased with their visit.—On July 18, the directors of Wengers, Ltd., Etruria, entertained their employees to an excursion to Rushton, on the occasion of their annual outing. Luncheon was taken at midday, and after some pleasant speeches, the party spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening at Dane Bridge and Wincle.—On July 11 the employees of Mr. W. H. Goss, Stoke-on-Trent, were taken by the firm to New Brighton for a day's outing. The company dined together in hall in the town gardens, and with great enthusiasm honoured the toast of "Success and Prosperity to the Firm." This was responded to by Capt. Victor Goss and Mr. Huntley Goss. A very pleasant day was spent and the firm were thanked for their generosity in bearing the whole expenses of the excursion.—Hull was visited on July 18 by about 400 members of the National Glass Bottle Makers' Society of Great Britain. The occasion was the annual excursion of the society, and Hull was chosen, although there is no branch there. The president, Mr. W. Wilson, Barnsley, took the chair at the luncheon, and brief speeches on the work of the society were delivered by Mr. W. Milnes (general secretary), Mr. F. Swan (financial secretary), and others. The remainder of the day was spent in "doing" the sights of Hull, the docks being a great attraction.

Glass and Earthenware to the value of £656 were imported into the Falkland Islands last year. The import in 1906 was valued at £673.

Vacuum-Glazed Crockery.—In Mr. H. G. Wells' sensational story, "The War in the Air" the crockery in use on board the great airships is described as "a light biscuit, glazed in a vacuum and weighing next to nothing." Will our manufacturers find this recipe useful when they are called upon to cater for the requirements of airships?

Canadian Imports of earthenware, chinaware, and graniteware during the year ending March 31, 1908, were valued at $2,190,784. The value of the import from the United Kingdom was $1,350,296; United States, $214,380; and Germany, $280,347. The shares of the United Kingdom and Germany are increasing, and that of the U.S.A. is decreasing. The total shows a steady growth.

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Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A LONDON morning newspaper which has been gathering details as to the depression which exists in various trades in this country, published a paragraph a few days ago to the effect that the Potters' Union is paying out three times as much money in unemployed benefit just now as it was doing at the corresponding period of last year. In all probability this statement by no means over-estimates the facts of the case. The Potters' Union is, of course, a much stronger organisation now than it was at this time last year, so that naturally its unemployment experience is more extensive, but the officials of the Union have not found trade so generally slack for many years as they find it now. The percentage of unemployed members on their books is abnormally high, and there can be no disguising the fact that the potting trade is passing through an exceptionally anxious time. And if the operatives have reason to complain, so, also, have the employers. One of the oldest manufacturing potters in the district declares that, in his department of the industry, trade has never been so bad since the year 1869. It is quite a common thing to hear manufacturers say that they never knew things to be worse, and it is significant of much that the big firms which seemed to keep busy when most other works were running short time, are now beginning to furnish unmistakable evidence of the scarcity of orders. Probably the firms manufacturing high class ornamental goods are suffering more than those which produced goods of general utility, for which there is a more constant demand, but every branch has been affected, and it is difficult to point to a single firm which is not running short time, or adding considerably to stock. One manufacturer says that he recently took out figures relating to a number of his workers—people who, when trade is brisk, can earn two pounds a week with comparative ease—and he found that their earnings, averaged over the past six weeks, had amounted to only seven shillings and ninepence per week! At another prominent factory where trade has been dull throughout the present year operatives whose skill entitles them to call themselves artists, have deemed themselves fortunate for some considerable time now if there has been sufficient work to enable them to carry home ten shillings at the week end. Of course, these cannot be regarded as representative cases, but the firms concerned are all of the highest standing.

The home market, both for earthenware and china, remains lifeless, but it must not be forgotten that this is, under any circumstances, the slowest time of the year. The London trade remains inactive, but in the "country" a slight improvement is noticeable. It would seem that retailers are, at last, beginning to get rid of the heavy stocks they laid in about March, when a general strike was feared, and, if this is so, there should be a better tone after the Wakes holidays are over. The sanitary trade is quiet, and the electrical fittings department is also far from being well employed, Abroad things are no better than at home. The slump in trade with the United States continues, but the prospect seems to be brightening. Buyers, who have been in the Potteries from the other side within the past few weeks have again, however, gone back without placing orders to any appreciable extent. A fair trade is doing with Australia, and the outlook is better here, perhaps than in any other Colonial market for the moment, but the hopes which were entertained early in the year of a big spurt in our trade with the antipodes are, as yet, far from realisation.

As everyone expected, the Board of Trade returns for June, in so far as they relate to exports of the potting trade, showed a heavy falling off, dropping £25,000 below those of June, 1907, and even a few hundred pounds behind those for 1906, the respective figures being: 1908, £182,145; 1907, 207,326; 1906, £182,836. A great decrease in the exports to the United States was principally responsible for the smaller total recorded this year, this market alone accounting for £19,000 of the difference, the figures for this year being £32,612, as compared with £51,357 in June, 1907. There was also a decrease, in round figures, of £4,000 in the exports to Brazil, of £2,600 in the exports to Germany, of £6,000 in the exports to British South Africa, of £4,200 in the exports to Australia, of £400 in the exports to New Zealand, and of £5,200 in the exports to Canada. The principal countries which took larger values of British pottery during the month were the Argentine Republic (increase £4,000), the East Indies (£1,200), France, £200, and minor countries, the returns relating to which are aggregated (£5,400). During the first six months of the present year the total exports of British pottery have amounted to £1,225,278, compared with £1,265,095 in the corresponding period of last year, and £1,114,062 in 1906. During the same period the imports of foreign ware, which have been actually placed on the markets of the United Kingdom, have totalled £416,703, including over £250,000 worth earthenware, and upwards of £100,000 worth of china.

It is not surprising to hear that, in the present condition of trade, the operatives in the potting industry do not manifest any great desire to push on with the arbitration respecting their application for increased wages, and the fixing of minimum making prices and maximum sizes. When they met the masters recently with the ostensible object of settling the question of prices and sizes, they temporised and brought forward, instead, the question of "uniform" sizes. The masters were unable to accept a suggestion regarding this matter, which was put forward on behalf of the men, and nothing was decided, the negotiations still seeming to be in a somewhat nebulous condition. As the men are the appellants, however, the masters will probably call upon them soon, to either proceed with the questions at issue immediately, or else, if they do not mean to arbitrate, to withdraw so far as the matter of prices is concerned. It is provided, in the rules, if I remember rightly, that any award made shall date from July 30, and, of course, it would not be fair to the masters if the question were left hanging over their heads until say, December or January next—by which time trade must have picked up again—and then, on arbitration, an award were given which was to date right back to the present moment, when the condition of trade is, admittedly, extremely depressed.

Some surprise and general regret has been occasioned by the announcement of the retirement of Mr. Robert Williams Young, one of the controllers of the great Hanley firm of J. & G. Meakin, Ltd., Eastwood and Eagle Potteries. Only a few months ago Mr. Young delighted the local branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association by consenting to become their President, and nobody thought, at that time, that he would so soon be resigning his post, for he is still only in his fifty-seventh year, and as alert a business man as the trade possesses, having not only an intimate acquaintance with the manufacturing process, but a knowledge of finance which has been of great value to the firm with which he has so long been associated. Mr. Young, however, has not enjoyed the best of health lately, and his many friends will join in the hope that his retirement may effect a speedy restoration of his strength, and that he may long be spared to enjoy the rest to which his past labours have so well entitled him. The circumstances which caused, Mr. Young to enter the potting are rather remarkable. He was born in London, and as a young man became associated with an American banking business. A friendship, however, existed between his family and that of the late Mr. George Meakin, and in 1881 Mr. Young married Mr. Meakin's daughter. Some years afterwards following the death of Mr. James Meakin, Mr. George Meakin, induced his son-in-law to abandon his profession, and come to the Potteries to assist him in the conduct of a business which had already grown to such proportions as to be far beyond the control of any one man. In this way Mr. Young commenced a connection with North Staffordshire which has now lasted for nearly twenty-two years, and has been productive of great good to his firm and to the trade of the district generally. The warm affection which existed between Mr. Young and the workpeople at the Eastwood Pottery was demonstrated on July 20 by a gathering which assembled in the glost sorting warehouse to take leave of the departing chief, and to present him with certain tokens of goodwill. Mr. Young was made the recipient of three presentations,—an illuminated address, a fine framed photograph of the workpeople taken in Hanley Park, and a very handsome and valuable timepiece.

The publishing day of the POTTERY GAZETTE this month falls upon Wakes Saturday, the day upon which the great holiday festival of the pottery operatives of North Staffordshire begins, and when as many as can do so betake themselves to the seaside for a week. For the last two years the workpeople have been able to take their holiday without any misgivings as to the regularity and sufficiency of employment when they returned, but this year the position is much less satisfactory, and in many instances the holidays are likely to be extended considerably beyond their usual period. Money, too, will be much less plentiful among the workpeople than it was at the Wakes last year, and it is to be feared that many who have been accustomed to a holiday on the coast will this year have to remain at home. Fortunately there exist resorts which are both beautiful and healthy within easy reach of the Potteries, and those who take advantage of the cheap and convenient means of transit at their disposal to spend a few days in the country will probably return quite as much benefited, both

mentally and physically, as if they had been passing the time in the gay whirl of Blackpool, or Douglas. Whcrever they go, and whatever their means, we wish them all a right good time, and better working prospects when the Wakes are over.

The official news that the business of the late Mr. Alfred J. Meakin, of Tunstall, had been purchased by Mr. Robert L. Johnson, of the well-known firm of Johnson Bros., Ltd., of Hanley, came at too late a date for more than a brief mention in the POTTERY GAZETTE, though it was common knowledge in the trade that negotiations had been in progress for some time. Mr. Johnson is understood to have purchased the business on behalf of some of his sons, and the price paid is said to be in the neighbourhood of £100,000—one of the largest transactions of the kind ever recorded in the history of the trade. While we still mourn the loss our industry has suffered in the sad and untimely death of one whose career held such an abundance of promise as Mr. Meakin's did, we rejoice that the business he had built up with such far-seeing enterprise and vigour should have passed into the hands of a family so capable of carrying forward his work as the Messrs. Johnson, whose past achievements are an ample guarantee that the undertaking will be continued on such lines as Mr. Meakin would himself have laid down, and that the best traditions of the business will be maintained.

Since our last notes were written, the movement for the federation of the six pottery towns of North Staffordshire has made still further progress, and we have now arrived at the stage when a Parliamentary Committee has approved the preamble of the Bill confirming the Order made by the Local Government Board providing for the amalgamation of the towns. Even so, it is early yet to say that federation is an accomplished fact. Mr. Cecil Wedgwood and Mr. Leonard Grimwade were among the witnesses examined before the Parliamentary Committee, and their evidence must have gone far to convince the Committee of the general advantages to be gained by such an amalgamation as has been proposed. We are, however, promised another warm conflict between the promoters and opponents of the Bill when it reaches the House of Lords Committee in the autumn, and, meanwhile, some of us are beginning to wonder who is going to "foot the bill which our friends the town clerks, so ably assisted by barristers' King's Counsel, and expert witnesses are running up. Mr. John Burns did well when he advised the towns to come to an agreement, in which case he suggested that the cost of obtaining the Bill would be inconsiderable; but, since agreement was not accomplished, it is evident that the rates are going to suffer more than a little. The Parliamentary Inquiry had already lasted, down to the time of writing (July 25), nearly a dozen days, the cost being estimated at not far short of £1,000 per day. How long the discussion of the clauses may last is a matter of speculation, but probably a couple more days may be allocated to this process. Then there is the cost of the forthcoming contest in the House of Lords, and also the expenses of the preliminary Local Government Board inquiry at Stoke in January, to be added. If federation is to come, it is a thousand pities that it could not have been achieved without bringing in its train a new debt for the already overburdened ratepayers of this industrial district to pay.

A letter of complaint which appeared in a local paper a few days ago would seem to indicate that some people are now going about the country engaged in a very reprehensible method of picking up valuable pieces of old ware. The writer says that he has a friend, an old lady of nearly 85 years of age, who generally lives alone, and who was recently called upon by a man who inquired if she had any old ware. He forced his way into the house, asked the old lady a question about a print which hung upon the wall, and then, without her consent, went upstairs and searched the bedrooms, afterwards leaving without purchasing anything — probably because there was nothing there worth purchasing, and, if there had been, one wonders what proportion the price offered would have borne to the true value of the article selected. The old lady was too infirm to offer any protest, and her friend who writes the letter of complaint says that this is the eighth or tenth incident of the kind which has occurred within the last twelve months, to his knowledge. In this district numbers of people treasure pieces of early Staffordshire ware which collectors would be glad to get hold of, and which the owners regard more for their sentimental than for their intrinsic value, of which latter they know little. Whether the individuals who are trying to plunder them of these things in the way mentioned are acting on their own behalf or on behalf of firms who deal in antiques does not transpire, but, in either case, their conduct admits of no excuse, and the attention of the police might be usefully drawn to their methods.

The Rapid Magnetting Machine Co., Ltd., of The Crescent, Birmingham, have, during the fortnight ending July 24, been giving demonstrations daily with the "Rapid" electro magnetic separators for removing iron from wet and dry materials, at Chelsea Works, Burslem. The firm have been known for years in the metal and allied trades, and have now entered the potting trade, and so far they have met with an exceedingly gratifying reception. The management have been asked several times, "How comes a Birmingham firm, not connected with the pottery trade, to produce such a clever thing as this?" The answer is, when they had designed the "dry" machine, for quite another purpose, they recognised it would also do for the dry materials used in the pottery trades, and then (having once been through a slip house) they saw it could be readily adapted for slip glazes. The result is the two machines now under notice. The demonstrations with the new machines at the Chelsea Works have been visited by many of the leading manufacturers in the Potteries, and there was a chorus of approval of the new methods, which were considered to be admirably adapted to the separation of iron from clay. The new machine for dealing with the material in the liquid state is quite revolutionary in system. The engineers, instead of relying on a slow thick flow, require a rapid thin flow, which they disturb as much as possible in order to get a continuous frictional contact with the powerful electro magnets. Since the machine was last noticed in the POTTERY GAZETTE the firm have made a most important improvement, consisting of what they call a collapsible bridge. In the event of the current failing from any cause whatever, without this provision the iron collected by the magnets would immediately travel forward and become mixed again with the material which had been cleaned. With this improvement, in the event of the current failing, the bridge immediately collapses, diverting the liquid into a contrary direction, and simultaneously an alarm bell rings, and continues ringing until attended to. This particular feature has been generally highly approved. The separator for dealing with dry materials is also a revolution in the methods of removing iron from the class of materials such as bedding flint and sand, clay dust, calcined bone dust, &c. The principle is somewhat similar to that of the machine for dealing with liquids, but in this case the machine oscillates sideways at about 250 movements per minute, and the material delivered on to the separator at the top is thereby evenly distributed over the whole surface of the electro magnets, of which there are a considerable number, as it passes down the separator, leaving the iron behind. Some tests made for well-known firms of material which had been treated by their own processes were attended by the most surprising results. The firm were disappointed that they did not get a larger number of manufacturers to inspect the machines, but should they get an indication that other manufacturers would like to see the machines, they contemplate returning to the district. They would be glad to receive any communications dealing with the subject of a further visit.

Judge Ruegg had before him, at the Stoke County Court, on July 15, a claim by Mrs. Elizabeth Morley for compensation in respect of the death of her husband, John Edwin Morley, a potter's dipper, of 98, Stone-rd., Longton, who was said to have died from lead poisoning. His Honour had the assistance of Professor John Dixon Mann, of Manchester University, as medical assessor. The deceased man, who had been employed by Messrs. Adderley, china manufacturers, of Longton, for 20 years, was suspended by the certifying surgeon on account of plumbism, in March of the present year, and there were other certificates of the certifying surgeon up to within three days of the man's death, stating that he was incapacitated from work owing to plumbism. At the inquest the jury found that death was due to heart failure, brought about by kidney disease, but that how the latter was set up there was insufficient evidence to show. Medical evidence was now called on both sides. Dr. Arlidge, who gave the certificates, admitted that at the post-mortem the only thing pointing to plumbism was the condition of the kidneys, and it was, he said, very unusual, in a case of death from lead poisoning, to be able to only point to one symptom of lead in the system. Dr. E. Coghlan supported the theory that death was due to lead poisoning; but, on the other side, three eminent medical men were called whose evidence went to show that the kidney disease was secondary to the heart disease, and that there was nothing to indicate that the kidney disease was produced by lead. His Honour found for the defendants, holding that the onus was on the applicant to satisfy the court that the cause of death was lead poisoning, and that this had not been established beyond doubt.——An inquest was held on July 21, at Burslem, relative to the death of Enoch Pedley, a potter's placer, aged 43, of 28, Port-st., Burslem, who had been employed by Messrs. Maddock for about 25 years, working up from a dipping-house lad. He had been twice suspended on account of the lead, and after hearing medical evidence the jury returned a verdict of "Death from Bright's disease, caused by lead poisoning."——On July 17 an inquest was held at Longton, on the body of Fredk. Robotham, aged 51, of James-st., Longton, who had been employed by the Atlas China Co., Ltd., and who died on July 8. Up to two years ago he was a potter's dipper, and he was then suspended for "wrist drop." The medical witnesses were in agreement that death was due to weakness and wasting caused by lead poisoning, and a verdict accordingly was returned.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE retail section of the pottery and glass trades in Scotland, so far as the ordinary business over the cities and towns is concerned, has been more favoured by weather conditions during July than for a good many months past. Yet the turnover has stopped far short of the average of an ordinary July. Loose money seems to be as scarce as ever, probably scarcer than at any time since the depression began. Some little special demand there has been, due to the making good of the breakages resulting from the household and other removals at the end of May and the beginning of June, but even in this respect the average of an ordinary year has not been anything like attained. June, July, August, and September are always quiet months with the city and town retailers, but this year it looks as if the slackness is to turn out something of a record.

At the watering-places and other health resorts, the aspect of things for the retail merchants in glass, china, and kindred wares has improved since the advent of July, with its bettered conditions of weather, but the improvement has not as yet been so pronounced as to result in repeat orders for the wholesale merchants. There is still time, of course, for this to happen, and not until August has been fully accounted for, can it be known for certain what the outcome will be.

The wholesale merchants report a very quiet time during July, orders booked for the country's ordinary autumn supplies being small as yet. Prices, as sometime ago rearranged, are pretty well upheld, and these apply to all the orders coming in, although it is probably the case that the higher rates partly account for the weakness of the demand. Travellers continue to complain of the difficulty of getting full payments for past executed orders, and sometimes not even partial payments are forthcoming. Regarding the outlook on the later months, the best feature is the promise (at present) of good cereal crop returns, a factor always to be taken into consideration in our trades, so far at least as the general inland retail business is concerned. Another factor in the present outlook is the promise of the herring and white fish catches round the coasts. These had been nothing great at the beginning, but during July the takes improved very perceptibly, and very good supplies have been landed at the main fishing and curing centres—Aberdeen, Peterhead, Fraserburgh and Wick. If this is kept up at all well, it will have a good effect upon our trades later in the year.

For Glasgow and district, during July, the main feature as regards the pottery and glass works has been the annual stoppage for the "Fair." This began on Thursday, July 16, and lasted for one week with even the busiest of them, but in some cases the closure extends to a fortnight or more, and even at the time of the writing of this quite full resumption still remains to be attained. The stoppage has, as usual, been utilised by the proprietors as an opportunity for a thorough overhaul of plant and premises. Quite a number of the principals in the pottery and glass factories are at present on holiday, and since the time of our last report there has been no meeting at all on the part of the associated masters. When production is fully resumed, the stoneware potters will all be busy. Fruit crop reports all point to a big season's demand for jam jars, at fairer values than some time ago, and on the whole satisfactory. It is understood that the late rearrangement of working rules and rates in the Scottish potteries has been still upheld amicably on both sides, and there is a prospect of this being continued in the same reasonable fashion until at least there has been a sufficient lapse of time for judging accurately as to results.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, July 16.

NOTWITHSTANDING the splendid prospects for a record-breaking harvest throughout Ontario and the great Canadian North-West, merchants have not been placing import orders with that degree of confidence and liberality that the outlook assuredly would justify. Indeed, there is a general unwillingness to order in any quantity, and in no line of goods has there been such a general disinclination to discount the future as has been experienced by pottery salesmen, particularly in Western Canada. The largest houses have called in most of their travellers, many of them not filing enough orders to pay salaries and the heavy expenses. Few of the retail merchants complain of being over-stocked, yet with a moral certainty of a shortage before the Christmas season they decline to buy, despite the fact that the samples carried by most of the travellers in Canada this season are incomparably more attractive, both in quality, decorations and price than were ever before shown to the merchants in the Dominion.

Crop prospects in the North-West continue to be far and away more favourable than in former years. There was a fear of drought, but yesterday, St. Swithin's Day, rain fell generally over the entire wheat belt of the three wheat-growing provinces of the West, and, it is estimated, added at least 5,000,000 bushels to the crop. Harvesting operations will have been begun in some parts by the time this letter is in print, and extensive preparations are being made to get the grain safely in sacks and away to the elevators. Twenty-five thousand extra harvest hands will be required to take off the crop, and the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Pacific railways have some four thousand new grain cars and twenty new locomotives about ready to move the wheat eastward. In the southern half of Saskatchewan alone, there are 3,800,000 acres in wheat, an increase over last year of 750,000 acres, and the acreage and increase in Manitoba and Alberta is equally remarkable. Railway statistics say the probable increase in bushels of wheat over the preceding year will be fully 25,000,000.

Directly in the face of this assured prospect, for nothing but a cyclone or an equally destructive agent can prevent the greatest harvest in the history of the North-West, the pottery trade is practically lifeless. The stock-houses are anticipating a brisk trade next fall in view of the small orders given for import, and one firm of manufacturers' agents in Toronto have departed from their custom and have laid in a stock of English tableware. Others are contemplating similar action, hoping thereby to save the trade of their country customers from falling into strange hands. A travelling salesman for a Toronto pottery and glassware house reports that an English firm of potters, whose name is withheld, is investigating conditions at Medicine Hat, Alberta, with a view to establishing a branch of their factory in that city. The natural gas facilities are the prime attraction. There appears to be an inexhaustible supply of that fuel. One well gives 2,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day with a rock pressure of 600 feet, and wherever a well is sunk to a depth of 600 to 1,000 ft. gas is found in plenty. This state of affairs impelled Rudyard Kipling to write of Medicine Hat :— "This part of the country seems to have all hell for a basement, and the trap-door appears to be Medicine Hat." It is literally true. The young city supplies gas to manufacturers at five cents per thousand cubic feet, and gas seems to be perfectly adapted for pottery and glass manufacturing. Efforts are being made by Medicine Hat Board of Trade to induce the Crystal Glass Co., of British

Columbia, which recently passed into the hands of a receiver, to reorganise and remove to that city, offering the company's agents free gas for twenty years as an inducement.

The tercentenary of Quebec caused a lively demand for Canadian souvenir pottery. Most of the English factories turned out something special for the occasion and local agents report large sales to retail merchants in Quebec, Montreal and Toronto on this account.—Mr. E. W. Klotz, who has Canadian control of Allerton's and Maddock's lines, sails by the s.s. "Empress of Ireland" on July 25 on a tour of the factories in Staffordshire.—Mr. O. M. Doulton, of Lambeth, spent several weeks in Canada recently introducing the Doulton sanitary ware and Lambeth stoneware. Mr. Doulton traversed the Dominion from coast to coast.—The Diamond Flint Glass Co., of Montreal, are about to build a large addition to their Toronto branch factory.—The new wholesale house to which I referred in my last letter as being about to open in the North-West is a branch of Lazarus, Rosenfeld and Lehmann, New York. That firm of importers has agencies in Toronto and Montreal, and the third is established in Calgary, where it is doing business under the name of L. F. Wilson & Co.—Retail merchants in Ontario are complaining of a scarcity of glass jars for preserving fruit. The season for small fruits is at its height now and the crop of berries and cherries is enormous and the fruit cheap. Housewives are preserving more fruit than usual; but the dealers have few jars on hand and seem to be unable to get them. The price has advanced $1 a gross since this first of June, but even the increased price does not produce the goods. Canadian import houses and stock-houses are all adding lines of American glassware pressed and cut to their lines of pottery and novelties. The prices at which some of these makers are able to supply the Canadian trade makes the American glass, particularly cut glass, a formidable article of competition with the domestic cut-glass, despite the Canadian duty. Canadian cut-glass manufacturers have had the field pretty much to themselves, but they are finding American prices very difficult to meet with any fair margin of profit left. The American cut-glass manufacturer does not adhere quite so strictly to orthodox methods of cutting, using hydrofluoric acid instead of sandstone, and produces remarkably effective ware.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

ALEXANDER ALF. & Co. (Geo.Edwd. Alexander, Ernest Alexander, and Thos. Hy. McMorland), 63, Fenchurch-st., London, Blaydon, and Low Southwick (Durham), and Albert-st. and Love-lane, Hunslet, Leeds (Yorks). glass bottle manufacturers and merchants. June 30, by effluxion of time. Debts by G. E. and E. Alexander, who continue. (July 3).

LAURIE LAZARUS & BENJAMIN (Lawrence Rosenfeld, Hy. Lazarus, Benj. Benjamin, and Alf. Benjamin), 6, 8, and 11, St. Andrew's-st., Holborn-circus, glass, china, and hardware dealers. June 27. Debts by L. Rosenfeld, B. Benjamin, and A. Benjamin, who continue. (July 3.)

WILLIAMS C. J. (Chas. Jas. Williams and Geo. Hy. Shoulder), 4 and 6, Halford-st., Leicester, glass and china merchants. June 30. Debts by C. J. Williams. (July 7.)

Limited Companies, &c.

**Some of these entries refer to appointments prior to the Companies Act, 1907, and registered under Sec. 11 (2) of that Act. The date of appointment appears in the entry.*

BRITISH MACHINE BOTTLE CO., LTD. Order made by Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady, June 23, that the voluntary winding up of the company be continued, but subject to the supervision of the Court, and that W. H. Shaw, Dewsbury, be appointed liquidator in the place of F. M. Wickham, resigned.

GLOBE SANITARY POTTERY, COBRIDGE, LTD. R. T. Golding, 41, North John-st., Liverpool, appointed receiver, Feb. 4, 1907.

GRIFFITHS PATENT BOTTLE CO., LTD. Resolved June 15:—That the company be wound up. A. W. Dally, 26, Balham High-rd., S.W., liqr.

NATIONAL OPALITE GLAZED BRICK AND TILE SYNDICATE, LTD. Resolved May 29, confirmed June 18:—That the company be wound up. T. Smethurst, 26, Pall Mall, Manchester, liqr. to whom claims by Aug. 14.

NORTH CORNWALL CHINA CLAY CO., LTD. Resolved June 12, confirmed June 30:—That this company be wound up. A. D. Hansell, 14, Gray's Inn-square, W.C., liqr., to whom claims should be sent by Sept. 1.

POTTERS' MILLS, LTD., Longton. W. E. Corlett, 1, Cross-hall-st., Liverpool, and C. E. Bullock, Hanley, appointed receivers, Nov. 3, 1905.

STANDARD CHINA CO., LTD. Resolved June 29, confirmed July 14:—That the company be wound up. J. R. Edwards, 119 and 120, London-wall, E.C., liqr., with powers to carry out an agreement between two companies.

VENICE & MURANO GLASS CO., LTD., London, E.C. Sir J. G. Craggs, 3, London-wall-buildings, E.C., appointed receiver. May 1, 1908.

VITRIFIED OPAL AND GLASS DECORATION CO., LTD. Resolved June 22:—That the company be wound up. J. P. Pattison, 29, Sugden-rd., Clapham Common, liqr.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

FINNEY VINCENT J. and EDMUND F. FINNEY, trading as Finney Bros., 6 and 8, St. James's-walk, and 1 and 2, Suffolk-st., Clerkenwell, Staffordshire warehousemen. Claims to G. G. Poppleton, 4, Charterhouse-square, E.C..

HOLLAND WM. T., trading as H. Holland, 59, Kingston-rd., Buckland, Portsmouth, china merchant. Claims to W. F. J. Hunt, Cambridge-junction, High-st., Portsmouth.

Notice of Dividend.

CLARKE JANE & WM. DASH, trading as Clarke & Dash, 66, Cheltenham-st., Swindon, china dealers. First and final, 2s. 9½d., at O.R.'s, Swindon.

Trust Deed Granted.

CRAIG GEO. B., 21, Union-st., Dundee, china merchant. Claims to E. Tosh, Dundee, or W. C. Scarlett, 21, Reform-st., Dundee.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is necessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

BATES JNO. CHAS. RCHD. BRIDGETT and WM. BATES, trading as Bridgett & Bates, King-st., Longton, china manufacturers. Dated June 19. Filed June 25. Liabilities unsecured, £2,381. Property, after deducting secured claims, £600. Tr., E. J. Kent, Longton. The following are creditors:— Thompson & Beck, Fenton, £13; T. G. Cooper, Hanley, £24; Martin Bros., Hanley, £22; Potters Mills, Ltd., Longton, £468; Mossfield Colliery, Ltd., Longton, £401; Florence Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Longton, £335; J. Aynsley (Exors. of), Longton, £208; H. J. Cyples, Longton, £50; Stirrup & Pye, Longton, £37; Taylor & Co., Longton, £37; Hewitt & Co., Longton, £35; H. Malton, Longton, £27; W. Boardman, Longton £25; J. Teggin, Longton, £22; S. Mear & Co., Longton, £19; Battison & Bridgett, Longton, £12; W. Bartlam, Longton, £12; W. Martin, Longton, £75; W. H. Vickers, Manchester, £11; Anderton Co., Stoke, £12; J. Best & Sons, Stoke, £10; H. Warrington & Sons, Stoke, £10; rates, £50; bankers' claims, £360.

BICKNELL HERBERT, Kent-st., Nottingham, and Belvoir-hill, Sneinton, Nottingham, glass, china, and hardware dealer. Dated June 30. Filed July 7. Liabilities unsecured, £680. Property, after deducting secured claims, £400. Tr., R. Rhodes, Low-pavement, Nottingham. The following are creditors:—National Telephone Co., Ltd., London, £10; L. H. Simon & Bros., London, £15; Wright & Butler, Ltd., Birmingham, £12; A. Martin & Sons, Birmingham, £12; Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Co., Ltd., Glasgow, £14; Pearl Pottery Co., Ltd., Hanley, £23; Barker Bros., Ltd., Longton, £18; J. Kent, Longton, £19; W. Lowe, Longton, £23; Mayer & Sherratt, Longton, £23; John Austin

Morgan, Longton, £18; S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Norwich, £23; Musson & Royle, Nottingham, £10; General Incandescent Co., Ltd., Nottingham, £19; Wilson & Taylor, Nottingham, £13; J. Warnock, Nottingham, £10; Mrs. E. Wootton, Nottingham, £17; W. Wootton, Nottingham, £15; Hawksley & Aslin, Nottingham, £20; Northfield Hawley Pottery Co., Ltd., Rotherham, £13; F. Mills & Co., Ltd., Sheffield, £13; Lancashire Incandescent and General Supply Co., Southport, £14; J. Ortweiller, Steinschoenau, £36; Adams, Williams & Co., Tunstall, £35; A. Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, £12; Ereson Bros., Wollescote, £20; Nottingham Corporation, £10. Secured creditors, 69.

HARLAND PERCY, trading as Harland & Co., 60, Long Millgate, Manchester, and residing at 65, Furnessrd., Fallowfield, Manchester, glass and china merchant. Dated, June 30. Filed, July 6. Liabilities unsecured, £199. Property, after deducting secured claims, £194. Tr., C. W. Provis, Mount-st., Manchester. The following are creditors:—Cama, Moolla & Co., London, £44; C. J. Dams & Co., London, £27; R. Johnson & Co., London, £37; Jonas Lang & Co., London, £33; G. Wood, Hunslet, £14; F. Hampson, Salford, £15.

MILLER GEO., 2, Upper James-st., Golden-sq., Regent-st., glass and china merchant. Assignment upon trust, to secure payment (resolved on April 13, 1908) of a composition of 9s. in the £, payable 2s. at 3, 6, 9, and 12 months and 1s. at 15 months: last instalment secured by a surety; the cash creditors postponing their claims. Dated June 25. Filed June 26. Liabilities unsecured, £1,566. Property, after deducting secured claims, £980. Tr., J. J. Amis (De Grelle Houdret & Co.), 130, London-wall, E.C. The following are creditors:—Cama, Moolla & Co., London, £27; Dams & Co., London, £32; Dornberger & Co., London, £22; De Grelle, Houdret & Co., London, £450; Fulham Pottery Co., London, £13; Gilbert & Co., London, 273; George Jennings, Peyton & Co., London, £11; Johnston & Co., London, £90; Kosta Glass Works, London, £52; Le Personne & Co., London, £81; United States Glass Co., London, £19; Wallis & Co., London, £18; Willetts, Birmingham, £20; Société Anonyme des Venerico, Bruine le Conte, £23; Peacock & Sons, Castleford, £18; Sowerby Ellison Glass Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne, £12; G. Wood, Hunslet, £25; Star China Co., Longton, £28; Round & Sons, Sheffield, £83; Southern & Richardson, Sheffield, £22; Moore & Co., South Shields, £42; Greener & Co., Sunderland, £22; — Turnbull, Sunderland, £18; South Yorkshire Glass Bottle Co., Swinton, £16; Booths, Ltd., Tunstall, £36; Wedgwood & Co., Tunstall, £15.

ROBERTS JNO. HY. EDGAR (trading as J. H. Roberts & Co.), 3, 5, 7, and 15, Sydenham-rd., Sydenham, draper and china and glass merchant. Dated June 19. Filed June 25. Liabilities unsecured, £1,009. Property, after deducting secured claims, £1,656. A meeting of the creditors of this debtor was held on Tuesday, July 14, when a statement of affairs was presented which had been prepared by Beecroft, Sons & Nicholson, of 12, Wood-st., E.C. This showed liabilities amounting to £860 5s. 7d., mostly due to trade creditors. The assets were put down at £2,070 12s. 2d., after allowing £164 7s. 5d. for preferential claims, thus showing a considerable surplus on paper. It was reported that Mr. Roberts purchased the stock, fixtures, lease, &c., at the premises in Sydenham-rd. in July, 1895, taking over the stock there valued at about £1,500, and removing his own stock, worth about £1,335, from Finchley-rd., N.W., where he had previously carried on business. On Feb. 19, 1896, his capital amounted to £4,720, and while he has occupied the premises, it was stated he had spent between £500 and £600 on improvements and alterations. The trading figures presented at the meeting showed that net losses of over £1,500 were incurred since March, 1903. In the result it was decided to accept a composition of 15s. in the £, payable by instalments. All seemed satisfactory to the committee of inspection, consisting of the representatives of the three largest trade creditors. The following are creditors:—Camp & Co., London, £17; — Calver, London, £19; — Dornberger, London, £23; Fore Street Warehouse, Ltd., London, £83; Gent & Son, London, £10; — Greenslade, London, £21; Higgins, Eagle & Co., Ltd., London, £17; Hines, Stroud & Co., Ltd., London, £17; Hind, Beall & Ellis, Ltd., London, £11; Hitchcock, Williams & Co., London, £45; Howell J. & Co., Ltd., London, £45; Dickson Haughton, London, £13; Jonas Lang & Co., London, £16; — Johnson, London, £10; — James, London, £12; Mason & Sons, London, £12; B. Perkins & Sons, London, £11; H. Sherwood & Co., Ltd., London, £21; Tubbs, Hiscocks & Co., Ltd., London, £16; Wisbey & Co., Ltd., London, £30; Wright, Lewis & Co., London, £28; South Suburban Gas Co., London, £46; Montagu, Wileham & Montagu, London, £48; Gillaume & Sons, London, £21; Bovey Pottery Co., Ltd., Bovey Tracey, £15; Hughes & Co., Fenton, £11; J. H. Cope & Co., Longton, £18; Wileman & Co., Longton, £10; C. S. Wardle & Co., Nottingham, £22; — Ault, Swadlincote, £10; — Adams, Tunstall, £14; Two Steeples, Ltd., Wigston, £12; Borough of Lewisham (rates), £23; Miss Reed and others (wages), £19. Secured creditors, £72.

SHINGLER JAS., 108, High-st., Stoke Newington, china and glass merchant. Composition of 10s. in the £, by 4 equal instalments, at 4, 6, 9, and 12 months from July 7, 1908; secured by an assignment upon trust, &c. Dated July 9. Filed, July 14. Liabilities unsecured, £1,447. Property, after deducting secured claims, £816. Tr., H. P. Powell, 2, Charterhouse-st., E.C. A meeting of the creditors of this debtor was held on July 7, when a statement of affairs was presented showing liabilities amounting to £1,207 15s. Of that amount £722 18s. 9d. was due to trade creditors, and the balance of £484 16s. 3d. was in respect of cash claims. In addition, there were fully secured cash creditors for £135 7s. 10d., the security held consisting of a mortgage over the lease, goodwill, &c. After allowing £104 10s. 10d. for preferential claims, the assets were estimated to produce £711 15s. 3d., a deficiency being thus disclosed of £495 19s. 9d. The assets were as follows:—Stock at cost, £755, and good book debts £61 6s. 1d. It was stated that the business was originally carried on by a Mr. Hill, who sold it to the debtor a few years ago. The purchase price of the concern was £1,450, and Mr. Hill held a mortgage over the lease, fixtures, fittings, and goodwill. At the present time the debtor was indebted to Mr. Hill to the extent of £135. The turnover of the business was about £35 a week, and an estimated gross profit of 33 per cent. was made. The debtor's drawings had been about £2 10s. a week. The rent, rates, and taxes were rather heavy, and amounted to something like £200 per annum. He had recently been pressed by certain creditors, and it was said that just previous to the meeting the landlord had levied execution. The money borrowed from the cash creditors had all been used for the purposes of the business. On behalf of the debtor, an offer was made of a composition of 10s. in the £, payable by four equal quarterly instalments. He was unable to find security, but stated that he was willing to execute a deed of assignment. After a short discussion, the offer was accepted, and a committee consisting of the representatives of the three principal creditors was appointed. The following are creditors:—Miss Vincent (c.o., &c.), London, £83; H. P. Powell, London, £125; Miss Clows, London, £91; C. L. Shingler, London, £52; S. P. Shingler, London, £45; Jarrett & Co., London, £29; Gilbert & Co., London, £26; Doultons (c.o., &c.), London, £25; Mayer & Co., London, £14; J. Smith, London, £10; Davison & Son, Burslem, £55; — Doulton, Burslem, £24; Goodwin, Stoddard & Co., Fenton, £25; Bishop & Stonir, Hanley, £16; New Hall Pottery Co., Hanley, £11; Peel Pottery Co., Hanley, £11; Clementson Bros., Hanley, £10; Methuen & Sons, Kirkcaldy, £77; Anchor Pottery Co., Longton, £15; Redfern & Co., Longton, £18; Stubbs Bros., Longton, £12; J. Hill, Maidenhead, £152; P. Vickers & Co., Manchester, £14; — Grimwade, Stoke-on-Trent, £22; Winkle & Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £18; Hancock & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent, £17; Jones & Son, Stoke-on-Trent, £15; Muckley & Co., Stourbridge £15; Mrs. Hassell, Tunstall, £170; Booths, Ltd., Tunstall, £25; H. J. Wood, Tunstall, £16; Webb, Corbett & Co., Tutbury, £13; Worcester Royal Porcelain, Worcester, £22; De Grelle, Houdret & Co., £12.

THORLEY EDWIN THOMAS, trading as A. Machin & Co., Chancery-lane, Longton, and residing at Manor-st., Fenton, china and earthenware decorator and potter. Dated July 9. Filed July 15. Liabilities unsecured, £751. Property, after deducting secured claims, £462. Tr., C. E. Bullock, Hanley. The following are creditors:—R. Emery, Cobridge, £10; L. Davies, Fenton, £13; F. Beardmore & Co., Fenton, £21; Rubian Art Pottery Co., Ltd., Fenton, £66; Wilson & Son, Fenton, £15; Frances Thorley, Fenton, £14; Gray & Co., Hanley, £16; Sandland & Colley, Ltd., Hanley, £20; G. L. Bentley & Co., Longton, £16; W. Boardman, Longton, £10; A. E. Jones & Co., Longton, £11; Stirrup & Pye, Longton, £46; H. Thorley, Longton, £11; Wildblood, Heath & Son, Longton, £18; Young & Co., Longton, £50; — Hodson (Exors. of) (rent), Longton, £15; — Downham (Exors. of, c.o., &c.), Stoke, £29. Bankers' claims, £220.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BENNETTS HERBERT EDGAR (trading as Bennett & Sons), china and glass dealer, 23, York-place, Brighton. This debtor filed his own petition, and the accounts show liabilities amounting to £244 8s. 8d., to meet which there are assets estimated to realise £112 18s. 8d., thus disclosing a deficiency of £131 10s. It appears that the debtor started business for himself at his present premises in Dec., 1906, with a capital of about £350, which he had saved. He states that he expended something like £125 on alterations, &c., to the place. The business, however, has not been a success, and the debtor appears to have been losing money there. The debtor, who states that he became aware about two months back that he could not pay 20s. in the £, ascribes his present position to want of trade. The following are creditors:—J. Brock, London, £32; Sanderson, Young & Co., London, £29; — Holcroft, Longton, £15; Pountney & Co., Bristol, £13; Anchor Porcelain Co., Longton, £15; Gilson & Co., Burslem, £10; Lazerous & Rosenfeld, London, £13; preferential creditors, £28.

HOLLAND WILLIAM THOMAS (trading as H. Holland), glass and china merchant, 59, Kingston-rd., Buckland, Portsmouth. The public examination of this debtor was held on June 29 at the Court House, St. Thomas-st., Portsmouth, before Mr. Registrar Renny. The deficiency of £232 odd was ascribed to turnover being insufficient. The debtor stated that he was formerly in the Royal Navy

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and when he left the service he had £100, with which he started as a glass and china merchant in Kingston-rd. He had, however, done very little business, and had been losing from the commencement. Debtor, in answer to the Official Receiver, admitted that he had made things look very rosy to his creditors when he obtained goods from them. Ultimately the case was closed.

Nowell Benjamin (trading as A. E. Nowell), 4, Saint Luke's-rd., Beeston Hill, Leeds, glass and china dealer, &c. The public examination of this debtor was held on Tuesday, July 14, before Mr. Registrar Cautherley, sitting at the County Court House, Albion-place, Leeds, when the debtor was eventually allowed to pass.

Pearson Henry (trading as H. Pearson & Co.), glass manufacturer, Round Oak, Stafford. The debtor again attended the Court House, Stourbridge, on July 9 for his public examination before the Registrar, Mr. Collis. Debtor said he had filed the cash account covering the last twelve months as he had been ordered at the last examination. During that period he had drawn £791, and he had drawn £5 a week for household expenses; he had also paid into the business sums from his private account amounting to about £213. Debtor admitted that some of the cheques he drew from the business went towards betting debts. He had not lost money through betting during the last year, and the £213 represented money he had won. Ultimately debtor was allowed to pass.

Reynolds William, china dealer, 3 and 4, Cornmarket, Thame, Oxford, late 19, Tavistock-st., Bedford. The first meeting of the creditors in this case was to have been held recently at the Official Receiver's offices, 1, St. Aldate-st., Oxford, but no creditors attended, and, no resolutions being passed, the estate remains with the Official Receiver, who accordingly acts as trustee. The public examination of the debtor was held on July 13 at County Hall, Aylesbury, before Mr. Registrar Wilkins. Replying to the Official Receiver (Mr. G. Mallom), the debtor stated that his liabilities expected to rank for dividend amounted to £254 19s. 2d., while the assets were estimated to produce £124 10s. 1d. He was originally a draper's assistant, and started in business for himself, about forty years ago, at Fulham-rd., London, with a capital of £240. The venture was not a success, and he called his creditors together, paying them a composition of 9s. 6d. in the £ on liabilities totalling £1,800. In 1893 he started to trade as a china dealer at Leicester. Afterwards he went to Swindon, and then to Bedford. He tried to work up business at various places in order to sell them. When he went to Thame, his liabilities amounted to about £150, and he could not sell the business at Bedford, as it was worked out. He removed two and a half tons of stock from Bedford to Thame, the value of which would be about £50 or £60. Thame had been rather a difficult place to trade in, and he had not taken stock since his arrival there in November, 1906. The examination was adjourned generally.

Standen Leonard, china dealer, 30, Mill-st., late 11, Burnley-rd., Padiham, Lancs. In this case the liabilities are stated at £779 10s. 5d., and the assets are estimated at £17 13s. 6d. The following are creditors:—Barker & Kent, Fenton, £22; Barker Bros., Fenton, £17; — Barker, Chesterfield, £19; I. Brooks, Burnley, £85; C. J. Dams, London, £13; I. W. Coe, Padiham, £10; Halme & Sons, Burslem, £16; S. Hancock & Son, Stoke-on-Trent, £24; W. Hudson, Longton, £14; T. Greenwood, Padiham, £28; Dr Jones, Padiham, £31; King & Barrett, Burslem, £12.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

Bottle Neck Moulding Tool, No. 13,808.—J. H. Simcox, O. C. Cooper, and C. Simcox. Tool for moulding upper part of bottle necks. June 30, 1908

Bottles, No. 12,994.—C. E. Challis. Improvements in and relating to bottles and the like. June 17, 1908.

Ceramic Prints, No. 13,830.—F. Fuchs. Improvements in or pertaining to the production of ceramic prints. June 30, 1908.

China Clay Preparation, No. 13,179.—A. G. Salamon and The Exploration Co., Ltd. Improvements in the preparation of china clay. June 20, 1908.

Chimney Pot, No. 13,372.—F. Gierke. Improved chimney pot. June 23, 1908.

Clay Kneading Apparatus, No. 13,114.—Curt von Michalkowski. Improvements in or relating to kneading and feeding apparatus for clay and other materials. June 19, 1908.

Drawing Hollow Glass Bodies, No. 13,056.—O. Imray (The Window Glass Machine Co., United States). Improvements in drawing hollow-glass bodies. June 18, 1908.

Globe, No. 13,321.—J. Wale. New or improved artificial light globe or chimney. June 23, 1908.

Inkstand, No. 13,282.—J. F. Dobias.—Self-filling inkstand. June 22, 1908.

Lavatory Basins, No. 12,917.—E. H. Cutforth. Improvements in the manufacture of lavatory basins, baths, sinks, and the like. June 17, 1908.

Lavatory Basins, No. 13,398.—C. Haythorn. Improvements in and relating to lavatory basins. June 24, 1908.

Porcelain Ware Machines, No. 12,794.—The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd. (General Electric Co., United States). Improvements in and relating to machines for forming porcelain ware. June 17, 1908.

Tea Pots, No. 13,815.—J. Dadler & Sons, Ltd., and E. Sadler. New or improved construction of teapots. June 30, 1908.

Toilet Ware, No. 14,038.—H. Wilkins. Improvements in or relating to articles of toilet ware, hand mirrors, brushes receptacles, and the like. July 2, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

13,087.—Yarrow. Machine or apparatus for the manufacture of earthenware pipes of mains and the like.
16,690.—Humphrey. Firing of pottery ovens, kilns, or furnaces.
22,590.—Boston. Safety cover for bottles containing poison, to prevent accidental poisoning.
15,400.—Morris. Chamber pots.
22,193.—Lake (Erste Deutsche Blumentopfwerke Ges.). Drying earthenware and the like.
22,546.—Bartholomew. Lavatories, baths, sinks, washtubs, and the like.
27,626.—Bohn. Machines for cleaning and sorting clay and the like.

1908.

3,281.—Kendrick. Bottles.
3,857.—Beresford. Lavatory basins for railway and like liquids.
6,052.—Challis. Glass advertisements tablets and the like.
9,563.—Bloxam (Siemens & Halske Akt.-Ges.). Manufacture of glass.
1,531.—Slingluff. Drawing and blowing glass.
7,873.—Raine. Feeding bottles.

Designs.

The following is a list of proprietors of designs entered on the Register in Class 4, which includes "articles composed wholly or chiefly of glass, earthenware, or porcelain, bricks, tiles, or cement."

523,738.—Johnson Bros. (Hanley), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
524,076.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent,
523,739.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
523,999.—Sibray Hall & Co., Ltd., St. Mary's-rd., Sheffield.
524,118.—R. H. McFerran, 12, Tara-st., Dublin.
524,119.—Clyde Pottery Co., Mayer-st., Hanley.
524,120.—T. Poole, Cobden Works, Longton.
524,189.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
524,528.—J. Fullerton, 8, Lochleven-rd., Langside, Glasgow.
524,561.—Warrick Bros., Ltd., 6, Nile-st., City-road, N.
524,968.—Furnivals, Ltd., Cobridge.
524,039.—T. G. Green & Co., Ltd., Church Gresley.
4,257.—R. Parry, Westcote, Hoole, Cheshire.
524,371.—J. Lane, 19, Caddesby-rd., King's Heath.
524,786.—Wiltshaw, Robinson & Son, Stoke-on-Trent.
524,942.—Empire Porcelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent.
524,977-8.—Ehrich & Graetz, 92-93, Elsenstrasse, Berlin. Address for service, Jensen & Son, 77, Chancery-lane, W.C.
525,023.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.
524,024.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.
525,025.—Mrs. G. L. Matthews, London House, Hambledon.
525,039.—Provincial Incandescent Fittings Co., Ltd., 48-50, Thomas-st., Shudehill, Manchester.
525,206.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
525,207.—J. H. Tucker, King's-rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham.
524,038.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead
524,355.—United States Glass Co., 55, Farringdon-st., E.C.
524,800.—F. Hamlett, Cotswold Works, Barking-rd., Plaistow, E.
524,910.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
524,969.—J. Tams & Sons, Stafford-st., Longton.
525,250.—M. Howlett & Co., 23, Warstone-lane, Birmingham.
525,251-2.—Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Eastwood, Hanley.
525,265.—Empire Porcelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent.
525,444.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.

Latest Complete Specifications.

Improvements in the Knives of Clay-Mixing Machines.—J. D. McCabe, 91, Niddry Cottages, Winchburgh, West Lothian, N.B., declares this invention to be as follows:—The knife is cast in two parts (No. 1), part is made in cast steel and annealed (No. 2) part cast steel only. The parts can be fastened together in three different ways, namely

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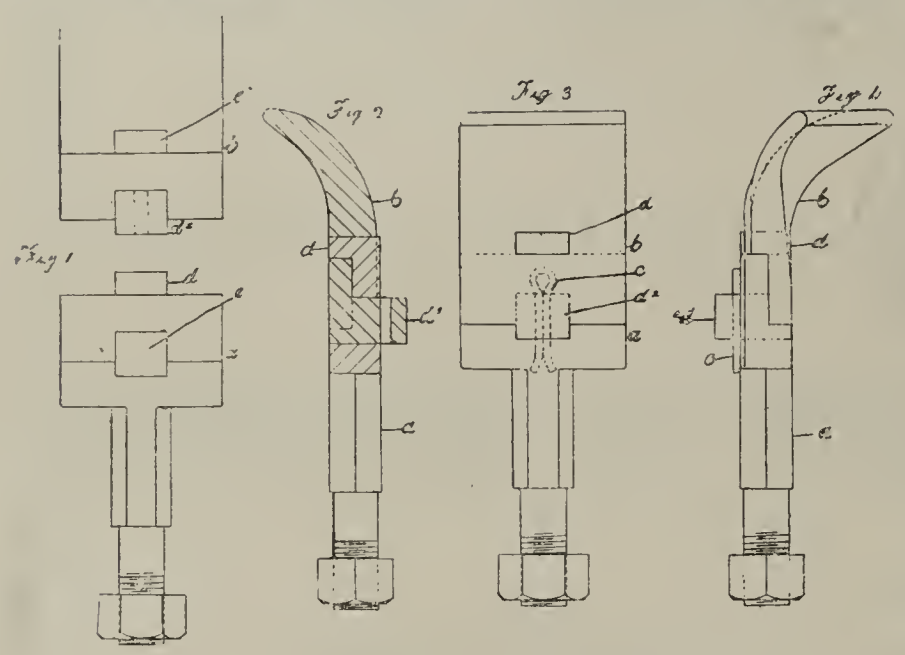
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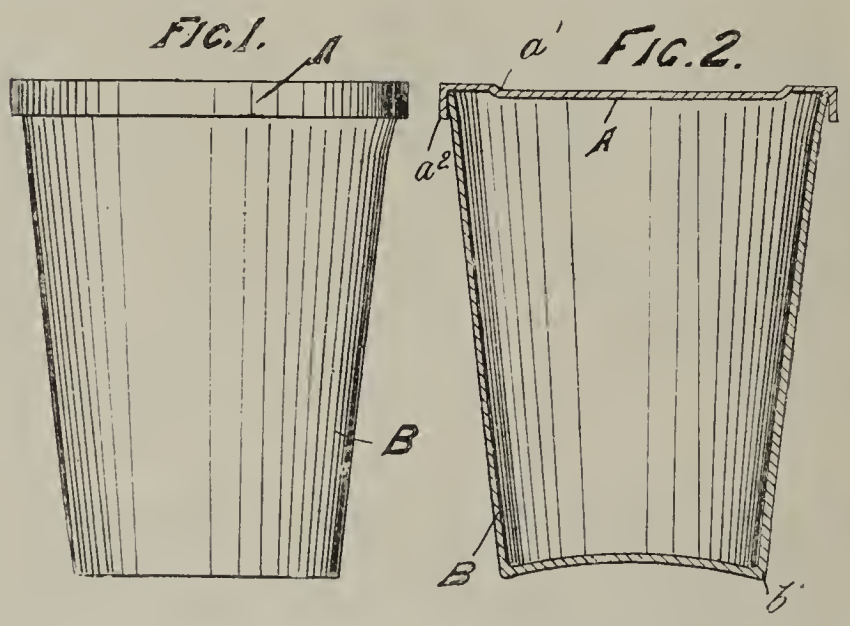
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(1) clutched and fastened with a split pin; (2) clutched and bolted through the centre; (3) screwed clutch and nut. The advantages of the knife are (1) double the wearing



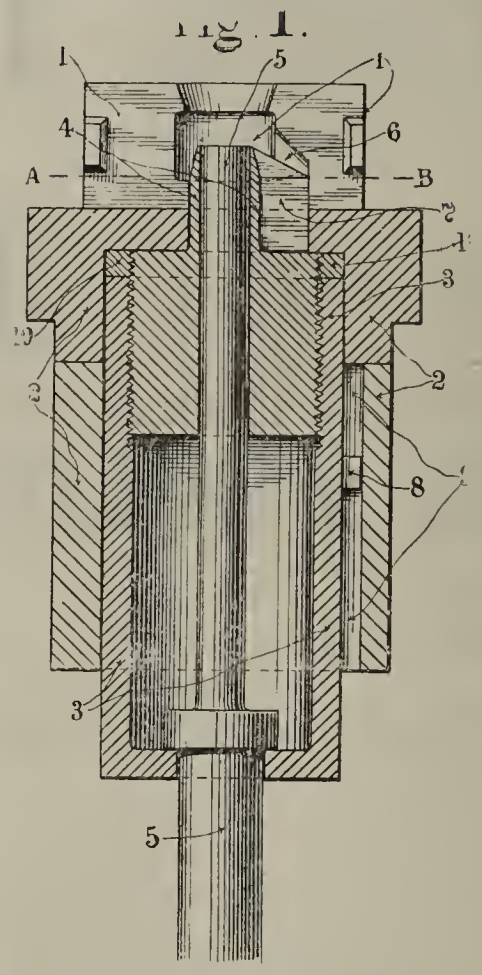
capacity can be had out of it compared with those at present in use; (2) it is easy to remove the worn point and replace it.

Covers for Milk Tumblers, &c.—H. J. Aynsley and W. Illingworth, Atlas Works, Longton, declare this invention to be as follows:—Milk horns or milk tumblers in use at the present time have no covers supplied with them, the result being that the milk, after being in the tumblers a very short time, becomes covered with dust and very often with flies or other insects, which is very objectionable to the consumers of the milk, and also causes a great loss to the vendors. At the same time, the coverless milk horn or milk tumbler takes up more than double the room of the milk tumbler that is covered by our special cover. Now, according to our invention, we make or form the cover to the milk horn or tumbler to fit top of same. We also provide on top part of cover a recess so that

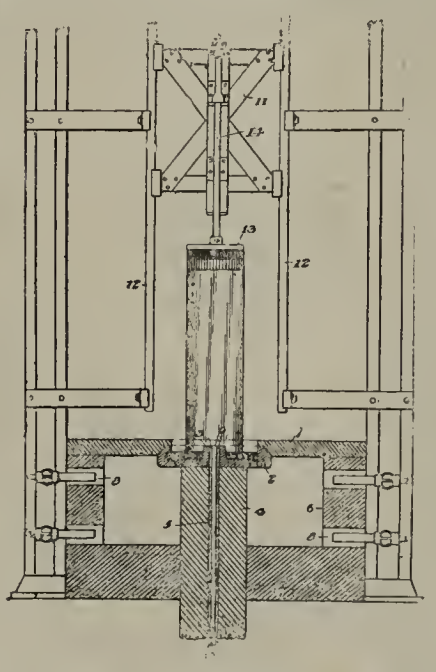


the bottom part of horn or tumbler fits in the said recess. This is for the purpose of stacking the horns or tumblers when covered upon each other, and the cover can be taken off and used as a stand for the horn or tumbler, or can be used for small articles of foods such as buns, cakes, biscuits, &c. It will be obvious that by the use of the covered horns or tumblers the milk will be kept sweeter and cleaner, and also that the purveyor of milk in horns or tumblers will gain a great advantage with our invention by being able to stack the horns or tumblers upon each other either when full or empty, thereby saving more than half the room now occupied by the old method.

Improvements in or Connected with Machines for Manufacturing Glass Bottles.—T. W. Simpson, of Whitwood House, Castleford, and J. H. Kaye, of "Norwood," Edgerton, Huddersfield, claim:—In machines for manufacturing glass bottles, having a divided neck mould, a nipple, and a plunger to act on the parison; the means whereby the necks of the bottles produced are formed with a spout, consisting in forming the neck mould with an internal recess of a shape and size corresponding to that of the exterior configuration of the spout to be produced, and providing the nipple with an exterior projection or lug of a shape and size corresponding to that of the interior configuration of the spout to be produced. In machines for manufacturing glass bottles, means whereby the necks of the bottles produced are formed with a spout, substantially as described.



Improved Method of Drawing Hollow Glass Articles.—O. Imray, Birkbeck Bank-chambers, Southampton-buildings, E.C., on behalf of the Window Glass Machine Co., Larmer's Bank-building, Pittsburg, Pennyslvania, U.S.A., claims (1) The method of forming hollow glass articles without the use of any shaping surface, which consists in drawing a hollow article upwardly therefrom by a suitable bait under substantially atmospheric pressure on the interior, and regulating the size of the article by heat-regulation of the glass in the bath. (2) In the method of forming hollow glass articles according to Claim 1, supplying heated air or gases to the interior of the article during drawing. (3) In the method of forming hollow glass articles according to Claim 1, directing a flame into the interior of the article during drawing, substantially as described.



Pottery in Oregon.—A British Consular report just received from Portland (Oregon) states that it is gratifying to note that British manufacturers are holding and increasing their trade both in decorated and undecorated earthenware. The statistics show that of £5,035 worth of plain earthenware and china, £4,882 worth was supplied from the United Kingdom. Of decorated ware the United Kingdom supplied goods to the value of £7,071 out of a total of £22,953; Germany came second with £4,648. Japan is credited with £10,419, besides £2,065 under "Porcelain."

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The following are the EXPORTS of CHINA, EARTHENWARE, &c. (Foreign and Colonial Manufacture) to the various countries during the last three years.

	Value.		
	1905.	1906.	1907.
CHINAWARE, PORCELAIN, and EARTHENWARE:			
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian:	£	£	£
To United States of America	58,693	73,739	83,181
,, Other Foreign Countries	6,771	4,072	6,556
Total to Foreign Countries	65,464	77,811	89,737
To Cape of Good Hope	505	384	357
,, British India	1,576	775	980
,, Canada	12,537	4,942	173
,, Other British Possessions	2,391	1,716	1,421
Total to British Possessions	17,009	7,817	2,931
Total	82,473	85,628	92,668
Earthenware (including Semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Hearth and Wall Tiles):	£	£	£
To Germany	550	1,098	332
,, United States of America	17,839	3,936	15,569
,, Other Foreign Countries	4,211	3,926	5,794
Total to Foreign Countries	22,600	8,960	21,695

CHINAWARE, &c.—*continued.*	Value.		
Earthenware (including Semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Hearth and Wall Tiles):	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£
To Cape of Good Hope	1,242	938	776
,, British India	1,801	1,431	1,955
,, Canada	12,456	2,709	1,953
,, Other British Possessions	3,187	3,511	4,384
Total to British Possessions	18,686	8,589	9,068
Total	41,286	17,549	30,763
Jet, Rockingham, and Glazed Terra-Cotta Ware:	£	£	£
Total to Foreign Countries	142	75	44
Total to British Possessions	13	99	28
Total	155	174	72
Red Pottery, Stoneware, Brown and Yellow Ware:	£	£	£
Total to Foreign Countries	132	197	66
Total to British Possessions	10	858	110
Total	142	1,055	176
Other Sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings, and Chemical Ware):	£	£	£
Total to Foreign Countries	223	320	214
Total to British Possessions	264	80	38
Total	487	400	252

The following are the EXPORTS of GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Manufacture) to the various countries during the last three years.

	Value.		
	1905.	1906.	1907.
GLASS:			
Window and German Sheet, including Shades and Cylinders:	£	£	£
To Foreign Countries	2,408	1,947	917
,, Channel Islands	673	1,073	787
,, Australia:			
Queensland	916	—	116
Other Colonies	19	1,598	254
,, New Zealand	217	1,942	434
,, Canada	276	472	335
,, Other British Possessions	1,615	590	833
Total to British Possessions	3,716	5,675	2,759
Total	6,124	7,622	3,676
Plate:	£	£	£
To Foreign Countries	5,159	4,281	4,763
,, New Zealand	—	40	8
,, Other British Possessions	749	461	252
Total to British Possessions	749	501	260
Total	5,908	4,782	5,023
Flint, Plain, Cut, or Ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass:	£	£	£
To United States of America	91,892	14,339	6,293
,, Other Foreign Countries	3,081	4,907	3,620
Total to Foreign Countries	94,973	19,246	9,913
To Cape of Good Hope	248	308	303
,, Natal	530	285	444
,, Australia	240	396	292
,, Canada	14,788	6,830	975
,, Other British Possessions	3,808	4,009	4,313
Total to British Possessions	19,614	11,828	6,327
Total	114,587	31,074	16,240

GLASS—*continued.*	Value,		
Bottles:	1905.	1906.	190 .
	£	£	£
To Denmark (including Faroe Islands)	2,729	3,004	2,483
,, Germany	546	1,131	1,530
,, France	853	6,063	16,025
,, Other Foreign Countries	2,704	2,919	2,674
Total to Foreign Countries	6,832	13,117	22,712
To Australia	1,676	742	474
,, New Zealand	919	699	1,154
,, Canada	459	334	3,538
,, Other British Possessions	2,341	3,237	5,272
Total to British Possessions	5,395	5,012	10,438
Total	12,227	18,129	33,150
Manufactures, other sorts:	£	£	£
To Germany	613	626	970
,, France	634	556	318
,, United States of America	8,914	1,036	2,566
,, Other Foreign Countries	4,004	3,930	3,288
Total to Foreign Countries	14,165	6,148	7,142
To Cape of Good Hope	1,319	1,747	1,878
,, Natal	873	592	925
,, British India	1,816	1,343	1,673
,, Australia	1,874	1,551	2,192
,, New Zealand	1,034	1,097	1,221
,, British West India Islands	734	601	836
,, Other British Possessions	3,778	3,973	3,268
Total to British Possessions	11,428	10,904	11,993
Total	25,593	17,052	19,135

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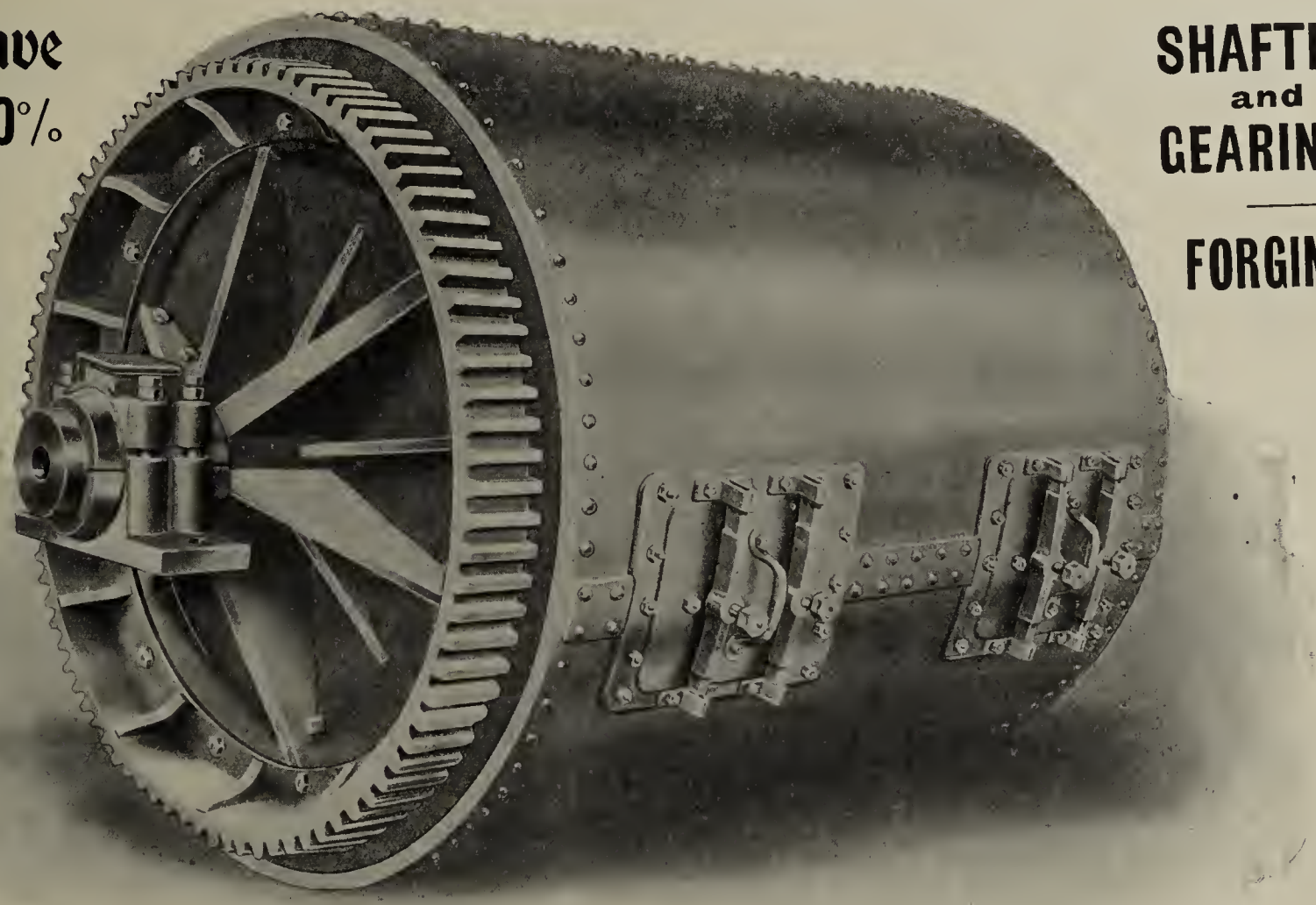
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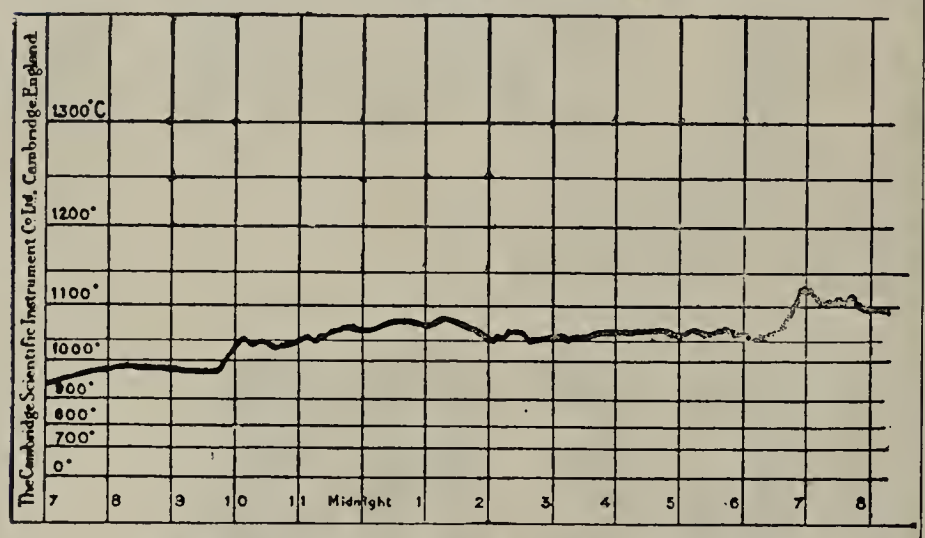
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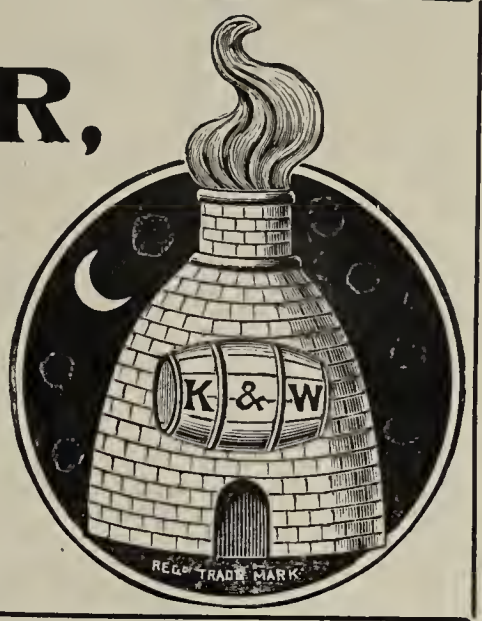
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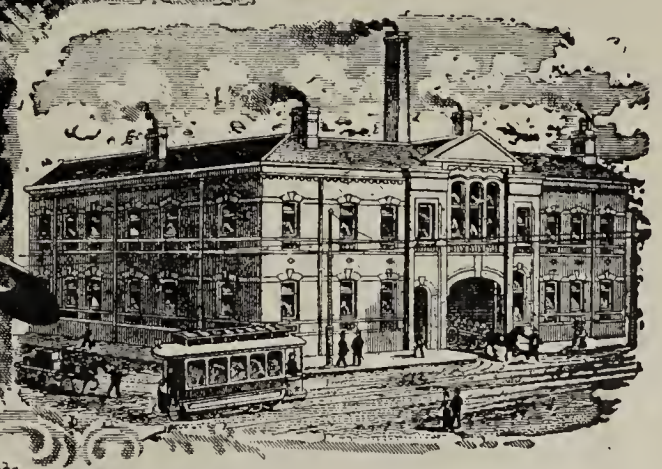
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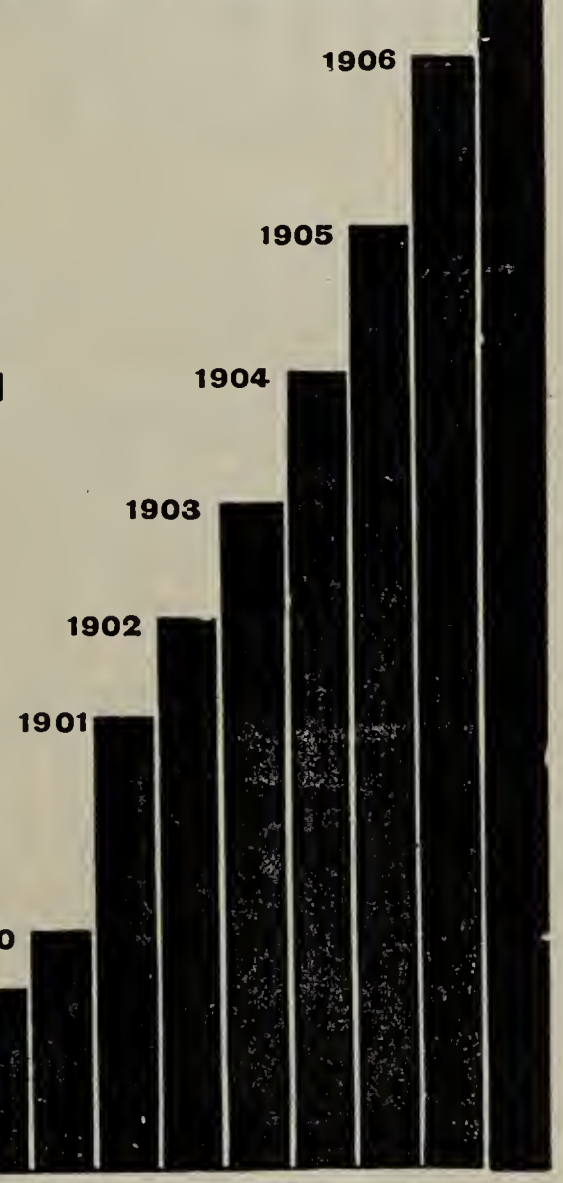
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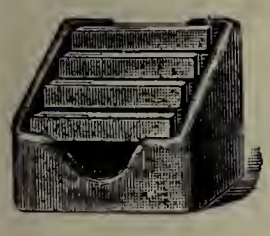
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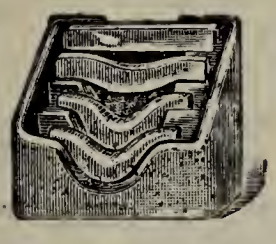
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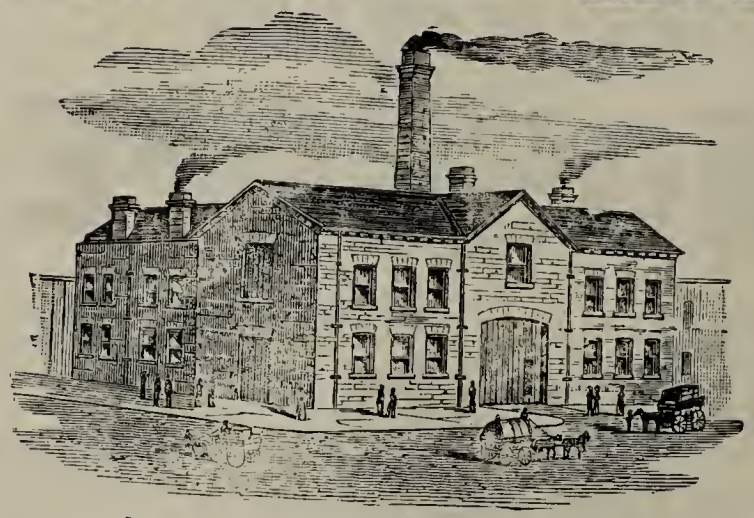
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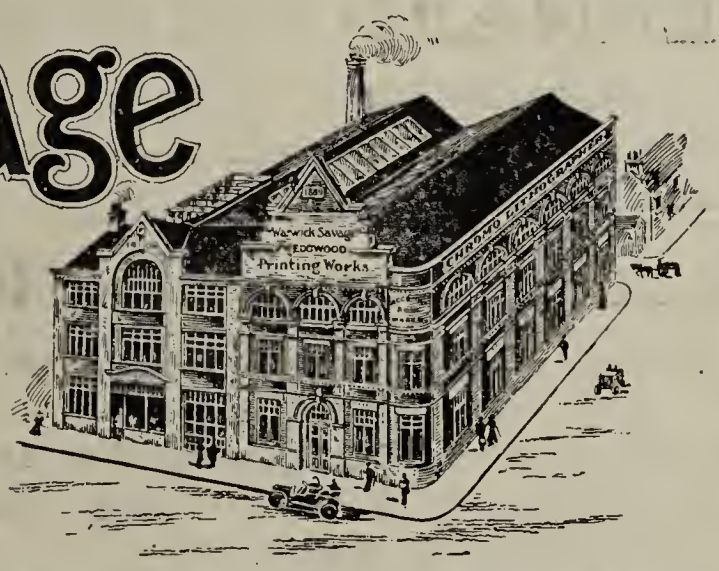
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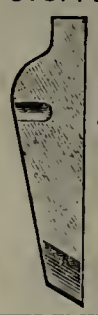
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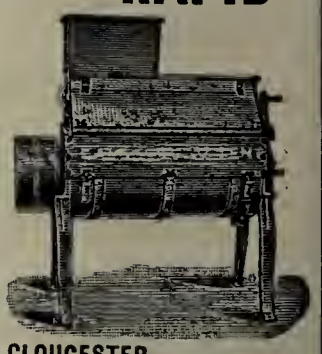
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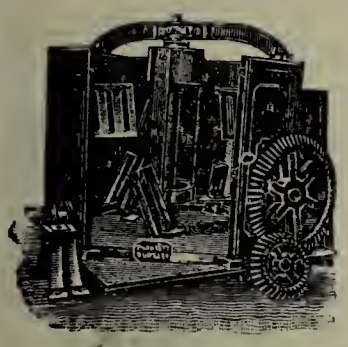
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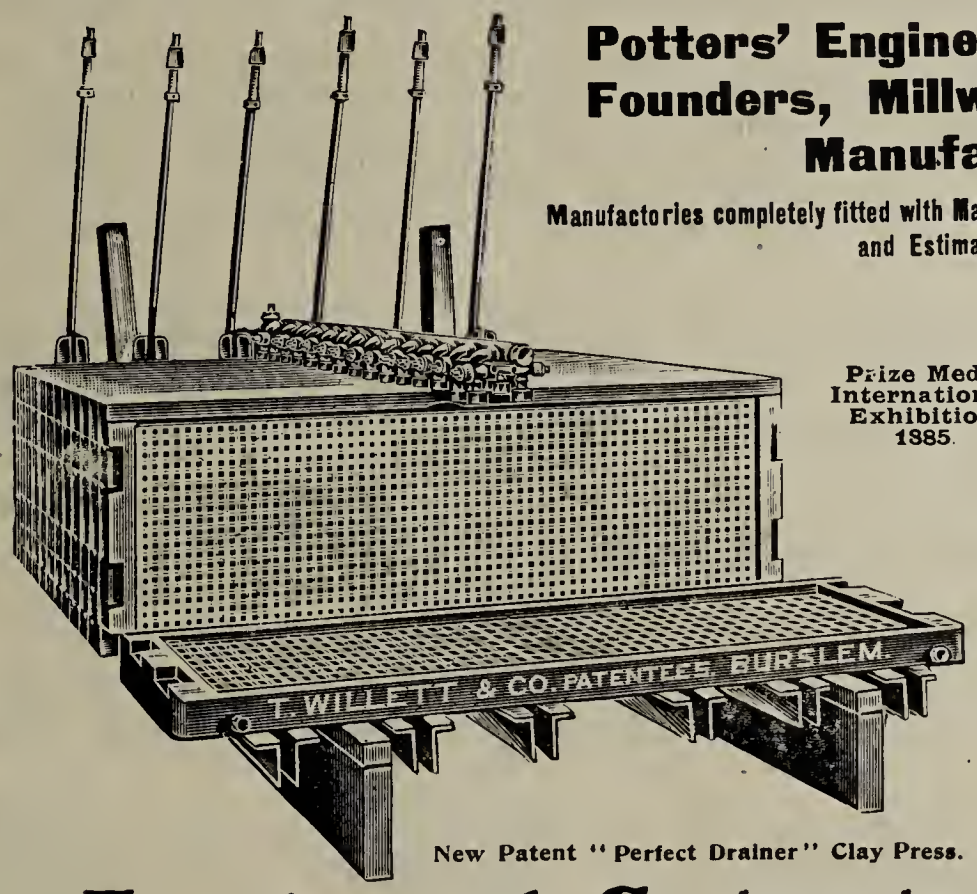
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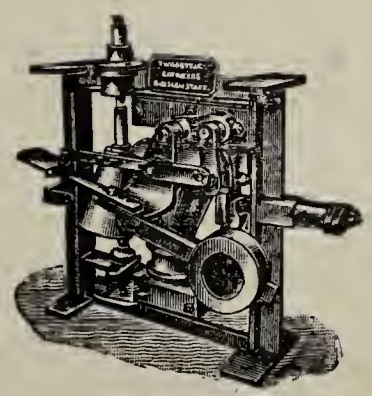


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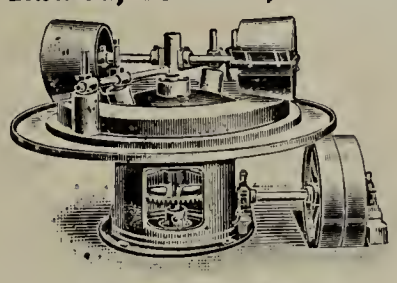
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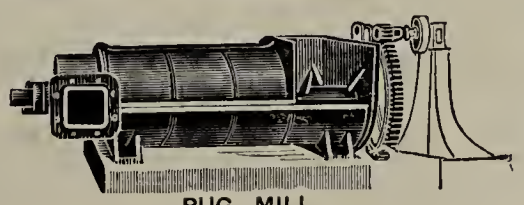
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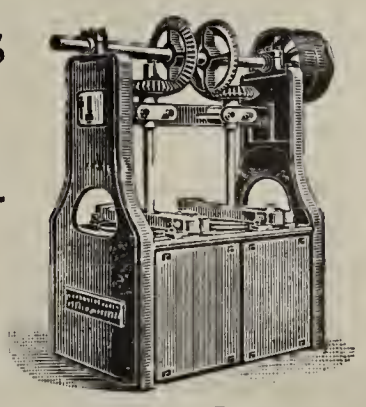
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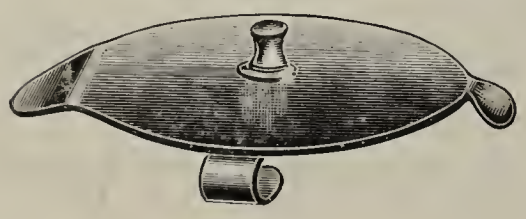
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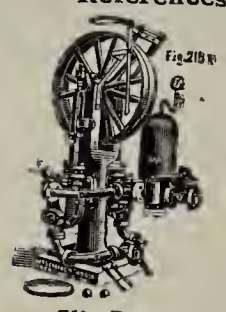
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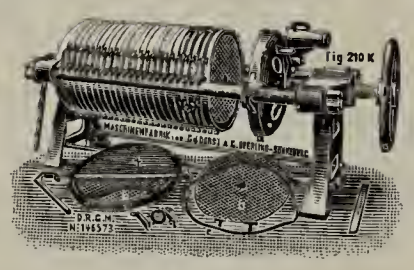
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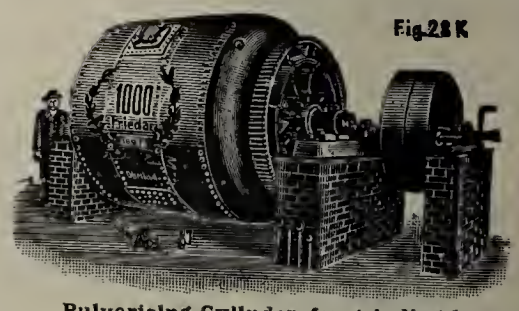
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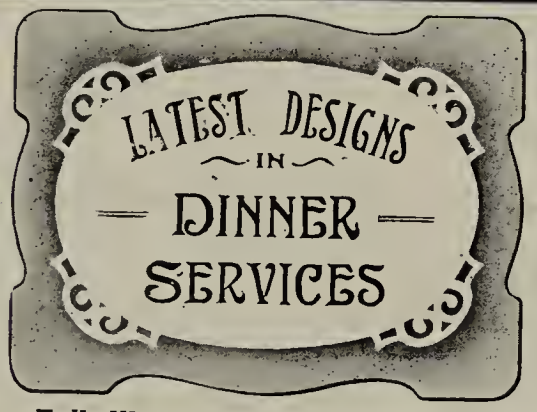
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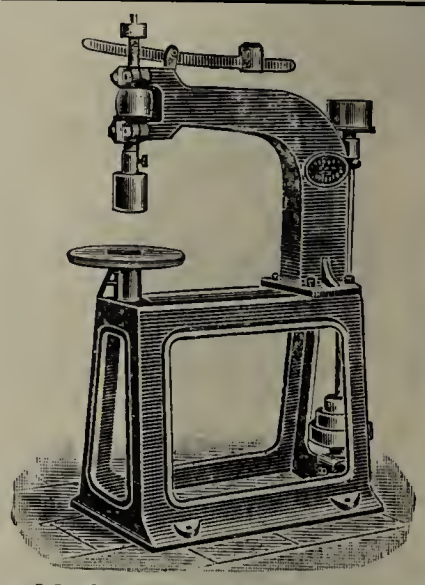
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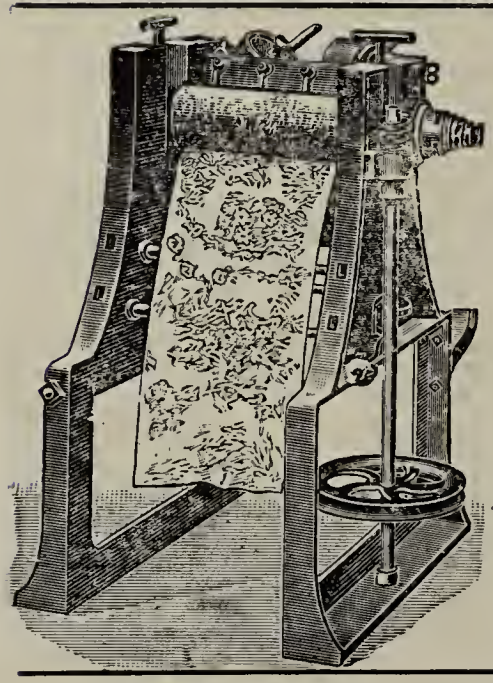
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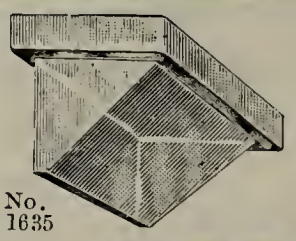
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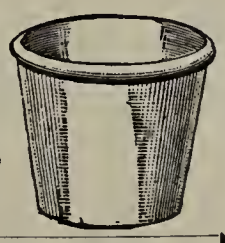
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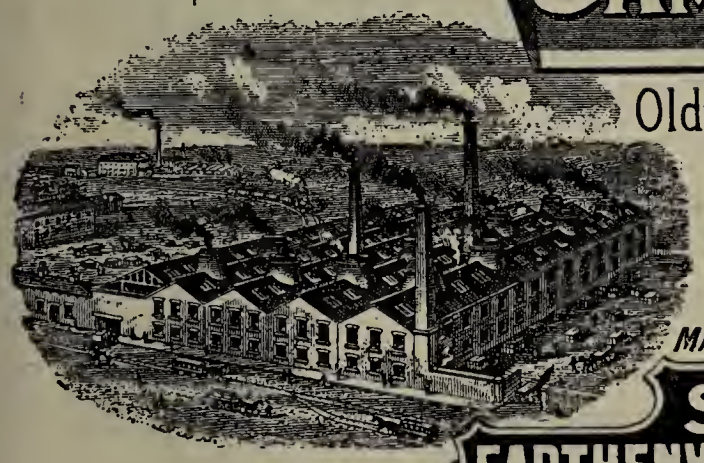
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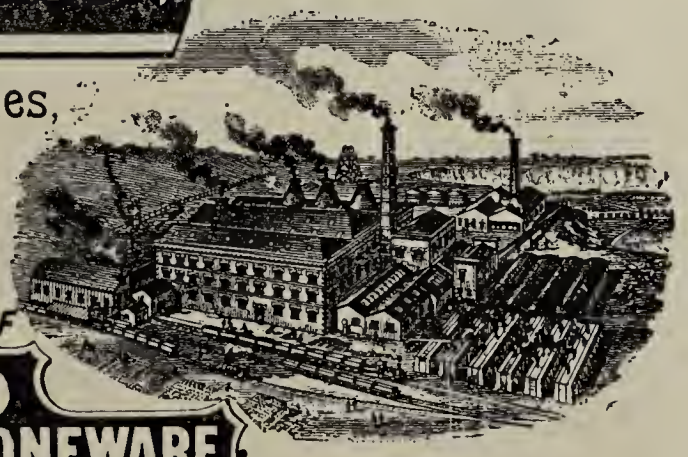
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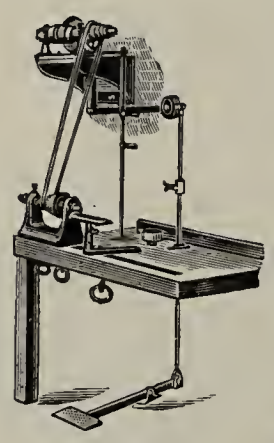
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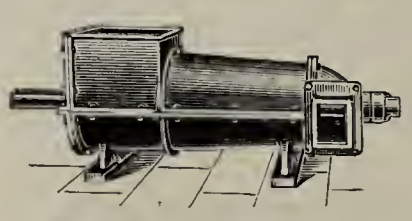


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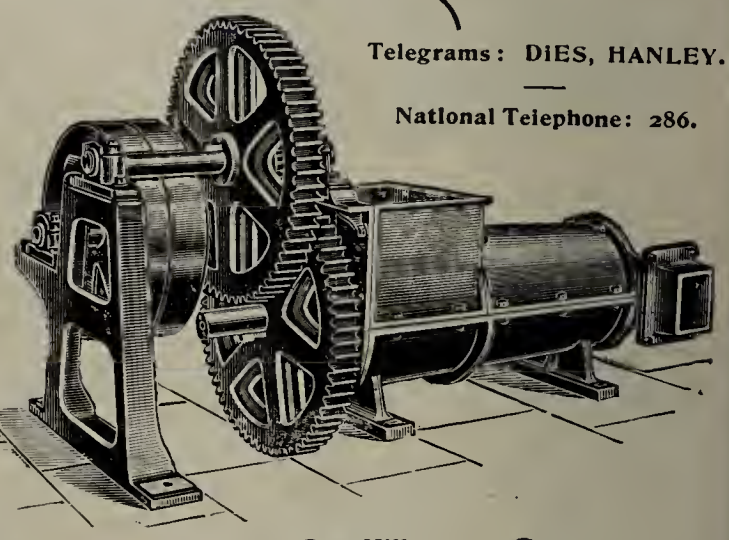
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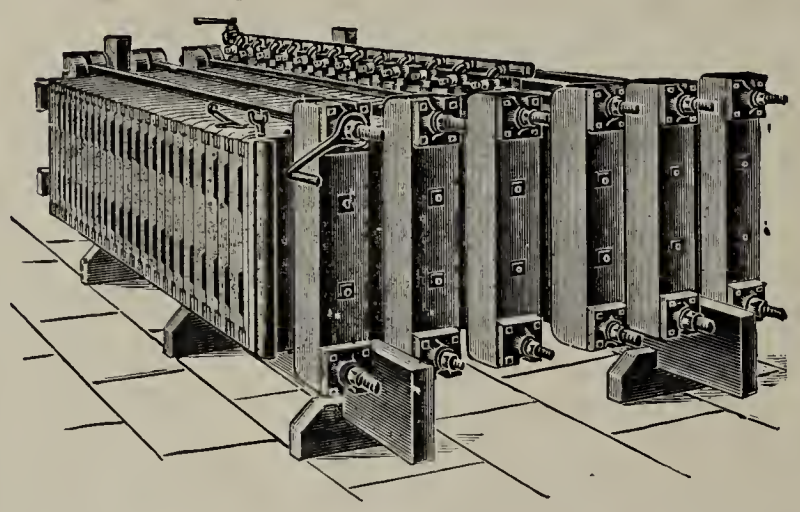
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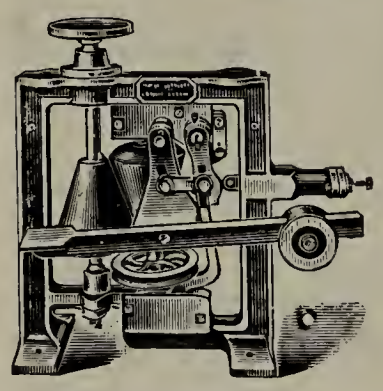
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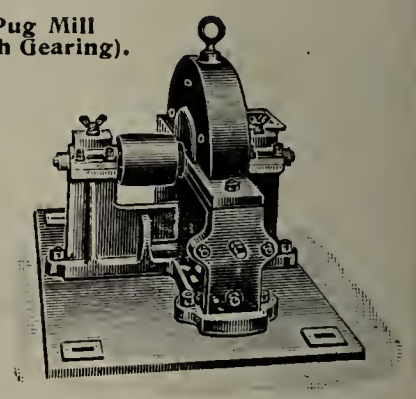
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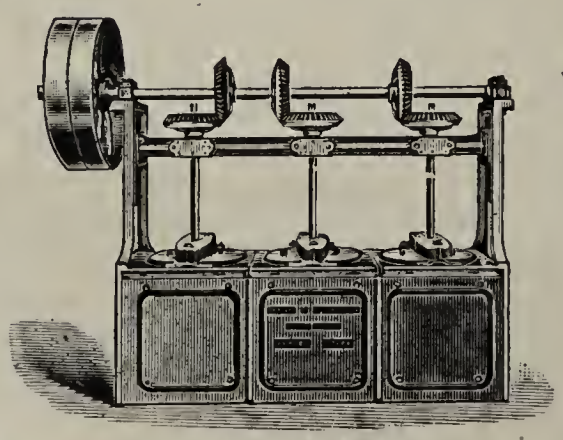
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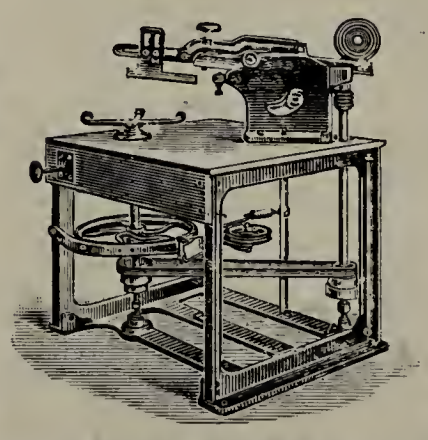
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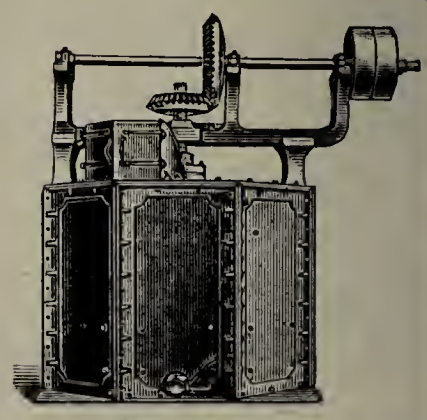
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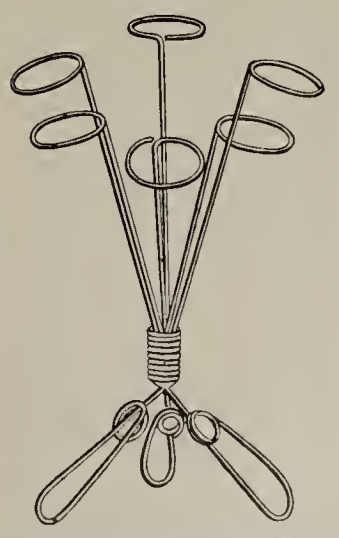
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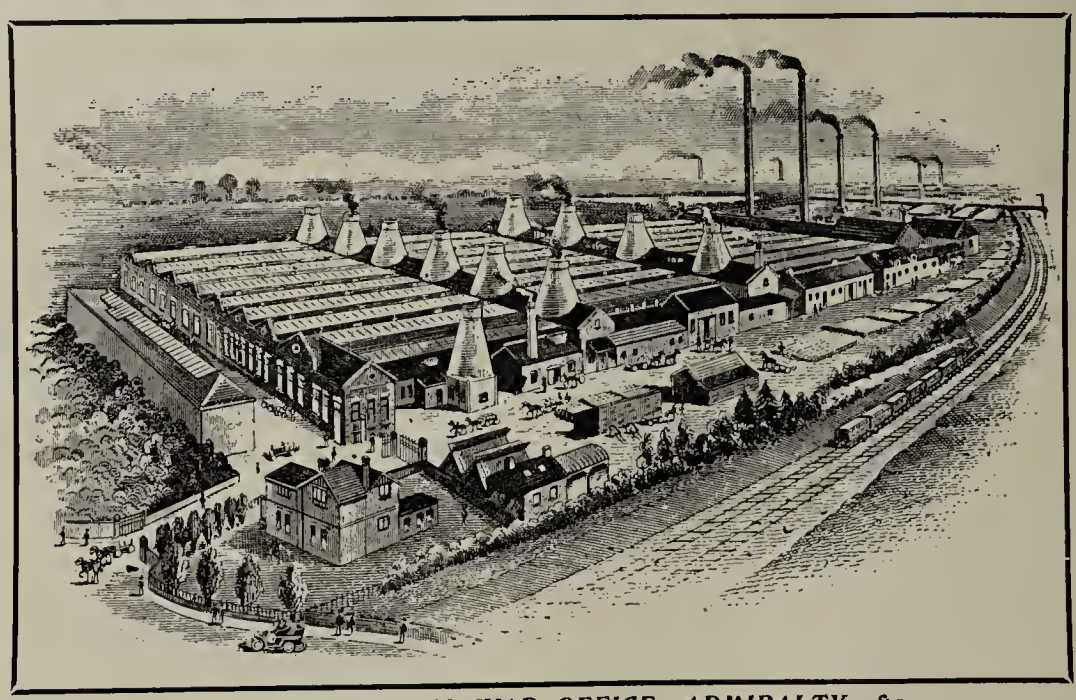
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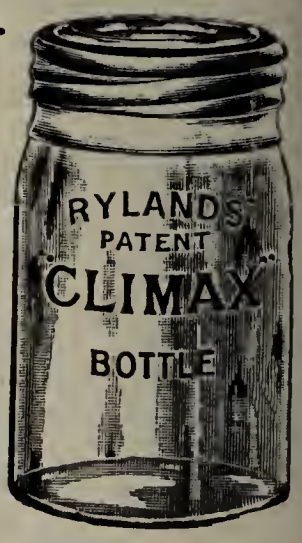
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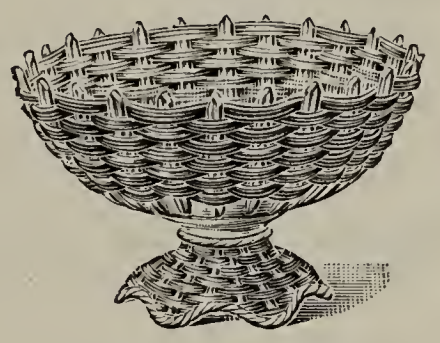
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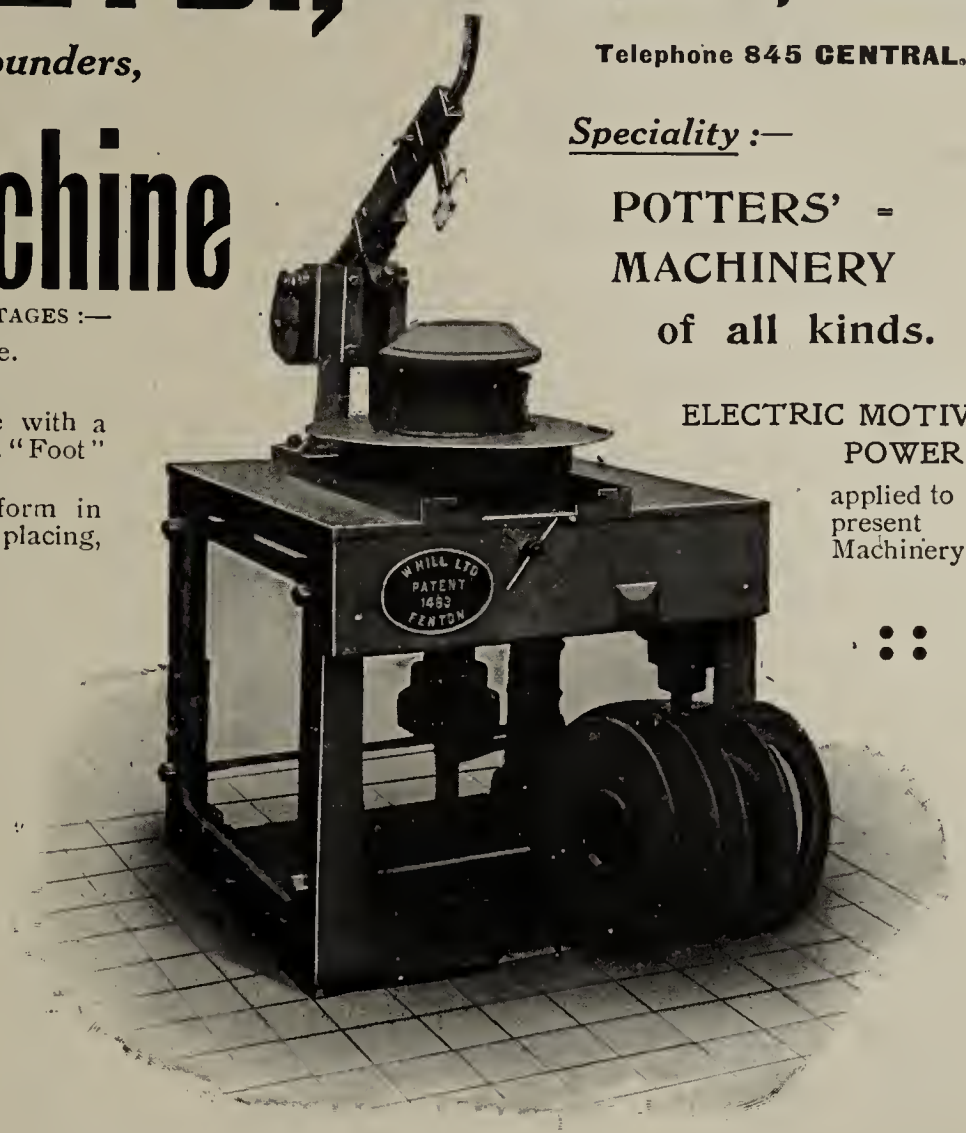
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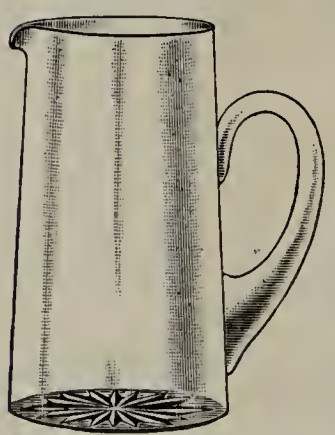
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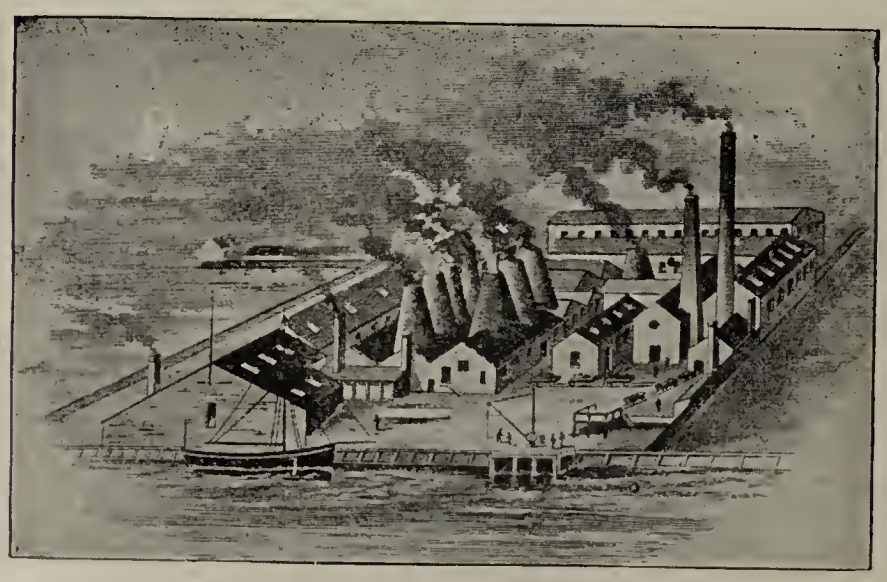


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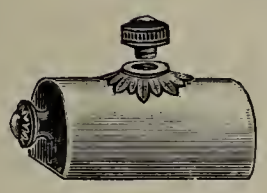
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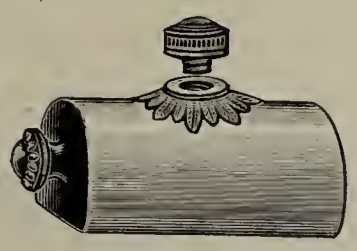
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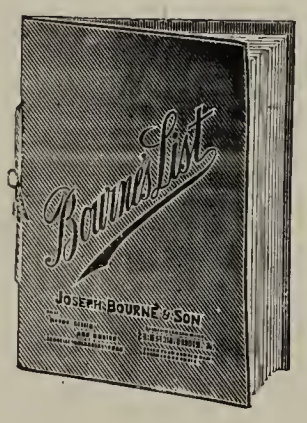
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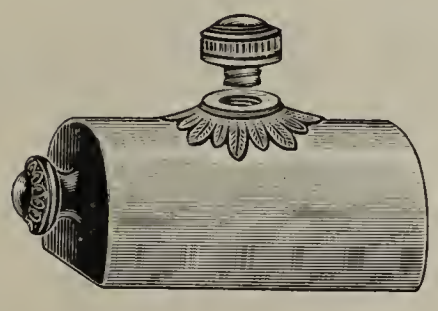
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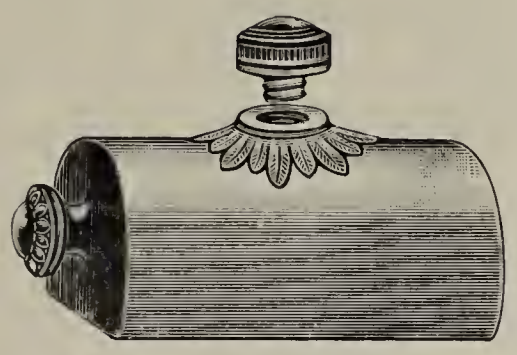
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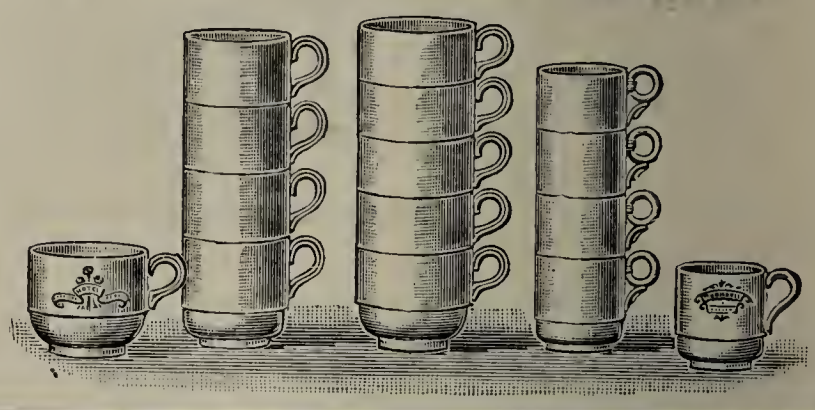
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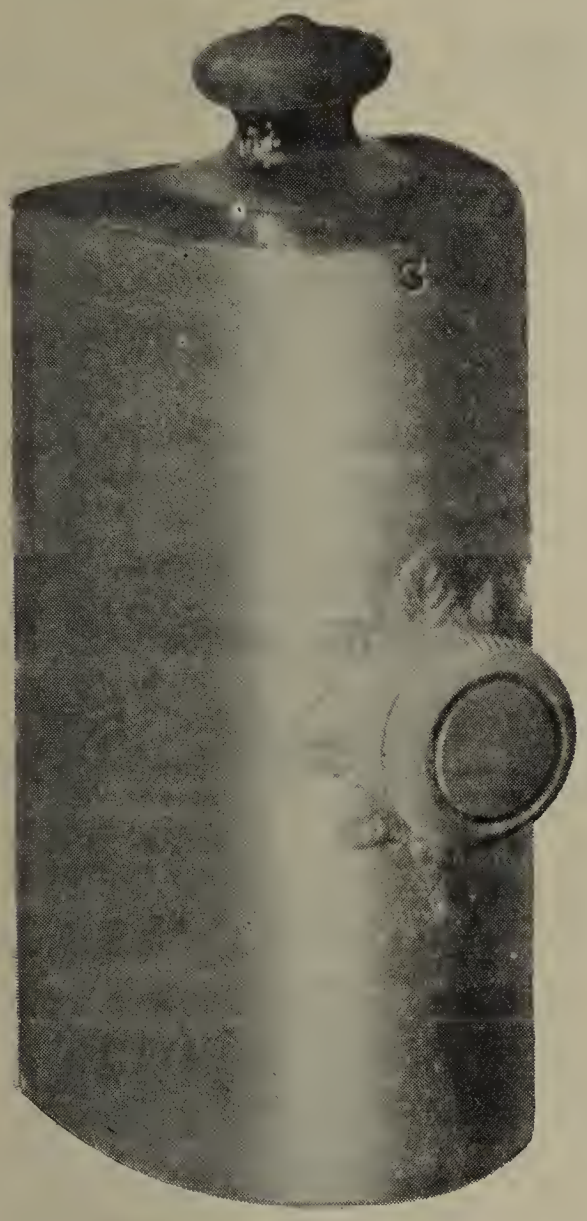


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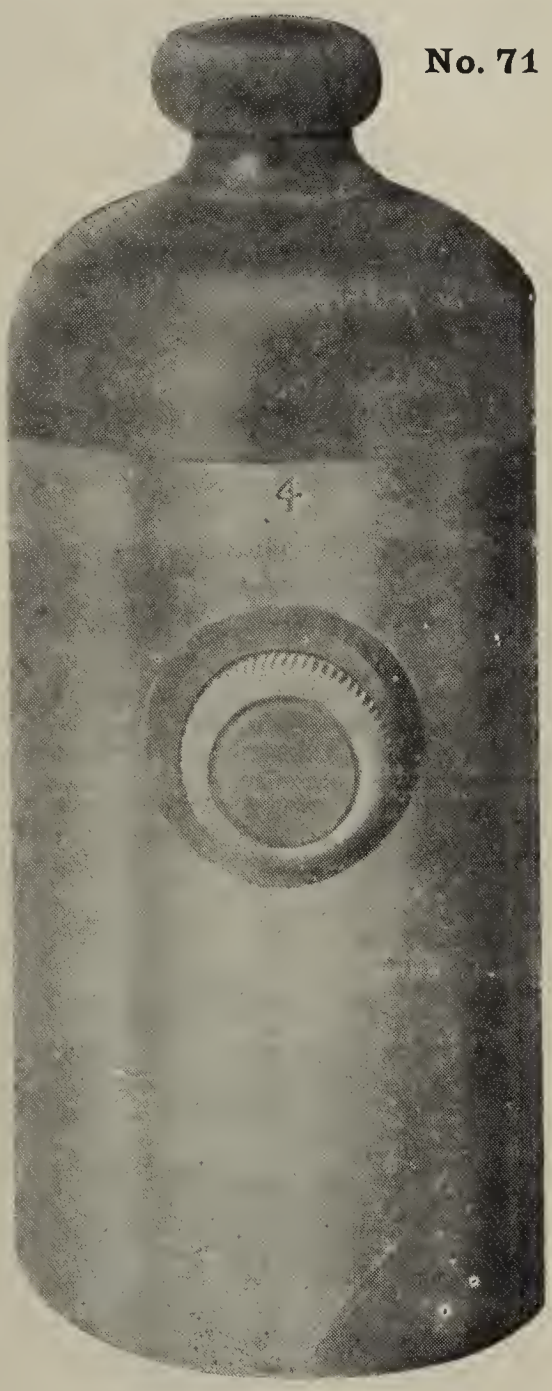
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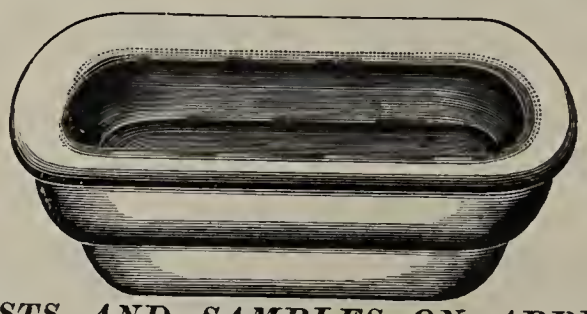
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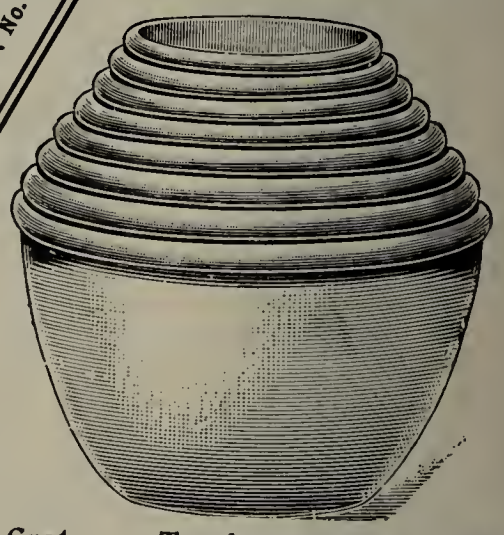
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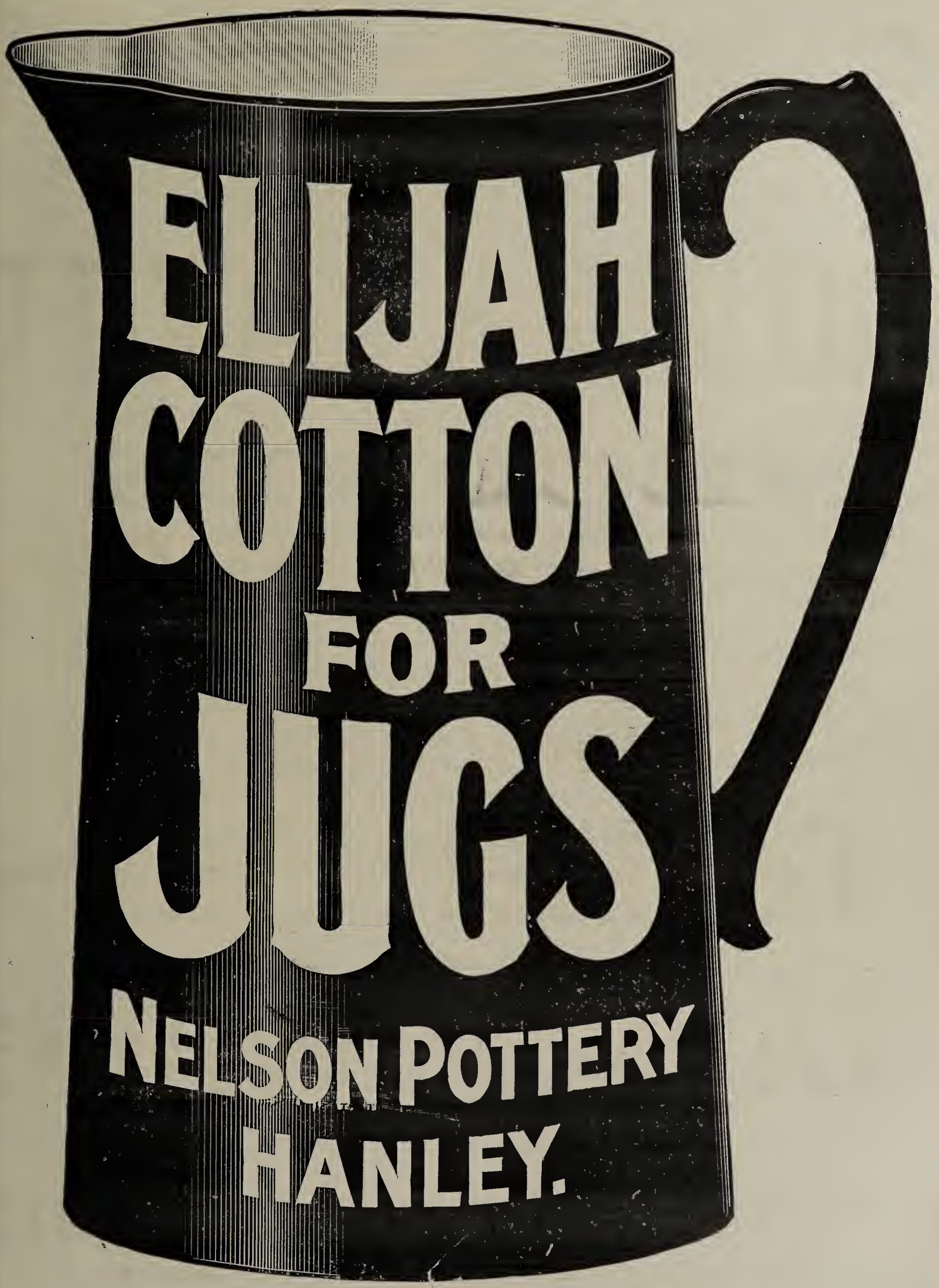
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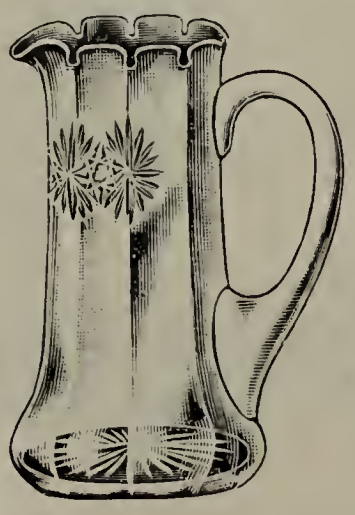
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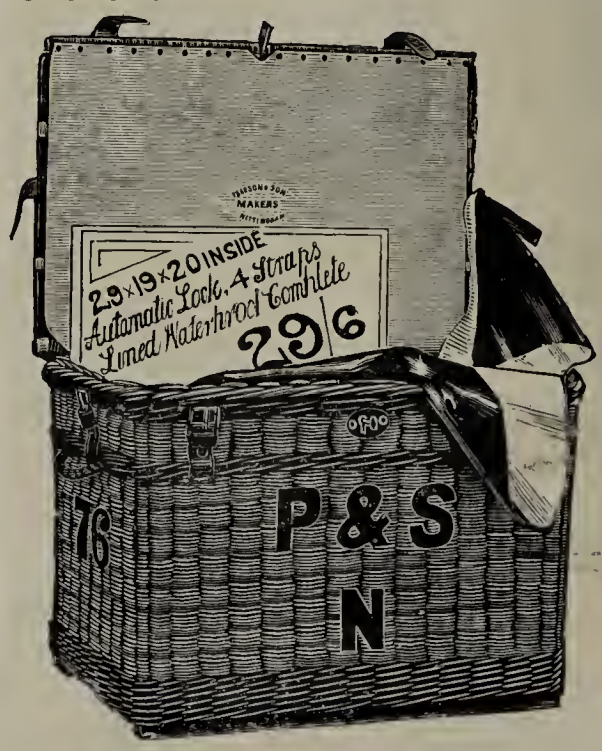
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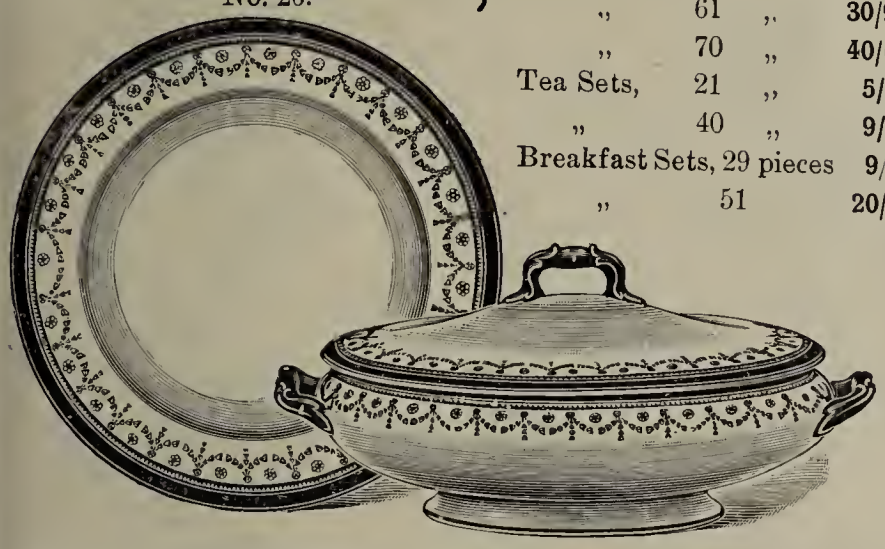
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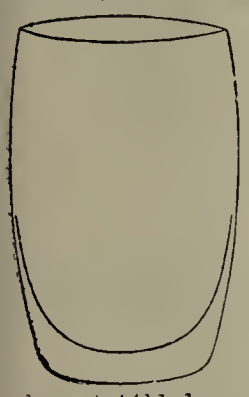
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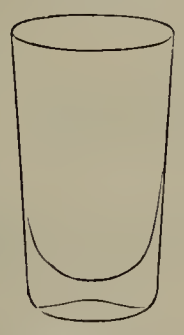
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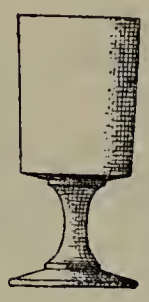
½ quart, **1/2** doz.

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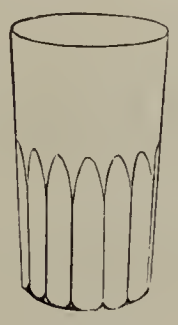
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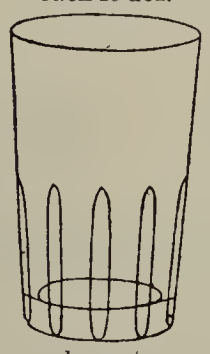
2½ out, **8¾**d. doz.

LOT K.
62 cases, each 25 doz.



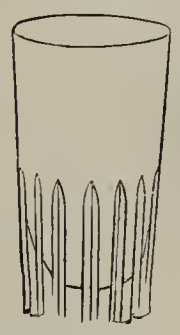
½ quart.
Cut olives.
Melted bottom ... **1/8** doz.
Polished „ ... **1/10** doz.

LOT L.
26 cases,
each 25 doz.



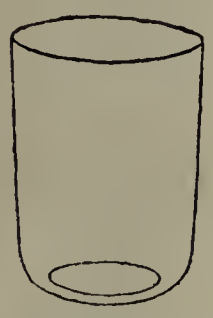
½ quart.
Cut olives.
Melted bottom, **1/9** doz.

LOT M.
14 cases,
each 36 doz.



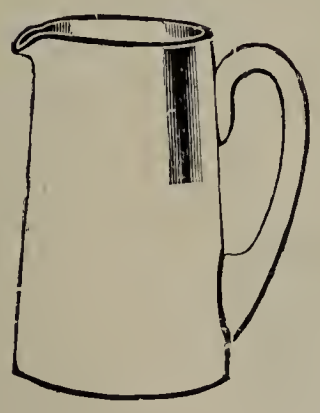
½ quart. Thin tops.
Moulded mitre flutes,
1/1½ doz.

LOT N.
18 cases, each 25 doz.



Melted bottom . **11½**d. doz.
Polished „ **1/1½** doz.

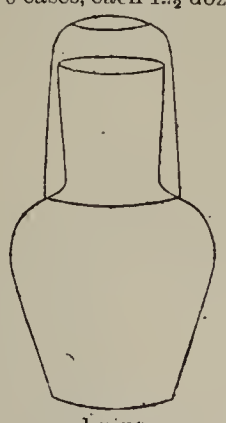
LOT O.



7 cases, 1 pint, **2/9** doz., 15 doz.
8 „ 1½ „ **3/3** „ 12½ „
11 „ 1¾ „ **3/6** „ 12½ „
3 „ 2 „ **3/9** „ 10 „

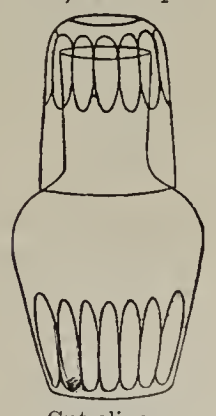
6 cases, assorted equally,
1 pint, 1½ pint, 2 pints.
12½ doz. in all per case.

LOT P.
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2/10 doz.

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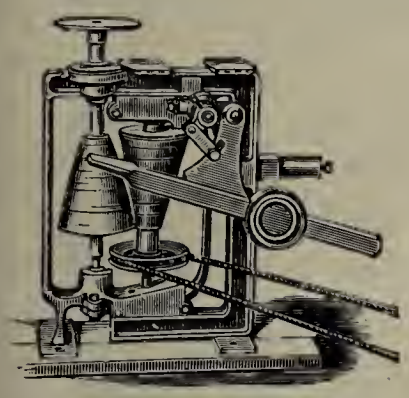
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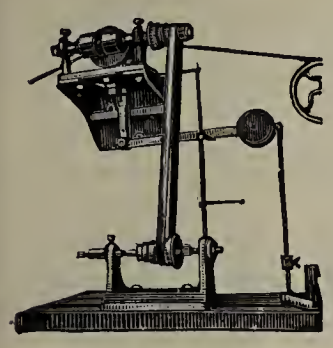
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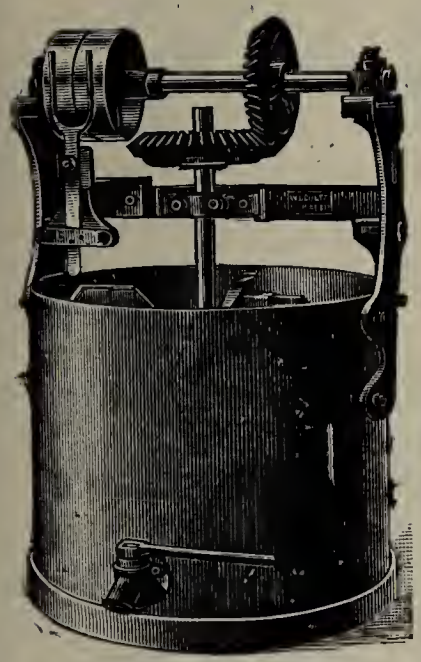
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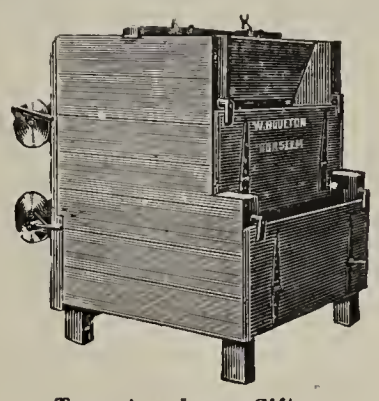
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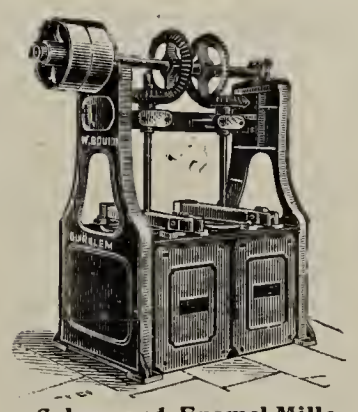
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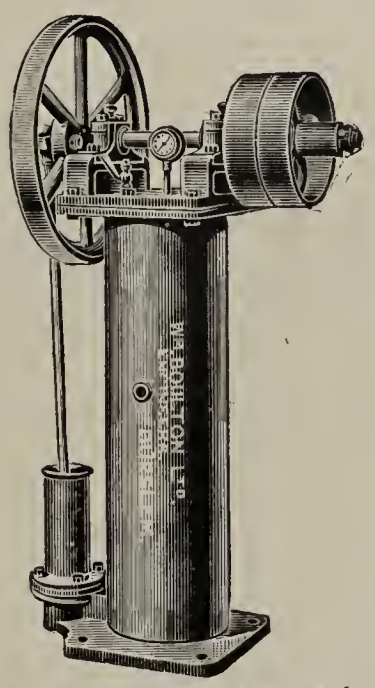
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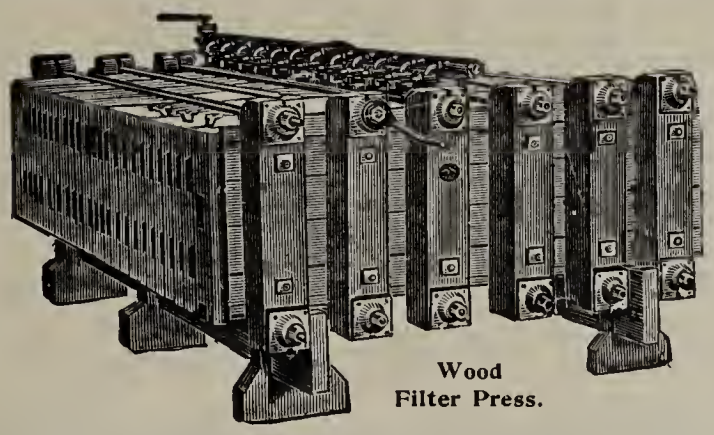


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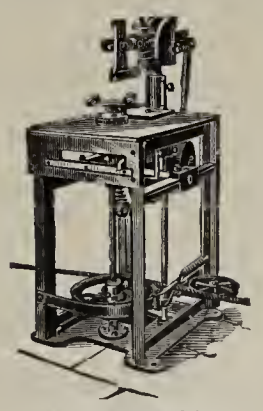


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For 1909

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Editorial Notes.

COMPANY PROMOTION AND FAILURES IN 1907.

THE Annual Report by the Companies Department of the Board of Trade on matters connected with the Companies Acts, was issued in the early part of last month as a Blue Book. There is reason to fear that manufacturers and traders do not watch the workings of these Acts as closely as they should do. Notwithstanding all the exposures that have been made, there is still a glamour about the word "Limited" that seems to induce confidence. There are firms who will at once give credit to a large amount to the "Button Hook Company, Ltd.," who would not trust "John Jones, Button Hook Manufacturer" five pounds, and yet the company is nothing more than "John Jones," with another name. We are considering companies now more from the point of view of traders who are asked to give them credit, than from that of persons who are invited by prospectus to invest money in shares in them. Happily, there are hundreds of perfectly honest companies who may be safely trusted, but, on the other hand, there are scores which are totally unworthy of credit. The mischief of it is that busy people do not take the trouble to ascertain the real position of a limited company asking for credit, and so bad debts are made. There are means of avoiding these bad debts if business people would only make use of them. Every registered company has to file certain returns at Somerset House. By payment of a shilling anyone can inspect the returns of any registered company, and should be able to ascertain from those returns whether the company can be trusted or not. If people say they are "too busy" to make such an investigation they must not complain if they make losses. In the "Trade Notes" columns of this journal, the particulars of new registrations, debentures, reports and dividends are regularly published, and these details should be carefully watched by our readers, who may thus avoid serious trouble. During last year 4,810 new companies were registered in England and Wales, but 1,795 went into liquidation, and 1,965 were deleted from the register for some omissions or irregularities. The net increase of companies in the year was thus 1,050. Of the liquidations, 1,689 were voluntary, and 108 compulsory. Of the latter 22 companies had been registered for less than one year. One of the evils of the Limited Liability Act is that it gives facilities for small companies with little or no subscribed share capital to trade to almost any extent on debenture capital. Generally, the promoter of the company is the debenture holder, and, in the event of the business failing, he takes all there is, and the other creditors get nothing. The existence of the debenture and the absence of share capital may be found recorded at Somerset House, and it is creditors' own fault if they are unacquainted with the facts. If the Limited Partnerships Act, which came into force at the beginning of this year, reduces the number of small companies, it will do good. The small company is the one most dangerous to the ordinary trade creditor. The Limited Liability Act has been of immense benefit in facilitating

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the employment of capital and the development of industries. The gigantic undertakings of the past half century would have been impossible without it. It is a pity that small adventurers should have been permitted to discredit the principle of limited liability.

THE CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

WE have received from the Director of the Census of Production a copy of the questions submitted to manufacturers in the china and earthenware trades. It is stated that the schedule has been prepared by the department after consultation with leading manufacturers in the industries. Generally speaking, the questions are the same as those submitted to glass manufacturers, which we summarised on page 907 of our last issue. Question No. 3 as to "output in the year of return" is adapted to the trades and the form of reply provides for setting out separately the value of the different kinds of manufacture or work. Separate returns are required for (1) Porcelain, china and parian; (2) Earthenware, semi-porcelain and majolica; (3) Sanitary ware; (4) Red pottery stoneware, brown and yellow ware; (5) Jet, Rockingham and glazed terra cotta for domestic use; (6) Architectural terra cotta and faïence; (7) Tiles, other than tiles of brick earth; (8) Other pottery ware, and (9) all other produets. Assurance is given that the information will be treated as confidential. Answers must be given to the questions in the first part of the schedule. But voluntary information is asked for in the second part (B). It is stated that the questions in this part of the schedule have been submitted to the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce, the Staffordshire Potteries Manufacturers' Association, the Plain, Decorative, and Encaustic Tile Manufacturers' Association, and important firms representative of the china and earthenware trades, and as the desired details will be of much value in connection with the census, it is hoped that there will be no unwillingness to give the particulars asked for. For instance, information as to the number of ovens and kilns is asked for, in order to obtain a measure of the equipment of the trade. Manufacturers are also asked, but are not compelled, to give information as to the quantity and description of the fuel consumed in the year of the return. This question is "asked at the request of manufacturers in all trades, and the information afforded by the replies is expected to be of great value and importance."

"FRANCO-BRITISH" HONOURS.

EIGHTY juries will on the 15th instant commence their task of awarding prizes to the most meritorious exhibitors at the Franco-British Exhibition. There are about 12,000 exhibitors altogether, so that the work of discrimination will be lengthy and no doubt, in some instances, difficult. It is not quite clear whether the awards will be in the order of merit to exhibitors in each class in the French Section, and again in the order of merit to British exhibitors in each class; or whether the jurors will pronounce upon the relative merits of French and British exhibits, by making their awards, according to merit, on all exhibits—French and British—in each class. There will be the usual honours, "Grand Prix," Diploma of Honour, Diploma of Gold Medal, Diploma of Silver Medal, Diploma of Bronze, and honourable mention. The task of the jurors is not an easy one, but we have no reason to doubt that it will be conscientiously performed. We shall look with considerable interest to the opinion of the jurors on the pottery and glass exhibits.

THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE.

THE Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into all the circumstances attending the use of lead in pottery manufacture have been actively engaged in personal investigations and in taking evidence. The proceedings have not been open to the public, and no report of them is likely to be forthcoming until the official one is made. We have already set out at length the scope of the inquiry, which is very wide. We will not repeat the terms of reference in detail, but may be permitted to draw attention to one which seems not only to cover the ground traversed by the other references, but to provide for the investigation of any subject (if there is one) not included in them. The Committee are "to consider the existing special rules for the manufacture and decoration of earthenware and china, and the making of transfers, and to report what amendments, if any, are desirable for the better protection of the workers from lead poisoning or other diseases, and to consider and report what modifications, if any, are desirable in the application of the said special rules to particular branches of the manufactures named." The Committee commenced their labours at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on Aug. 17, and were busily engaged all that week. Evidence was taken from medical gentlemen and others, and visits were paid to many representative china and earthenware manufactories. On several days the Committee sat till late in the evening for the convenience of some from whom they wished to obtain evidence. Naturally the inquiry has excited considerable interest in the trades, and though no account of the inquiry is yet available, it is understood that it is of an exhaustive character.

COMPENSATION AND MALINGERING.

THE British Medical Congress held its annual sittings on the last days of July. The proceedings in the Industrial Diseases Section were full of interest to manufacturers by reason of the address of Dr. R. J. Pye-Smith. The speaker pointed out the effect of "Compensation" on idleness, and his remarks suggested an unpleasant inference. "The Factory and other Acts provide regulations for reducing the risks of working in various poisonous substances and in dangerous occupations, and also provide for the payment of wages to those who are thereby disabled and prevented from earning them. The eminent surgeon regretted to find to what an extent unfair advantage was taken of these provisions by some for whose benefit the laws were framed. Instead of honestly trying to get back to work as soon as possible, workmen in too many instances tried to persuade their medical examiners that they were still incapacitated long after their condition justified such a contention. This is why, in the interests of manufacturers, an independent medical man should always be appointed to act as assessor with the judge before whom claims for compensation are heard. It is to be feared that the hope of obtaining a lump sum as compensation induces some claimants to magnify their ailments. In another section, a number of distinguished members of the association discussed the question of temperance; and Dr. Alexander Scott, of Glasgow, dealt with a very interesting phase of it and one of immense importance to employers. This was the effect of alcohol on persons working in lead and other dangerous trades. The doctor showed how this question affected employers. Abstainers are almost free from lead poisoning, while a drinker (not necessarily a drunkard) is more liable to an attack of the malady, and takes longer to recover from it. This is where the

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question of compensation comes in, as an employer has to pay more in the latter case. Dr. Scott went so far as to say that intemperance should be regarded as "wilful misconduct" and that, of course, is a bar to compensation. These are points which employers are entitled to bring before their employees. Character and regularity of conduct will count for more than they have done in an otherwise efficient worker. Legislation is imposing increasingly heavy responsibilities on employers, who, with every desire to deal justly with their employees, must protect their own interests. Happily there are self-respecting workers—men and women—who recognise the obligations due from them, and honestly strive to fulfil them. Those who do not might be reminded of them.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

THE PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION ACT.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—It may be well to point out, while the public indignation against the Mile End guardians is at fever heat, that in ordinary business circles there is quite as much corruption. The erring guardians were prosecuted under the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act, 1889, but bribery of, and the payment of secret commissions to, any "agent" has been made a criminal offence since the Prevention of Corruption Act came into force on January 1, 1907. The convictions under the later Act have not been of great importance hitherto, but the prosecution of offenders in the higher walks of life is only a matter of time. And almost as important is the banding together of hundreds of business men of high standing as members of the Secret Commissions and Bribery Prevention League, determined to see that the Prevention of Corruption Act is duly observed.—Yours faithfully, THE SECRETARY,

Secret Commissions and Bribery Prevention League, Inc.,
3, Oxford-court, Cannon-st., London, E.C.

ENGLISH POTTERY AND GLASS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I have lately been trying to make in my mind some comparisons between English-made pottery and flint glass and that made abroad. At present our shops are full of low-priced foreign goods in these manufactures, and often they are but showy imitations of best English-made goods. For the highest qualities of potting in body, glaze, style, and decoration, does anything surpass the better examples of English potting? Is it not the case that British-made art pottery has often to give way to something less artistic and good, just because the foreign-made is less in price, and is pushed by the dealer on account of there being a larger profit on its sale? Twenty-five years ago I bought a full set of Stourbridge cut glass, and to-day fully three-fourths of the whole set are in use, and look as beautiful as they did when first obtained. How many cheap sets of glass made abroad they have outlasted it would be hard to say. It is often distressing to see so many evidences of the tables in private houses of the better middle class not having on them the dainty and artistic English-made pottery and flint glass which used to be the case in former days, but that these goods, alas! have given way to ware and glass made abroad. As a people, we are strangely partial to things made elsewhere than by our own people in our own country, and which are often made abroad under such conditions of labour and wages that would never be tolerated in this country.—Yours, &c., STEPHEN CLAYE.

London, Aug. 10.

ADMIRALTY POTTERY CONTRACTS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—On the question asked by Mr. Wedgwood in the House of Commons as to Admiralty contracts for pottery, the First Lord of the Admiralty is reputed in your last issue to have said, "The Admiralty exhibits patterns, but firms make their own moulds to correspond therewith." But supposing tenders are asked for dinner ware, and the pattern selected by the Admiralty is the registered shape and the registered decoration of a particular firm. Why ask other firms to quote for it, seeing they cannot supply it?—Yours truly, A PUZZLED CONTRACTOR.

London, Aug. 13, 1908.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

DEAR SIRS,—May I be permitted, through the medium of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, to express my gratitude to those members of the Pottery and Glass Trades Benevolent Institution who, at the recent election of annuitants, favoured me with their votes.

The success of my application has been a source of the utmost gratification to me, and I shall ever appreciate both the kindness of my friends and the splendid assistance of the institution.—Yours most gratefully,

2, Swan-st., Congleton. ELIZABETH TWEMLOW.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—As I find it impossible to thank the members of the Pottery and Glass Benevolent Institution individually, will you please favour me by publishing in your next edition how thankful I am to all its members who kindly recorded their votes on my behalf and secured my return for an annuity, for which, as long as I may last, I shall be ever grateful. JOHN ISOM.

Bonny Cottage, Lower Butler-rd., Harrow,
Midx., Aug. 17, 1908.

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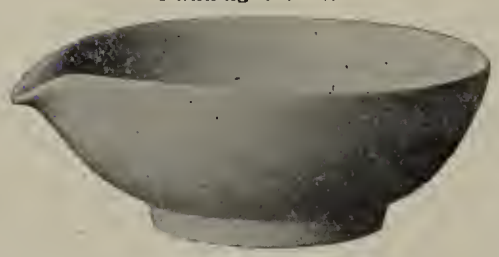
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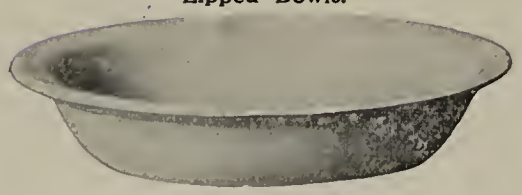
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Parliamentary Notes.

(FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.)

Infant Mortality in the Potteries.—In the eourse of a discussion in the House of Commons, on July 29, on the Home Office vote, Sir Charles Dilke, dealing with the question of infant mortality in the Potteries, pointed out that though the medieal officer of Longton reported a diminution in infant mortality, hc drew attention to the fact that infantile mortality all over England was exceptionally low in 1907, owing to there being comparatively little summer diarrhœa. The medical officer of Longton gave an interesting table of the mothers employed, from whieh it appeared that 281 were employed in potting and 27 otherwise. In the new report of the county medical officer, Dr. Reid, it was stated that "in Longton, among infants artificially fed the mortality is inereased four and a half times." On turning to the reports of medical officers from all the Potteries he found that it was reported of Tunstall that the rate in this low year was exeessively high (188), and that it indicated the baneful factory employment of married women. Of Fenton it was reported that, although there were only 16 deaths from diarrhœa against 42 in the previous year, yet the rate was 164, including 62 deaths from atrophy. The medieal offieer there advised speeial legislation. Dr. Oliver, in his new book, said that where both the parents were working in lead the children, if born alive, died shortly after birth; and also drew attention to the high pereentage of still-births and to the short life and imbecility of many survivors. Part of Fenton was rural, but in the potting ward, nearly one-fifth of the total number of ehildren born had died before one year. In Wolstanton potting ward the rate was 172, and the medical officer wrote that this high infant mortality was no doubt due in a great measure to the greater number of women who were working. In the first half of 1908 the eases of lead poisoning in the potting trade numbered as many as 70, against 38 in the eorresponding half of last year. Last year he complained of retrogression on the part of the Government as to the example they set in the use of leadless glaze. He was glad that this year there were signs of improvement. The last large contraet made by the Postmaster-General for insulators included a large portion of leadless glaze. There seemed to be signs that great offices outside the ordinary ken of the Offiee of Works and the Home Offiee might eome into the general scheme. He belieyed a conference had been agreed to in prineiple, at whieh the War Offiee, the Admiralty, and some other departments were to be represented. He hoped the heads of the War Offiee and the Admiralty would promptly give the proposal their formal assent, whieh was all that was still wanting. There was a hope that the question of truck might have been dealt with, and also the subjeet of general insuranee for workmen's compensation. On the latter subjeet an answer had been given, and in referenee to truek a report was promised for last Easter, and the evidence showed the necessity for dealing with it. While recognising the desire of the right hon. gentleman to initiate legislation, he hoped he would welcome the assistance of the House towards pressing it forward.

[In reference to the above, Mr. Wm. Burton, the famous potter, wrote to a Manehester paper as follows:—In your aceount of last night's debate in the House of Commons on the Home Office vote you report Sir Charles Dilke as attributing the high rate of infant mortality in the Staffordshire Potteries district to the great number of women who work in the lead processes. There must be some mistake here, whieh probably arises from your condensation of Sir Charles Dilke's speeeh, as the total number of women workers employed in the seheduled lead processes in the Potteries distriet is officially returned as only 1,881. Assuming that even a thousand of these are married women—whieh I should say is a large assumption—your readers will readily see that the general high rate of infant mortality throughout the distriet can be but little influeneed by this partieular group of workers. I should imagine that Sir Charles Dilke really referred to the employment of married women in faetories. This is an entirely different question to the other, and one in which many other trades than the pottery trade and many other districts than North Staffordshire are vitally eoncerned.]

Empire Notes.

The Imports of Bermuda during 1907 included £1,075 worth of earthenware (£967 in 1906); and £921 worth of glassware (£816 in 1906).

New Zealand Imports during last year ineluded the following:—Glass and glassware (£175,837), £192,496; earthenware and chinaware (£115,074), £154,665. The figures for 1906 are given in braekets for comparison.

A Ceylon Subscriber's Premises.—Our illustration represents the premises of S. M. Assena Marikar & Co., general merchants and commission agents and importers of glass, china, general earthenware, enamelled and lamp ware, Colombo, Ceylon. The firm have been established since 1840.



A Ceylon Subscriber's Premises.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Grimwades, Ltd., Upper Hanley, Winton, Stoke and Heron Cross Potteries, have their London showrooms at 13, St. Andrew-st., Holborn-circus, E.C. This is close to the centre of the wholesale glass and pottery showrooms, and therefore convenient for dealers in town or country. Their London representative, Mr. John Sayer, is just now revelling in his display of new goods for the coming season. He showed me a number of new shapes and some choice decorations in all lines. The dinner shapes attracted my notice first, and the "Gipsy" is one of the prettiest of several new ones. It is shown in the accompanying illustration in a new and attractive pattern. A "wattle" border—branches of plant running round the edges, woven together—with bunches of blackberries suspended. It is a pretty pattern for a dinner service, and seen to advantage round the edges of the plates and dishes. Amongst other new dinner patterns are the "Regal," "Stella," and "Louvre"—all with oval vase—fishes are swimming in the water and water-lilies are floating on the top of it. The sheen on the fishes is very natural. The company's decorations of table ware *en suite* make quite a display in their showroom. They are numerous and pleasing, and appeal to every taste. There are teapots and stands, jugs, butter dishes, cheese-stands, biscuit boxes, bread trays, fruit dishes, salad bowls, triple trays, sardines, and all miscellaneous articles for table use, in many pretty floral and conventional decorations. Pedestals and pots are very much in evidence, and there are novelties amongst them. The company have a room devoted to the productions of their "Heron Cross Pottery." This pottery has been long noted for good, useful, cheap goods. The company have greatly improved the quality of the goods, both in style and ornamentation, while maintaining their character as inexpensive lines. The special lines are teapots, jugs in sets, hot-water jugs, egg frames, dishes, and suites of table ware in many decorations. The "Heron Cross" cheap lines are supplied, but they are now better value.



GRIMWADES, LIMITED, STOKE-ON-TRENT. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

S. Hancock & Sons, earthenware manufacturers, Gordon Works, Stoke-on-Trent, have just sent samples of new shapes and patterns to their London showrooms, 5, Buchanan-buildings, Holborn, E.C. These rooms are on the first floor, and have convenient access to Holborn and to Fetter-lane. The firm's principal lines are dinner ware, vitreous ware, toilet ware, art trinket sets, vases and fancy goods, and in each of these there is always an excellent choice for buyers. I called a few days ago to see the novelties, and found much that is interesting. Amongst the many schemes for the decoration of pottery effected by art glazes, lithos, and shaded grounds, it is refreshing to find a complete departure from the overcrowded styles now on the market, such as is seen in Messrs. Hancock & Sons' new lines. We congratulate them on their judicious revival of an old decoration which was the admiration of the people of the middle of the nineteenth century. They have called this their "Mandarin" ware. The decoration is on the familiar lines known as "Chinese," and its chief features are brightly-coloured flowers and birds painted in enamel colours on a soft mulberry print, the embossments and mouldings being painted in mulberry colour, relieved with burnished gold and traced handles. Their representative, Mr. A. E. Hancock, has a full suite of this "Mandarin" ware displayed on a stand in the centre of the room with a charming effect, which carries one back to the days of Davenport and Old Hall pottery—once famous for this class of decoration. The stand

vegetable dishes. The company have brought out quite a plethora of new toilet services, many new shapes, and a greater number of new decorations. The "Tournay" has a tall ewer with a large round basin. One of the decorations applied to it is a new treatment in the "Adam" style of ornament. Amongst several new decorations applied to toilets there are "No. 1807," the blackberry, full fruit in natural colours, and "1856"—the "Lily of the Valley," also in natural colours. The "Louis" is another new toilet set. It has a tall taper jug, which we illustrate. The embossed flutes round the lower part of the jug are neat, and will lend themselves to effective colour treatment. They look well simply gilt. The reeded edge of the round flanged basin is good. The "Lynn" toilet is a pretty service with the "Gipsy" wattle printed pattern. Mr. Sayer is showing a number of new flower pots. The company have always an excellent range of these at their rooms, but they are constantly varying it. Amongst many new ones, the "Bramble" pattern is a pretty one. It is ornamented with blackberries in natural colours. They are showing a nice assortment of pots in art shades—all colours. A high-class decoration of a novel and pleasing character is applied to vases. An aquatic scene is depicted round the

shows table ware generally, salad bowls, cheese stands, jugs, marmalade, fruit dishes, orange bowls, flower pots and vases, and many other lines. Dealers who visit the showroom will see that "Mandarin" ware will make a very attractive window show. Those who cannot get to the rooms may form a good idea of this pleasing ware from the accompanying illustration of a few pieces. The ware is well finished, and is likely to become popular.



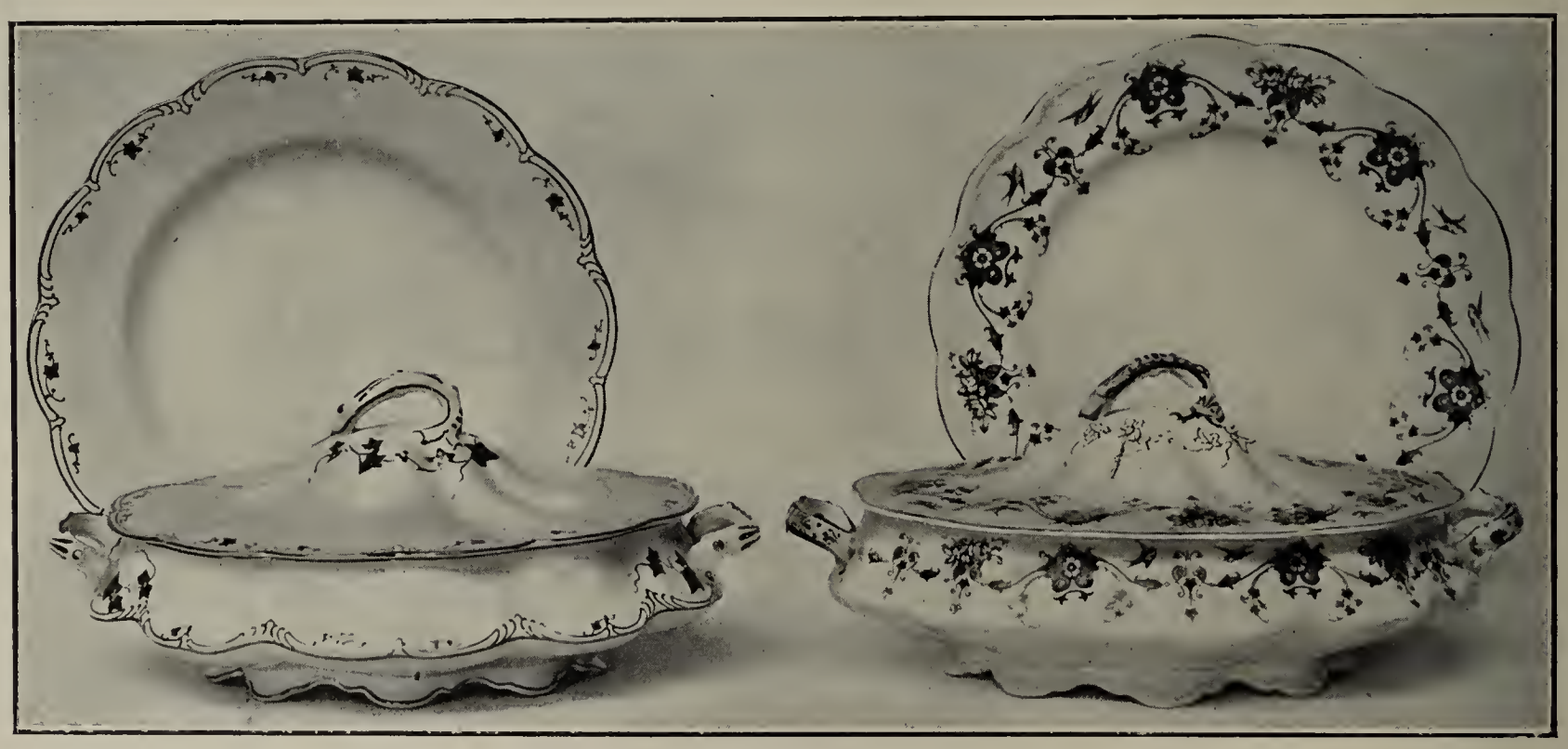
[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

S. Hancock & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent.

It is sure to be appreciated by those who admire the rich colours of Chinese patterns. The firm are showing new lines in fancy ware. One in particular, the "Severn" shape, has a rich mazarine-blue band with roses tastefully arranged. The firm have a good reputation for their high-class patterns and decorations in dinner ware. A new and graceful shape is the "Ivy," which is shown, ornamented with the new "Linden" pattern. The feature of the shape is the neat and delicately modelled "Ivy" with its berry, playing round the scalloped edge of the ware, and lending additional beauty to the ornamentation.

berry colours, enamelled and gilt, it makes a handsome service. Among other dinner patterns on show in London are the "Flaxman," "Corinth," "Hertford," and "Cecil" borders. There are also some pleasing lines in mazarine-blue band dinner ware, both plain and with neat printed borders in brown and green. Good oval shaped cover dishes and well potted ware throughout are shown in dinner ware. The firm are showing a choice selection of toilet ware in good plain useful shapes, and decorated in the prevailing style. The "Adam" roses, in festoons and ribbons, &c., Mr. Hancock has also at his rooms, a large selection of printed and decorated goods, and a full line of C.C. ware, in a hard strong body, well glazed and finished.

The Osborne China Co., Ltd., Osborne Works, Mount Pleasant, Longton, are manufacturers principally of tea and breakfast sets in their special ware, which they call "Osborne" china. It has a light body, and they are showing a large number of quite new shapes and original



[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

S. Hancock & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent.

We give an illustration of a cover dish and plate in this pretty "Linden" pattern on the "Ivy" shape. We also show the same shape in white and gold. This makes an especially choice decoration—the ivy and berries are in dead gold, and the edges and embossed tracings in burnished gold. There are several designs and schemes of colouring on this shape, which lends itself well to a variety of ornamentation. In blue and the old soft mul-

decorations. The accompanying illustration will show the novel features in three of their shapes. The "Saxon" is a nicely modelled tea-cup with a flange. This is submitted as an agreeable change from the nearly straight cups that have been popular amongst certain customers. The "Saxon" is a light cup, convenient to handle, and agreeable to drink from. The "Pearl," another of those shown, has a cup tapering to the foot. It is a good shape,

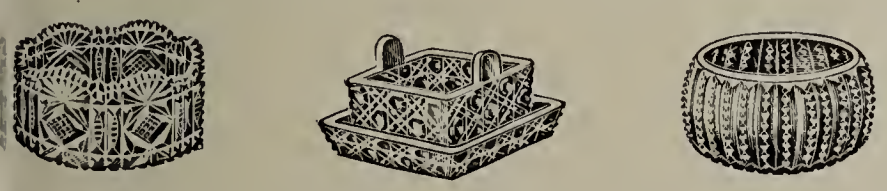
and has a pretty handle. It will be seen that it is not on the lines of the ordinary tapered cup. The third shape illustrated is the "Trent," also a very acceptable and useful design. Each of these shapes is supplied in many decorations, the designs for which are all new. The plates for the printed patterns have been carefully engraved,



THE OSBORNE CHINA CO., LTD., LONGTON. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

with the result that the ornamentations are sharp and clear. The company's productions cover a wide range from neat but inexpensive printed patterns up to richly enamelled coloured and gilt sets. The "Trent" shape is shown in high-class decorations of red, brown, and blue after the Japanese styles. Samples of useful varieties of stock china are shown, including cobalt blue band and gold, and a full range of Queen white china. The company are represented in London by Young & Hodgson, Ltd., who have samples of the "Osborne" china always on show at 60, Shoe-lane, Charterhouse-st., E.C.

The Anglo-Belge Glass Association, Ltd., 13, St. Andrew-st., Holborn-circus, London, E.C., are the sole concessionnaires for important Belgian and Swedish factories producing an almost endless variety of crystal and demi-crystal table glass. Their London representative, Mr. John Sayer, shows samples of all these lines at the rooms as above, which are always open. There is a very large variety of goods always held in stock that can be forwarded at once from their English warehouse. Dealers keep so many patterns now that they find it inconvenient to hold much stock of any one pattern. The Anglo-Belge Glass Co. practically hold it for them, with facilities for executing orders at once. For the information of those who do not often visit the showrooms of the company, we may say they contain samples of wines, plain, cut, and engraved—ports, sherries, clarets, champagnes, and liqueurs—beautifully thin glass, in a large number of very pretty, inexpensive patterns; cut crystal wine and spirit decanters, sugars and creams, covered butters, salad bowls, crystal dishes, handled dishes, cake stands, honey and biscuit jars, and some pretty-footed preserve jars and covers, "The Cecil." The company show an immense variety of small useful table goods, such as custards and jellies, mustard pots, knife rests, and cut crystal salt



THE ANGLO-BELGE GLASS ASSOCIATION, LTD.

cellars. We give illustrations of three of the latter. No. 301, square shape, is a very pretty novelty. From a large number of useful special lines we may name two others. A fancy crystal flower bowl is a cheap and pretty line. (The company's "Blitz" flower holder fits into this bowl.) Another novelty is the "Securitas" jug—a useful size and pleasing shape. All the pieces we illustrate, and hundreds of others, are always kept on hand, and can be packed in any quantities from loose stock, and dealers can have small cases, assorted, at any time. The Anglo-Belge Co. are supplying a special line in "cloches," or bell glasses, for horticultural purposes. The introduction of the French system of market gardening into this country has caused a sort of craze for forced culture among amateur gardeners. It is increasing, and there is no doubt there will be a large demand for the principal factor in the process—the bell glasses. The "cloches" are proper lines for glass and china dealers to stock, but unless they look after the trade now, it will pass into the hands of other dealers. Many dealers, when they see these "cloches," may say they are "not in their line." Perhaps not, but why should they not be? They have not been much used in this country yet, but



THE ANGLO-BELGE GLASS ASSOCIATION, LTD.

now they are likely to be in great demand. They are "glass," and glass and china dealers should stock them. If dealers will not move with the times, they must not be surprised if they are left behind. These "cloches" are

not novelties in themselves, but in connection with the French system of intensive culture they will be used much more extensively. That system includes a special preparation of the soil, which we cannot go into here, but these "cloches" will be found useful to those who want to obtain early fruit or flowers, even if they do not adopt the entire French system. Market gardeners, however, will adopt it, and from them the demand for "cloches" will be great. They are about 17 ins. wide and 15 ins. high. Being all glass, they give more light to the plants or flowers, they concentrate the rays of the sun and distribute them over the plants and far around the roots.



[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

THOMAS FORESTER & SONS, LTD., LONGTON.

They are a perfect shelter during winter and the spring work. The "cloches" can be raised from the ground by notched pegs placed on each side, to give the plants more air when necessary, and to allow them to grow taller. This is not the place to enter into the advantages of the use of these "cloches." Our duty is to draw the attention of dealers to an article that is going to be very extensively used. No doubt dealers have been asked for them and have said, "No, we don't keep them." When they have read this, perhaps they will decide that they *ought* to keep them.

Thomas Forester & Sons, Ltd., Longton, and 3, Hanover-st., Shudehill, Manchester, are now settled in their new London offices and showrooms, Gamage-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C. They have given up their late showroom and warehouse in Hatton-garden, and have an office and showrooms only in Gamage-buildings. I paid a visit to these rooms a few days ago, and was met there by Mr. E. Morgan Jones, the company's London representatives. The company, I knew, had been making additions to and improvements in their art branches, and the results are in strong evidence in their London showrooms. They have a large selection of samples on show, and Mr. Morgan Jones has them displayed in a very effective manner. The rooms are handsomely appointed in the most modern style. In one section is the china tea-ware on a pyramid stand in the centre, and fancy goods, art vases, pots, jardinières and clock sets on stands and shelves round the sides. The quality of the company's china is now well known, and the new shapes and patterns for the season are worth seeing. They are of a high-class character, including refined and delicate decorations in early English styles. A good line is their pure white ware with solid gold handles to the cups. All the company's tea and breakfast ware is made of best English bone china and is gas-fired, which gives beautifully soft and bright effects not attainable by the older method. The new lines in china tea ware, vases and flower pots shown in this room are specially produced for the season, and are of a popular character. The larger room is devoted to art ware of a more elaborate character. Messrs. Forester have made great strides in their art departments. They are not curtailing their productions of inexpensive popular lines—they are improving the quality of these without increasing the prices of them—but they are producing art ware of a higher class, and they are showing beautiful examples in their rooms. There are handsome glass cases round the room full of new forms in vases and ornamental pieces. Graceful shapes with paintings in Sèvres styles on light ground show that attention is being paid to richly decorated wares. The present is certainly the most artistic display the company have yet made in London. It is a collection of high-class ornamental pottery, cleverly painted and richly gilt. The forms and ornamentations are too numerous to describe, but the accompanying illustration

shows six pieces which may be taken as fairly representative of scores of others. There is a fine vase decorated in the style of Sèvres to which I have referred. It is not a mere copy of one particular piece, but a free decoration by an artist. The covered jar is a beautiful form, the ornamentation of which is artistically carried out on ivory body. The treatment of the decorative scheme is charming. Another of the vases has the company's "Royal Hampton" decoration. This is the name given to a series of views on vases and other pieces, hand-painted in slip underglaze. The illustration includes the "Stratford" and "Mentone" vases—both excellent models in high-class decorations. All tastes that are artistic are catered for. Small painted flowers on light grounds and gilt, commend themselves by their simplicity. Other decorations cover the whole surface of the piece with flowers and foliage, arranged with taste and executed with skill. The numerous bright colours, softened in the firing, form a rich yet refined decoration. Several pleasing novelties in pedesdals and vases are shown.

in new decorations. The York is a new shape entirely, and as will be seen from our illustration of it, is out of the ordinary form. It has a round neck and no lip. It is perfectly symmetrical and is a good pourer. The well-balanced handle secures this. The round basin has decorations on the outside. Several ornamentations are shown; the one illustrated has flowers painted on green shading. Novelty, beauty, and variety are the features of the special shapes and patterns in toilet ware and dinner ware for the season. The company make a feature of their fancy lines—pleasing, decorations, painted flowers and gold, en suite. They always have something new in the way of pretty fancy, decorations on all miscellaneous table ware. They have a very effective one in "Rozane." A pretty pattern consisting of roses in natural colours, painted on shaded grounds. All useful table ware and many ornamental pieces are decorated in "Rozane." It is a particularly suitable ornamentation for vases, as will be seen by the illustration herewith. The roses are cleverly painted in



A. J. WILKINSON, LTD., BURSLEM. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Royal Staffordshire Potteries, Burslem, possess one of the first essentials to success in any enterprise—confidence in themselves. They aimed at producing goods for the coming season that should excel anything they had turned out before. They believe they have done so, and the trade have now an opportunity of judging, for their new samples are on show at the rooms of their London representatives, Young & Hodgson, Ltd., 60, Shoe-lane, E.C. Toilet ware is one of the principal features of the room, and the new samples of toilet ewers and basins make a very pretty show. The most attractive of these is the "Empire" shape. The model of the jug is very different from the forms that have been in vogue the last few years. The illustration given shows at a glance the novel deign. The long wide neck dispenses with what is usually the "shoulder" of the jug as will be seen. It has a round basin, and both ewer and basin are full capacity. The "Empire" shape is decorated in many pretty styles. It is a form that is adapted to various decorative treatments. The neck is shaded, and the body of the jug is white with floral and other ornaments. A combination of floral festoons and medallions is a happy one. The basin has the decorations outside, and is shaded inside. The "Louis" toilet set is shown nice bright colours on shaded grounds. Fern pots and flower pots in great variety are amongst the other samples shown.

Young & Hodgson, Ltd., 60, Shoe-lane, Charterhouse-st., London, E.C., factors and importers of fancy and useful glass, china, and earthenware of all kinds, are enterprising wholesale merchants. They have a large connection amongst retail dealers, and are constantly on the look-out for suitable new lines for them. Mr. Young visits the Continent regularly for that purpose, and always returns with some things interesting. They keep the same extensive variety of fancy lines as was kept by their predecessors, Sanderson & Young, of Red Lion-sq., whose entire business was transferred to Shoe-lane. They have extensive showrooms and warehouses, and keep a large stock of useful British and Continental goods, especially small fancy lines. Tumblers, wines, decanters, spirit bottles, table glass of all kinds, and glass flower tubes are branches of the trade they have cultivated for many years, and they are always introducing novelties in them. Samples of new ranges of flower tubes are now being shown. These are made up in specially assorted cases. Two or three patterns, and several sizes in each pattern, can be packed in a case to suit the convenience

of customers. Buyers who want small lots of several varieties of flower tubes, can have them quickly. The samples of china figures, single and in groups, are numerous and interesting. They supply china tea and breakfast ware, and table ware generally, including candlesticks, cruets, egg-frames, and a large variety of view ware and motto ware. Their "Bonne" view ware is not new, but it is still running, and they make a good show of samples of it. This is one out of many popular lines controlled exclusively by them. One of their novelties for the season is a range of fancy coral china. We give an illustration of a few pieces of this pleasing production. There are farmyard scenes at the top of the pieces, and the lower part is a capital imitation of coral. Jugs, vases, spills, ash trays, jars, and many other useful and merely fancy goods, are on show in French coral china. Another novelty is their "Tokio" decoration. This is a full, bright floral decoration, gilt, applied to table ware generally —a very attractive pattern. A full range of fancy and useful shapes in imitation Delft, is shown. The company which their samples, especially the new ones, are displayed. The new samples recently received include several new shapes, and a series of original decorations. Messrs. Plant endeavour in producing a pattern to strike a note of originality, whilst preserving artistic beauty; and great care is taken that a pattern is put upon the shape to which it is best adapted. The "Novel" shape justifies its name. It is shown in a neatly printed leaf decoration. The piece shown happened to be in a pretty green, but the decoration is supplied in all colours. A special feature of this shape is the teapot, coffee pot, hot milk jug, and déjeûner sugars and creams, specially modelled for afternoon tea use. The "Belle" shape is shown in a charming sweet-pea decoration. The tall and low "Melba" are excellent forms, with a pleasing bright floral ornamentation. The "Jersey" shape has the distinctive merit of being a plain shape that can be perfectly cleansed, and at the same time it lends itself readily to a great variety of decorative treatments. In the illustration it shows the firm's latest production, the Sèvres decoration. This is a reproduction of exotic birds taken from the magnificent pieces of 1753 Sèvres ware in the Wallace collection, Hertford House. The gilding is in pure burnished English gold, and the painting of the birds, the grounds, the gilding, follows the treatment adopted by the great French artists employed at the Sèvres factory at the opening of its most magnificent period. This is a high-class artistic ornamentation at a reasonable price. This design is applied to tea and breakfast ware, afternoon tea-ware, teapots, coffee pots, jugs, salad bowls, &c. The Sèvres decoration is supplied in Mazarine blue, light and dark Sèvres green, Rose-du-Barry grounds. The firm pride themselves on the variety of sweets they manufacture—round, square, octagon, oval, and many other shapes are to be seen in the magnificent range of samples on show in the London rooms. In nearly every instance five to eight sweets form a set, so that the size and shape required may be easily secured. Amongst the best stock patterns are cobalt blue band, gold edge and line, or Worcester 4614, and light Sèvres green band gold edge and line, or Worcester 5550. The blue is a permanent colour incapable of changing under weather conditions. It is applied to the best selection of white ware. The cobalt band being of a uniform tone throughout is another distinctive feature which has only been attained by prolonged experiment. There is a fine collection of "Heraldic" ware in "Tusean china," not only in small fancy pieces for presentation and souvenir purposes, but the arms of towns and counties can be applied to tea ware. Everything is supplied in white fluted china. The firm are producing good bulk lines in large quantities, which they can supply quickly from stock. They are making a feature of this trade, and Mr. Plant is proud of the quality of these goods. The firm's improved facilities for rapid production in large quantities enable them to supply



YOUNG & HODGSON, LTD.: CORAL CHINA. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

represent Hermann Müller for Bohemian glass, and show a great variety of his samples, and Rylands, Ltd., Barnsley, for glass preserve jars. Samples of the latter include the patent "Climax" bottle (screw top) and the "Acme" glass jar, with rubber ring, metal cap and screw top.

R. H. & S. L. Plant, Tuscan Works, Forrister-st., and Stanley Works, Bagnall-st., Longton, are represented in London by Mogridge & Underhay, 10, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn-circus, E.C. Their productions are known as "Tusean china," every piece of ware sent out from the works bearing this trade mark. Tuscan china comprises the following lines:—General stock lines, white and gold, Queen's whiteware, Fife and e/flute white ware, teapots, jugs, sweet and bon-bon trays, biscuit boxes, jam and pickle jars, salad bowls, and ornamental table ware. When I called at the London showrooms a few days ago I was fortunate in meeting Mr. S. L. Plant, together with Mr. Underhay. I was able to congratulate Mr. Plant upon the interesting developments that have taken place recently in "Tuscan China," and both him and his representatives upon the attractive manner in

these lines on favourable terms. The body of the ware is their usual "Tuscan china," the same fine body as that in which all their china is made.

The Pearl Pottery Company, Ltd., Brook-st., Hanley, are manufacturers of general earthenware of all kinds, who make special lines of toilet ware, dinner and tea ware. They have their London show-rooms at No. 4, Thavies Inn, Holborn Circus, E.C., and I met Mr. Stephen Hawthorn, a managing director, there recently. The company supply many popular styles of toilet ware. These will be easily recognised in the show rooms by anyone in the trade. They are also showing some new shapes and decorations on the same lines and for which the same popularity is anticipated. We illustrate two of their toilet services. The one on the left, "The Sirdar," is not shown as a new shape; as a matter of fact it has been on the market some time, but it is such a good selling shape that the company have added several quite new decorations. It has a full-sized ewer and a deep oval basin. It is a heavily embossed shape, the embossed designs contributing to many very attractive decorations. Indeed, the embossments, when coloured or gilt, are highly decorative, without any addition. Still, many additions are made, with the result that "The Sirdar" is presented in numerous attractive patterns. The other toilet ewer and basin illustrated belong to the new "Lincoln" service. They are bold, full-sized pieces, and in design are somewhat on the same lines as the "Sirdar." The deep basin and capacious jug, which are strong characteristics of "The Sirdar," are repeated in the "Lincoln," but with essentially



R. H. AND S. L. PLANT, LONGTON. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*



THE PEARL POTTERY COMPANY, LTD., HANLEY. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

different details. This "Lincoln" shape and another new toilet, the "Imperial," are supplied in various decorations. Many toilets are shown in self-colours—art shades of all kinds. There are also some pretty decorations in blended colours. Amongst many good shapes in dinner ware, the "Cuba" has a prominent position. It has a useful size oval vegetable dish. The shape is a good one, and it is neatly ornamented with blue band and gold. Another set has the same blue band and gold, with the addition of a floral border. Another very pleasing dinner service is the "Humber"—with a square vegetable dish and decorated with blue band and gold. The "Humber" is also supplied in many printed and decorative patterns, and is an excellent service in white and gold. In tea ware, the "New Oxford" is one of the latest shapes. It is octagon, flat fluted, and can be had either white or decorated. The company are applying cobalt blue bands and gold to tea ware with success. They make five sizes of cups and saucers, in the Worcester shape, tea-pots, coffee jugs, hot-water jugs, and all table ware to match. They are showing at the London rooms samples of everything in Queen's white ware, and a large range of flower-pots, and fancy goods, good shapes, in many pleasing styles of ornamentation.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

A GENERAL meeting of the members of the Institution was held on Thursday evening, July 30, at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, London, E.C.

Mr. Ronald D. Doulton, one of the vice-presidents of the Institution, and Chairman of the Board of Management, presided. The Chairman explained that this half-yearly meeting had been called for two special purposes. First to elect a trustee of the Institution in succession to the late Mr. Charles Webb; and, second, to elect by ballot two annuitants from the three candidates who had been nominated. The candidates were Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Fox, aged 60, widow of the late Mr. Edwin Fox, who died in 1889, and who had been engaged as agent by G. L. Ashworth Bros., and Taylor, Tunnicliffe & Co.; Mr. John Isom, aged 64, employed as salesman for forty years by P. & G. Phillips; and Mrs. Elizabeth Twemlow, aged 43, widow of the late Mr. Frank Twemlow, who was employed for twenty-nine years as a clerk by Furnivals, Ltd. Many voting papers had been sent in, but according to the rules, the ballot would be kept open until eight o'clock.

Mr. J. H. Hart and Mr. F. W. Currie were then appointed as scrutineers of the ballot, and these gentlemen at once proceeded with that duty.

Letters expressing regret at inability to attend were read from Mr. R. P. Copeland, the President, Mr. A. Overton Jones, Mr. Christian Nestle, and others.

The Chairman said the first business was to elect a trustee in succession to the late Mr. Charles Webb, who had been one of the trustees of the Institution since its foundation, and whose death they all sincerely lamented. He (the Chairman) had been in communication with Mr. J. Silvers Williams-Thomas, and that gentleman had kindly acceded to the request of the Board of Management that he would allow himself to be nominated as one of their trustees. Mr. Williams-Thomas had expressed himself so kindly that he should like to read the following letter received from him:—

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 17th inst. to hand. I much regret the cause of the appointment of a new trustee, as Mr. Charles Webb was so long connected with the Pottery and Glass Trades' Benevolent Institution. However, as he is no longer with us, and it is the wish of your Board that I should fill the vacancy, I will gladly do so, as I believe the Institution is one which is of great benefit to the trade, and is capable of large extension. With kind regards, yours very faithfully,

J. SILVERS WILLIAMS-THOMAS.

Brierley Hill Glass Works, June 19, 1908.

The Chairman said he had great pleasure in moving that Mr. J. Silvers Williams-Thomas, of Brierley Hill, be elected a trustee of the Institution in place of the late Mr. Charles Webb.

Mr. Frederick Cox (of Cauldon, Ltd.) said he had very great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by Mr. Doulton. They all knew that Mr. Williams-Thomas had taken great interest in the Institution for a long time, and it was certain he would continue to do so. Although he was a busy man, with many other duties to perform, they might rest assured that he would prove a most acceptable Trustee.

The resolution was unanimously approved. Eight o'clock having arrived, the Chairman asked Mr. J. H. Hart to report the result of the scrutiny. Mr. Hart announced that Mrs. E. Twemlow had received 553 votes, Mr. John Isom 421 votes, and Mrs. M. Fox 220 votes.

The Chairman then declared that Mrs. E. Twemlow had been elected to an annuity of £15, and Mr. John Isom to an annuity of £25.

Mr. A. H. Folker, on behalf of Mr. John Isom, thanked all who had favoured him with their votes, for his election to the benefits of this Institution, Mr. Isom had seen very long service in the trade, and now in his necessity was very grateful for the annuity granted to him. Mr. Folker tendered his congratulations to Mrs. Twemlow and her supporters on her election. He hoped that their Staffordshire friends would see in it the sterling value of the Institution, which has always striven so energetically to extend its benefits to the whole of the trade within the United Kingdom. He regretted they were not in a position to elect all the candidates, and expressed his best wishes for the success of Mrs. Fox at the next election. The Institution thoroughly deserved their sympathy and support, and he trusted that the success of applicants from the Potteries, both at this and previous elections, would tend to greatly strengthen the interest in the Institution in that district. He believed that the sum paid in annuities and relief was very much in excess of the amount of dividends received, and he thought they would agree with him that it was urgent that steps should be taken to considerably increase their invested capital.

Cordial votes of thanks to the scrutineers and to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

Particulars as to membership of the Institution may be obtained on application to the secretary, Mr. Algernon J. Prickett, 6, Thavies Inn, Holborn Circus, E.C., or the local hon. secretary, Mr. William Smith, 36, Glebe-st., Stoke-on-Trent.

Glass Bottles and Jars to the value of £37,225, were imported into Cape Colony last year. The value of the import in 1906 was £34,069.

Ceramic Exhibition in St. Petersburg.—In the month of November, says the "Novoe Vremya," there will be held in St. Petersburg a great exhibition of ceramics, in which will be exhibited manufactures not only of art industrialists, but also of fire-resisting goods down to the very simplest of them, such as tiles, fire bricks, material for country cottages, &c. There will be a Russian historic section, for in Russia enamelled clay occupies an important position in old Russian ecclesiastical architecture.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

IV.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

(*Continued from page* 920.)

HAVING several times walked through the long line of interesting halls, numbered 1 to 8, leading from Uxbridge-rd. to the Court of Honour, I have in recent visits entered the Exhibition from the Wood-lane Station. In passing through Hall 12, I have frequently admired the interesting collection of artistic porcelain shown on the large open stand on the right. Until recently my attention has been directed to British pottery, and as this was clearly not British I have not referred to it before. But when I commenced to take notes of the French pottery, I paused at this stand only to find that the beautiful exhibits displayed were not French either. We all appreciate the beautiful productions of Copenhagen, and there are some fine examples of Danish art pottery shown here, but they seem scarcely appropriate to what was intended to be, and was described by His Majesty himself as, "an Exhibition of British and French Industries."

THE FRENCH EXHIBITS.

In all other industries the French exhibits are fully representative, and are displayed in an attractive and often a luxurious manner. But when we come to pottery and glass, we find that the exhibits do not represent those great French industries as completely as we were led to expect. This is a subject of great disappointment and regret to British manufacturers and to visitors generally. We fear the Exhibition authorities are responsible for this. We cannot speak of the treatment of the numerous French manufacturers who are not exhibiting, with the authority with which we have given the reasons for the absence of so many British manufacturers. We are, however, able to state from personal knowledge that one famous French firm who desired to make an extensive display closed their negotiations because of the discourtesy they received from the Exhibition authorities. We cannot say that the same cause accounts for the absence of other French manufacturers, but, whatever the reason, it will be matter of regret for years to come that in this unique Exhibition both French and British pottery and glass have been treated so badly. Large numbers of French engineers exhibit the best of their productions. The display of French textiles is at once one of the most extensive and most beautiful in the Exhibition, quite a large number of expert costumiers, boot manufacturers, furriers, lace manufacturers, and perfumers have representative exhibits of the very best productions of which they are capable, while the French exhibits of pottery and glass are few in number. They, however, have an advantage over British exhibits which are scattered all over the grounds. The French pottery and glass exhibits are all together, but why they should be crowded in the ends of the Machinery Hall passes comprehension.

APPERT FRÈRES, 34, Rue des Chasses, Clichy (Seine), make quite an imposing display with large cylinders, flint and coloured. They are specialists in long glass tubes and rods in coloured glass. They show shades of various kinds in nests, the largest being of exceptional size. Other specimens include enamels of great beauty and glasses for optical purposes. An object of great interest is a large flint globe resting on a high iron stand.

LEGRAS & Co., 35, Avenue de Paris, Plaine Saint-Denis (Seine), have a large and excellent collection of their special lines. They show glass table services en suite, bowls, dishes, carafes, vases on feet, and a variety of fancy lines in coloured glass, plain and decorated. Some beautiful rose bowls, coloured and gilt, are shown with many other fancy lines in which gold is freely used. Rich effects are produced by decoration on coloured grounds, and gilt. Useful and ornamental glass for household purposes predominates, but many specialities for pharmaceutical and chemical uses are exhibited, and vases, spills, and other purely artistic pieces in many styles of ornamentation are shown.

JULES LANG & SON, Progress Glass Works, Eu, near Dieppe, have a large case in which they show upwards of five hundred samples of their varied productions. These include glass bottles and jars for every purpose for which glass can be utilised. They show every kind of bottle and jar suitable for confectioners, perfumers, druggists, jam, sauce, marmalade, pickle, and other manufacturers from the small half-dram sample bottles up to large 20 litre show bottles. The firm show samples of opal, amber and actinic green glass of superior quality. They are known as specialists in jars and bottles of all kinds, and they exhibit a good assortment of white flint jars. The "Jules jar," for preserving fruit and other purposes, is exhibited with its glass lid, indiarubber ring, and metal screw top. The specialities include medical bottles, poison bottles, toilet bottles, embrocation bottles, and vials of various sizes, plain and graduated. There are also shown glasses and fancy cut stoppered bottles. The firm have a large fine show-case against the wall of the Machinery Hall. They are, however, placed at a disadvantage by a large stand erected immediately in front of them, and since they took their position. They have, therefore, placed a smaller show-case with some of their exhibits near the door of the Hall. The firm's London offices are at 16, Bury-st., St. Mary Axe, E.C.

HARAUT & GUIGNARD, 10, Rue de la Paix, Paris, have a good display of useful and ornamental glassware. Like other exhibitors in this section, they suffer from the close proximity of other exhibits. They show specimens of flint table glass of all kinds, and many good examples of coloured and decorated glass. Tall cut vases show the quality of their ware. Suites of table glass in flint, in flint and gold, and also in green and gold, indicate the variety of the firm's productions. The firm exhibit specimens of high-class cased ornamentation. Ornamental pieces that are artistic both in form and decoration are shown.

JULES FRANKE, 21, Rue des Lilas, Paris, manufacturer of useful and ornamental glass, exhibits complete services for the dining table and all the usual articles of glass for domestic use. There is a variety of bowls, dishes, goblets, together with tall vases and other ornamental pieces.

RÉNÉ MARTIN & Co., 20, Rue Genin, Saint-Denis (Seine), exhibit specialities in glazes and colours for china, glass, porcelain, and enamels. Their interesting exhibits include various enamels used in the manufacture of fancy pin-heads, beads, buttons, &c., in imitation of precious stones and jewels.—LES GRANDES VERRERIES, de Croishare, exhibit a number of examples of their high-class flint-glass, table services, &c. They present good shapes with artistic ornamentation.—PAUL BONNAUD, 1, Boulevard de Fleurus, Limoges, is showing a very choice collection of art enamels on porcelain, gold and silver. M. Bonnaud has been awarded a prize at the Paris Salon this year.—SOCIÉTÉ DU VERRE ETIRE, 10, Rue Thimonnier, Paris, are manufacturers of glass for specialities. They show tubes and pipes in strong flint glass for water levels and other instruments used in connection with machinery.—VERRERIE DE BAGNEAUX, Près de Honours (S. & M.), exhibit a large number of specialities, such as cylinders, shades for clocks, and fancy articles, glass for photographic purposes, and pure flint and coloured glass for spectacles and other optical purposes.

Cristallerie de Pantin (St. Hilaire, Tounier, Viollet & Co.), 86, Rue de Paris, Pantin (Seine), and 66, Rue d'Hauteville, Paris, have the best exhibit of useful and ornamental glass in the section. It is also the largest and most varied. They show excellent glass table services, with bowls, dishes, decanters, wines, and tumblers, plain and cut. They have a striking exhibit of engraved and cut glass in great variety, trinket sets, lamp shades, and enamels. In decanters, jugs, vases, and fancy goods they show richly cut decorations, while the combination of cut patterns and gold are very effective. The artistic and fancy pieces have characteristic French decorations, but in useful goods, especially table glass, English tastes have been considered. Some beautiful specimens of cameo glass are shown executed with great delicacy. Heavy cut patterns on large forms display the best features of the glass-cutter's art. A number of excellent specimens of metallic-lustred glass —fancy pieces of great beauty—are exhibited. The company have their London show-rooms at 99, Hatton Garden, E.C.

Société des Produits Ceramiques et Refractaires, Boulogne-sur-Mer, and 67, Rue de la Victoire, Paris, exhibit an extensive range of modern designs for interior decorations in artistic stoneware. The feature of their decorations for tiles is the extent to which they have been derived from flowers and leaves. Hitherto geometrical designs have predominated in tile ornamentation, but the Société submits a quite new series of decorative schemes, inspired by the forms and colours of plants and flowers. These are carried out in a new range of colours in subdued tones and with considerable artistic ability. They are designed to harmonise with modern decorations. The tiles are all hard fired, and are consequently impervious to moisture or germs and are perfectly clean and hygienic. The Society's stand is a good one, and shows tiles in position as in use. Other exhibits include pedestals and vases, artistic and fancy pieces in light colours. Amongst the latter there is a fish, and a shell dish —both pretty conceptions. The society is represented in London by Messrs. P. Turpin & Co., 17, Berners-st., W.——A. Schaart & Co., 74, Rue des Cités, Aubervilliers, exhibit some choice specimens of their artistic porcelain, hard fired faïence and terra cotta. Art forms after the style of Sèvres groups, statuettes, busts, panels, vases, and a variety of specialities suitable for mounting in bronze and electro plate.

Société des Etablissements Poulenc Frères, 92, Rue Vieille du Temple, Paris, have an interesting exhibit of their preparations of precious metals, enamels, and colours for earthenware, porcelain and glass manufacturers and decorators. For upwards of 80 years the house has been celebrated for the manufacture of chemicals used in science and industry, and for artistic and ornamental enamelling. They have added considerably to their reputation by the production of specialities for the pottery and glass trades. At their stand in the Machinery Hall they exhibit their liquid gold, brown gold, lustre colours (iridescent and opalescent), liquid colours for under-glaze decoration, powdered colours for underglaze decoration of porcelain and transparent enamels for glass. In the same case they exhibit a number of articles decorated with these special products. Every article shown has been decorated solely by the firm's products. For a number of years past they have given particular attention to the production of lustre colours, and have introduced new and rich blends. The public taste favours this style of decoration, and the success of the firm in producing colours suitable for it may be seen in the decorated specimens shown. There are beautiful effects, from common shades to the most artistic metallic hues. That the effects are rich can be seen—and the firm give an assurance that they are durable. They are exhibiting a complete range of transparent enamels for glass and window panes and examples of glass treated by them are shown. The company's agent for England is Mr. James Flach (son of the late Mr. Jos. Flach, who died recently after a short illness), 16, Water-lane, Great Tower-st., London, E.C.



Glassware: Cristalleries de Pantin.

French Pottery.

If the British pottery exhibits are too scattered, French pottery is too crowded. There are some beautiful exhibits, but they are not displayed to the best advantage. This is not the fault of those who have charge of them, but the result of the too close proximity of one manufacturer's exhibits to those of another maker. Considering the comparatively small number of the exhibits, surely a separated stand could have been devoted to each. Sales are made from some of the stands, which give the whole section the character of a bazaar. It would be different if some of the more costly pieces were sold, to be removed afterwards, or if orders were taken for some of them. It is the selling of little souvenirs which seems derogatory. It is no disparagement to those who are exhibiting here, to say that there is a more representative display of French art pottery in the "Pavilion André Delicux." I shall speak of that another month. It is a remarkable group of

objects of art collected by a private gentleman and exhibited at his own expense, and is in no sense a manufacturer's exhibit. The collections of pottery exhibited in the Machinery Hall may without offence be called "trade exhibits," although there are works of art amongst them.

M. Camille Naudot, 7, Rue des Petites Ecuries, Paris, exhibits a rather small, but very choice, collection of pate tendre Sèvres porcelain, manufactured by his own chemical process. The exhibits include some fine reproductions of the antique designs. He makes a special feature of these reproductions, and shows how he can complete and match old Sèvres dinner services. He exhibits dinner and dessert services and vases, the last named in solid blue and gold, and also green and gold. There are transparent enamels set in openwork, in the pâte tendre



René Frugier & Co.: "Aluminite."

itself, and also in the porcelain body. The translucent glaze is superb in colour and in general effect. This is beautifully delicate.

M. L'Herminé-Declercq, Orchies (Nord), has a good display of artistic pottery. There is abundant variety of artistic styles, in jardinière, vases, flower pots, pedestals, and pots in many sides and in forms suitable for halls, drawing-rooms, gardens, conservatories, &c. Rich majolica glazes are shown in many effective and variegated shades, There are exhibits of architectural faïence of all kinds su t ble for the interior and exterior decoration of walls. The number of artistic models and variegated glazes is large and interesting.

René Frugier & Co., Limoges, have a large and attractive collection of their famous fireproof china, both white and green. We give an illustration of their stand, which is well arranged with samples of their "Aluminite." This speciality has obtained a good position in the English market, as well as in France. "Aluminite" is a new French hard leadless glaze porcelain, that is really fireproof. The exhibit includes a number of cooking vessels, such as saucepans, egg-boilers, souffles, round and oval stewpots, pie dishes, bacon pans, entrée dishes, coffee pots, tea pots, &c. These all stand the heat of a fire, and may be placed directly on the flame or stove. Aluminite has the same smooth, bright surface as porcelain, and is impervious to acids, or poisonous metals. It is not only adapted for vessels used for cooking purposes, but is the best material for vessels used for storing food, as it never imparts any taste to the contents, however long they may be kept in. It requires much less fuel to cook with "aluminite" utensils, than with those of other materials. It is claimed for it that it is absolutely non-porous, and will withstand even strong acids. It has a fine and hard glaze, and can therefore be easily and completely cleaned. It is thus thoroughly hygienic as well as fireproof. Mr. Howard Green, 25, Ely-place, Holborn-circus, E.C., is the London agent for Messrs. René Frugier & Co. He has a full line of samples always on show at his rooms, and has arranged a very attractive exhibit at Shepherd's Bush.

Gentil, Bourdet & Co., Billancourt, near Paris. This firm is widely known as manufacturers of architectural stone ware, and the varied specimens shown at this Exhibition will considerably enhance their reputation. They have fireplaces, stoves, radiator screens, and decorative stone for the fronts of houses and of shops; letters and panels for sign-boards, and ornamental brickwork. They show the application of "Gres Flamme" white, gold, and coloured, to the fronts of houses, and also to shop fronts, &c.

Meran Frères, 155, Faubourg Poissonniere, Paris, are specialists in china for various industrial purposes, and exhibit specimens of most of their exclusive productions which have been so highly approved by the "Academie des Sciences," Paris. These include special porous vases for electrolysis, and filtration purposes. Any of the articles exhibited can be supplied either in faïence or white stoneware, to order.——M. Jules Loebnitz, 4, Rue Pierre Levée, Paris, has a pretty collection of pottery and terra cotta for architectural purposes, and for interior and exterior decoration. He shows a neatly tiled fireplace, and a number of tiles in fancy shapes, and in many shaded colours. There are several effective combinations of light shades—a greenish-blue tint is a very good one. In addition to tiles for stoves and hearths, M. Loebnitz exhibits a number of plaques, panels, vases, jugs, &c.

M. Alphonse Hanne, L'Isle-Adam (Seine), exhibits a fine collection of artistic productions in terra cotta. Pleasing art forms in special decorations, fill a highly attractive stand. He makes a special display of reproductions from marble, including fine models of large size.

Maison Mallie, 155, Faubourg Poissonniere, Paris (whose works are at L'Isle-Adam) is exhibiting a good collection of artistic stoneware vases, and other ornamental pieces in which the female figure is freely introduced—in many cases as part of the design. They are beautifully modelled, and most of them are the work of Firmin Michelet, a well-known sculptor. The exhibits include a number of special forms for mounting in bronze.——Guffroy & Minne, 13, Rue Montholon, Paris, have a large exhibit of their varied productions. Chiefly they show tiles for pavements, and in panels, and mosaics, but they also exhibit art vases and figures. They produce excellent effects in blue and heavy gold ornamentation. Artistic

mantel-sets are shown. They have an album of colour illustrations of their numerous geometrical and conventional patterns for tiles. Many new and interesting features are shown.——A. Lacroix & Co., 172, Avenue Parmentier, Paris, has a large glass case containing specimens of colours and of work executed in them. Their specialities are colours for glass, and relief decorations on glass are shown.

La Porcelaine Theodore Haviland, Limoges, France, exhibits the best examples of French china table-ware in the building. He shows specimens of tea and breakfast ware, dinner services, and dessert sets in fine china, beautifully decorated. These are special lines for which the house is famous, in England, as on the Continent. Specimens of his dainty trinket sets, which are popular in this country, are also shown, with a variety of fancy pieces for use and ornament. Theodore Haviland excels not only in the fine body of his china, but in exquisitely painted decorations on graceful forms. There are many of these artistic ornamentations exhibited. The dessert services are fine examples of painting on porcelain. The decorations on the dinner ware are exceedingly neat rather than "showy," some of the border patterns being beautiful in their simplicity. Samples of dinner ware supplied to crowned heads are exhibited, and many beautiful examples of decorations under enamel in the Copenhagen style.



La Porcelaine Theodore Haviland, Limoges.

Specimens of coloured grounds with engraved gold edge are shown. These are very successful productions, as these grounds are difficult to procure on such hard fired body as that of French china. We give an illustration of the Stand in the Machinery Hall. It is a very convenient arrangement in three sections, and the two end divisions have neatly carved fronts. The exhibit, though not an extensive one, is fully representative of the high-class china produced by M. Haviland. The house has a large range of samples at 99, Hatton-garden, E.C., the showroom of Mr. F. Trauffler, their sole London agent.

It is unfortunate that on the French side, as on the British, so many well-known manufacturers of pottery and glass are not represented by stands at this exhibition. We are sure that the firms who are exhibiting will unite with us in regretting that neither the world-famous porcelain factory at Sèvres nor the flint-glass manufactory of the Baccarrat Company, of Paris, are showing their beautiful productions. Fortunately, the latter have a London depôt at 48, Hatton-garden, where the finest examples of French crystal table-ware may be seen; but there is no separate display of Sèvres porcelain. There are, however, a few beautiful examples of Sèvres in different sections of the exhibition. For instance, in the central avenue of the "Palace of Decorative Arts" (where the exhibits of French china should have been), there stands alone, on a high pedestal, a magnificent tall Sèvres vase—a graceful form with no added ornamentation but the effective celadon colour. It is a fine model, and an example of skilful potting, which potters only can fully appreciate. It is surrounded by beautiful French furniture. As an ornamental accessory to the artistic section, of course, it is appropriate and perfect, but there is nothing to indicate who is exhibiting it, or why it is where it is. Art pottery is a usual concomitant in a display of artistic furniture, and it was not surprising to find art vases adorning "Louis Seize" and "Marie Antoinette" styles of furniture exhibited by an expert French cabinet maker. It is, however, indicative of the good understanding which prevails—as it should do—between the French and British exhibitors, to learn that certain art vases which complete the artistic effect of this particular French exhibit are English vases! The explanation is that the French cabinet maker, not having any French vases available, appealed to Mr. Wm. Burton, who at once lent him some grey-blue "Lancastrian" vases—and there they are, silent witnesses to the sincerity of the *entente cordiale*.

If the Sèvres porcelain factory has not a stand of its own in the exhibition, there are pieces of Sèvres porcelain in many sections of it. They are so scattered that they cannot be called an "exhibit," but they serve to show what a fine display would have been made if the Sèvres' factory had sent a collection of its productions for exhibition. For instance, in the central avenue of the Perfumery Section, Class 90, there are two splendid examples of "Sèvres." They are both large vases on pedestals. One is a plain form, ornamented all over with celadon leafage in pâte sur pâte, on creamy ground. The foliage is conventional with tall brown stems. The other vase has a rich floral decoration on light ground and gilt. As a painting, the ornamentation is a perfect work of art, while the vase itself is a perfect example of the art of the potter. There is nothing attached to any of these scattered exhibits to show what they are or who is exhibiting them, and there is no mention of them in the catalogue. The majority of visitors will, therefore, not appreciate them or their true worth.

(*To be continued.*)

Antibes Potteries to Close.—Reuter's correspondent at Antibes states that the pottery manufacturers there have decided to close their works. Fifteen hundred workmen will thus be thrown out of work.

THE SOUTH DEVON CHINA CLAY TRADE.—VIII.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

SOUTH DEVON still takes an easy first with "best potters," and for sewer work it is still customary to specify pipes to be of "London, South Devon, Ruabon, or other approved make." The position thus held can only be maintained by handling and using the best clays, for to impoverish the pipe heap and lower the quality of selling clays must result in the manufacture of a tube not possessing that standard of excellence generally expected in a stoneware pipe, and tend to impair the reputation of



A SANITARY TUBE WORKS.
(HEXTER, HUMPHERSON & CO., LTD.)

South Devon clays. With such formidable rivals as North Devon and Dorset, and a host of fire-clay pipe manufacturers following close on their heels, the clay merchants and manufacturers of the district, heavily handicapped as they are in the matter of railway charges, have enough to do to hold their own.

Although stoneware has been held to be so superior to its fire-clay competitor, the "fire" firms have in recent years vastly improved the quality of their wares. In "getting" stoneware, fire-clay and large beds of fire-sand are found. The sands are coarse, very clean, and of various colours—white, blue, brown, and black. They lie at a depth of from seven to twenty-five feet, usually supporting and resting on clay, but borings sometimes give meat earth, gravel, light or dark sand, mud, layers of sea shells, and a bottom of hard pink sand rock. The sea shells are mixed with sea sand with a strong smell and salt to the taste, 22 feet below the surface. On old maps many of these low-lying clay fields are shown as marshes and lakes, whilst an ancient chart of the time of Henry VIII. embraces the whole of them in one great estuary, stretching as far as Teignbridge. More than one town and village in the district retains "Clay-lane" as the name of a thoroughfare. In addition to the coarse sand, a fine variety is raised called sugar sand, on account of its resemblance to moist sugar, and not as a reflection upon grocers and drysalters, who sell it for scouring. There is not a great demand for fine sand, and it is only worked in a small way. Some of it is purchased by ironfounders in the North, and a few tons sold locally. When not in beds, sugar sand is found in veins, running through the clays, and considered of sufficient value to save back, even though it takes one man a whole day to make a ton. When plentiful it is worked in untimbered shallow, open pits. Years ago the vending of this sand—silver sand it was then called—gave employment to many old ladies, who took it away in bags slung on asses, which they drove off down the long narrow clay lanes to the watering-places of Torquay and Teignmouth.

Sands for building and concrete are also found at the pits; the latter is obtained by screening the "heading" for stones. Nearly all these stones are used in road-making; the exception is very large flint, which is despatched by rail to certain far distant works. Cinders and limestones are now used on clay roads, but at one time flint alone was employed, cinders being considered too dirty and limestone too dangerous to have on a clay field. Amongst the heterogeneous collection of articles which all clay merchants are bound at one time or another to have, churchwardens with "pin" holes, faulty jam jars, and ginger beer bottles, heavily pocked with flour mundic and corns, there is sometimes a facing brick in which a piece of limestone had somehow or other been made up, with the result that after the first shower the lime threw off several inches of the face. At one works such a brick was kept as an object-lesson and shown to the men as an awful example of what limestone would do when burnt in clay.

At one part of the clay field in a wild brake, pieces of limestone were found. Not even the oldest inhabitant remembered clay works there, and the numerous shallow pits were said to have been the work of gipsies who at one time encamped in large numbers on the clay moors. When searching for traces of these wandering potters, fragments of whose pots are often found in the woods, many lumps of partially burnt limestone were discovered and in a thicket remains of an old limekiln. This showed that the limestone had been brought there for burning on account of the plentiful supply of fuel the gorse and woods afforded, and not in connection with clay works. The best stones for clay roads are found at Stoney Quarry and most sand near the little hamlet of Sandygate.

It is claimed that neither the fire-clays nor fire-sands found are used for stoneware, but are manufacturerd into flues, fire lumps, boiler seatings and fire brick. The fire brick is a good one and has earned a more than local fame, being exported to Gibraltar, &c. Most of the pipes manufactured from South Devon clays, partly due to "arrange-



A SOUTH DEVON CLAY FIELD.
(DEVON & COURTENAY CLAY CO., LTD.)

ments" with "rings" and "associations," but principally owing to railway rates, are sold in the Southern counties only. A large number are disposed of through agents, in and around London, and the Welsh trade is considerable.

Unlike clay and brick, sold f.o.r. or f.o.b. the nearest station or port, the Devon pipes are sent carriage paid.

The further the distance the more carriage the manufacturer has to pay, but this does not necessarily affect prices. A pipe buyer 40 miles from the works buys cheaper than one living at a distance of 20 miles, provided that the first happens to trade at a port where water-borne *foreign* pipes, *i.e.*, any pipes not South Devon make, can be dumped. The man 20 miles off at a town with a little competition buys much cheaper than one at six miles where competition is unknown. If the six-mile man hires horses and wagons to fetch his goods, he discovers he could have had them delivered to his station carriage paid at a lower price than he pays at the works. A merchant, too, buys 2½ per cent. better than a contractor.

The favourable reports on the clays for sewer pipe by experts has resulted in the pipes being used by Government on special work. Some experts considered at one time that a "second" manufactured from the celebrated seam of South Devon stoneware clay equalled a "best" fire pipe. At present the second may not perhaps be quite as good as formerly. The rises in wages and in the price of coal and of salt for glazing make it incumbent on the foreman to think twice before condemning any second sewer pipes for land drains or land tiles. The manager who also has in his mind's eye all that has been paid in connection with digging, making, burning, and establishment expense



A South Devon Clay Works.
Devon & Courtenay Clay Co., Ltd.

takes good care that fewer still of these seconds shall be wheeled off to the mill for re-grinding. The paying of sorters a higher rate for best than seconds, and more for seconds than land drains, also tends, it is said, to lower the standard. Although much has been argued in favour of stoneware for pipes, there are not wanting those who would damage its fair fame as a tube clay. Some say it is too refractory, and when the opening of a kiln discloses a grotesque assortment of fantastically-shaped bends that were "set" pipes, great, glazed corkscrews that should have been bends, with cat-like monsters that were "put in" street gullies, it is South Devon clay that is blamed. Beside unkind criticism from within, there is that cross-current of abuse constantly levelled against stoneware clay by fire-clay firms, and that directed against "fire" firms by the stoneware men. South Devon clay, in turn with most clays, has suffered too at the hands of gentlemen who look with disfavour upon any clay not showing 5 per cent. commission, in addition to silica and alumina, and if the gentlemen happen to be investors or "interested" in a patent pipe, an "ordinary" pipe will have to be of extraordinary merit to pass. Another much-dreaded clay and pipe censor is the faddist, with his analytical weights and measures. He finds the small raw sample a milligram too heavy, the piece of burnt pipe a hundredth part of an inch too thick, the glaze not even, or (and this must be of profound importance in the case of pipes which will lie full four fathoms deep) the colour is too light or too dark. He requires each pipe to ring clear when struck with a hammer, to stand smoke and water tests, and tried by hydraulic pressure to an enormous strain. Each pipe must be marked with black letters "Tested," a branding which inspires confidence, the same as jewellery marked real silver or a sovereign or shilling stamped "good one." The manufacturer also has to sign certain legal documents swearing that he pays an altogether impossible rate of wages in the manufacture of the aforesaid pipes. Engineers and surveyors claim that sanitary engineering, as we know it to-day, is practically only in its infancy. To study some of its methods would lead one to suppose it was in its dotage, with its bad joins, unsealed traps, abominable system of ventilation, and the happy way it has of somehow mixing up main drainage sewers with water mains. The best feature in the whole system of sanitary engineering is the honest old stoneware or fire-clay pipe, but if, in the hands of practically ignorant men, and ignorant practical men, it becomes a danger to the public health, and fevers of the typhoid nature and diphtheria break out, the maker will see by his daily paper that "the epidemic has been traced to faults in connection with the new sewer, the pipes for which were manufactured by Blank & Co."!

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1907.

(*Continued from page* 932.)

Medical Inspector's Report.

DR. T. M. LEGGE, H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories, in his Report to the Chief Inspector of Factories, says:—"As a member of the Departmental Committee on Compensation for Industrial Diseases, I visited Glasgow, Manchester, and Swansea. The Report of the Committee was published in June. Subsequently, arising out of the conflicting evidence heard on the subject of cataract among glass workers I examined the eyes of 513 workers exposed to the glare of the glass furnace, and of 278 persons not so exposed. The result of this inquiry, together with an abstract of the literature on the subject, was printed and circulated among those concerned. The main conclusions of what proved to be a very interesting inquiry are published as part of this report." A table is given showing the number of cases of poisoning by lead, phosphorus, arsenic, mercury, and anthrax, in the various industries. From this table we extract the following, particulars which relate only to reported cases of

Lead Poisoning.

The total number of cases reported from all industries, and the number of reported cases connected with the china and earthenware industries, for each year, from 1899 to 1907 are thus given:—

	1907.	1906.	1905.	1904.
All industries	578	632	592	597
China and earthenware	103	107	84	106
	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
All industries	614	629	863	1,058	1,258
China and earthenware ..	97	87	106	200	249

"In the report for the year 1899 I stated that with a malady such as lead poisoning, which presents very often no unmistakable clinical sign or symptom, the medical practitioner must form his own standard of what constitutes a reportable case, and that in towns where lead poisoning is common there was no reason to believe that, generally speaking, the requirements to notify was either unknown or not acted upon. The latter statement is probably much truer now than it was nine years ago. The reports of the certifying surgeons describe not only the particular attack, but the present condition of the worker. Thus in the vast majority of cases colic is the symptom leading to notification, but if on examination paralysis of any degree is mentioned as present—even the vague term 'slight weakness of the arms'—or any other symptom such as anæmia, headache, &c., each one is entered under its appropriate heading. This makes the columns of 'main symptoms' total up to many more than 100, and yet it is quite fair and gives a true statement of the facts, to work out each one of the symptoms as a percentage on the total number of persons attacked."

The Inspector quotes a criticism of the figures published in this country, which was made by Dr. Teleky, consulting surgeon to various sick and insurance societies in Vienna, at the International

Congress of Hygiene, held in Berlin. He says the "number of cases of industrial lead poisoning is strangely small. In the whole of Great Britain there were 1,258 cases in 1899, and only 592 reported cases in 1905." Dr. Teleky thinks the report of cases in this country is very incomplete, and he seems to base his conclusion on the fact that the number of cases of plumbism in Vienna is higher than the number from the whole of Great Britain.

A very interesting table is given (Table IV.) showing the reported cases, the persons employed, the proportion of cases to persons employed in the several classes of china and earthenware works, and in the various processes. The table is a complex one, showing the total number of persons employed (separating male from female) in each process, that is to say, in the dipping house, the glost placers, majolica painters, ground layers, colour and litho' dusters, enamel colour and glaze blowers, colour makers and mixers of glaze or colour, and other persons in contact with lead. The cases reported in 1907 as occurring in each of these departments in works for the manufacture of china, earthenware, tiles, majolica, jet and Rockingham, china furniture and electrical fittings, and sanitary, are set out in tabular form.

We give the following brief summary of this very significant table. The total number of persons employed in all works was 6,694. There were 4,394 males from whom there were 52 reported cases, and 2,300 females who furnished 51 reported cases. These figures are analysed as follows :—In the dipping houses (including dippers, dippers' assistants, and ware cleaners) there were 1,336 males employed, of whom 22 were "reported." There were also 963 females employed, from among whom 36 cases were reported. Of glost placers there were 2,344 males, with 21 cases, and 97 females with 1 case. Amongst majolica painters there were 30 males and 557 females. There were four cases reported, all from the females. Amongst ground layers there were 49 men and 200 women, and only 1 reported case—that of a female working in earthenware. Of colour and litho' dusters, there were 9 males and 150 females, and no reported cases. Of enamel colour and glaze blowers, there were 36 males and 215 females. Of these there were 7 reported cases, all females. Of colour makers and mixers of glaze or colour, there were 376 males, with 5 reported cases, and 21 females with 1 reported case. Of other persons in contact with lead, there were 214 males and 4 reported cases, and 97 females and 1 reported case.

The total figures show little alteration since 1901, but when examined in detail reveal some encouraging features. Thus there is definite reduction in the number attacked in the dipping-house. There is distinct reduction in the number of cases reported and the attack rate in women ; and meticulous attention to detail in securing adequate exhaust ventilation, always independent of external weather conditions, in ware cleaning, in aerographing and colour dusting, may bring about a further diminution. The average age of the men attacked was 37 and of the women 27. As the Special Rules requiring exhaust ventilation and periodical medical examination (of all females and of male young persons under 16 only) came into force in 1898 it is evident that many of the men attacked must have worked for several years under conditions exposing them to risk of absorption of lead much greater than exists now. Particulars given of a glost placer who was included (erroneously, as inquiry showed) in the return as a case of lead poisoning, is illustrative of the difficulty of diagnosis in chronic cases. Tho case proved to be one of valvular disease of the heart.

Table V. gives a summary of reported cases, persons employed, and proportion of cases to persons employed in the various processes in earthenware and china works in the Staffordshire Potteries, on the same lines as the summary for the whole country in Table IV. The total number of persons employed was 5,731—that is to say, 3,250 males and 1,881 females. Of these 40 males and 42 females were reported cases. In the dipping houses (in The Potteries) 903 males and 719 females were employed, 18 of the former and 29 of the latter were reported. Of glost placers there were 1,872 males and 61 females, 14 of the former and 1 of the latter being reported. Of majolica painters 9 were males, and none were reported, while 473 were females, of whom 3 were reported. Amongst ground layers 41 males had no reported case, and 196 female workers had 1 case. There were 6 male chromo and litho' dusters with no reported case, and 125 female workers also free from report. Of enamel colour and glaze blowers 28 males had no reported case, but 209 female workers supplied 6 reported cases. In colour making and the mixing of glaze or colour, 248 male workers supplied 5 reported cases, and 12 female workers 1 case. Of other persons in contact with lead, there were 143 males and 86 females. The former had 3 reported cases and the latter 1.

The process of china-scouring is likely to be completely robbed of its danger to the worker, from inhalation of flint dust, by the introduction of a machine based on the principle of the "rumbler," used for removing the roughness on metal castings. The point of detail, however, which alone makes it applicable to china-scouring, is the connection of the hollow spindle with an exhaust whereby the fine dust is removed.

Another table (VI.) gives the numbers of persons suspended by the certifying surgeons for the Hanley, Burslem, Tunstall and Stoke districts from working in dangerous processes. It also gives the separate processes in which such persons were employed for the two years 1907 and 1906. In 1907 there were 119 persons, 54 males and 65 females, suspended in all, while in 1906 there were 116 persons suspended, namely, 39 males and 77 females. The greatest number of suspensions in both years were amongst dippers ware-cleaners, and glost placers. Several useful appendices and special reports are included in the volume.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN JULY.

THE POTTERY TRADES.—Employment in the Pottery trade was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Staffordshire it was bad, most factories being on short time. It was fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne, at Swadlincote, and in Devonshire. With earthenware makers employment was slack in the South Yorkshire and River Aire district, and in the Potteries, much short time being worked. Employment in the china furniture trade was bad ; it was fair with packers. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was very fair at Manchester, dull at Gateshead, and bad at Glasgow.

THE GLASS TRADES.—Employment during July showed a slight improvement on the previous month, but was worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,378 workpeople in the week ended July 25, 1908, and paying £10,202 in wages, showed an increase of 1·6 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 0·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The increases were principally in the glass bottle trade in Lancashire and Yorkshire. As compared with a year ago there were decreases of 4·5 per cent. in numbers employed and of 2·0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being general.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol, Dublin, and Mexborough ; fairly good at Wakefield ; moderate in the North of England and Scotland ; improving at Leeds and Barnsley ; quiet in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers employment was moderate at Leeds and slack at Barnsley. With flint glass makers it was fairly good on the whole. With cutters it was very quiet, much short time being worked. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was moderate. Employment with London glass blowers was fairly good. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was bad, but showed a slight improvement on the previous month ; a considerable amount of short time, however, was worked during the month.

Table showing the number of persons employed and the amount of wages paid them on pay day in week ending July 25 :—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,662	£7,126
Plate Glass	129	123
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	2,213	2,515
Other Branches	374	438
Total	8,378	£10,202

Number of persons employed in each district, and the amount of wages paid them on pay day, in week ending July 25 :—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	800	£961
Yorkshire	4,634	5,732
Lancashire	732	850
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,108	1,377
Scotland	780	963
Other parts of United Kingdom	324	319
Total	8,378	£10,202

TIN-GLAZED WARE.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

MANUFACTURERS of novelties (odious word) are ever on the look-out for articles that shall be attractive and new to the "man in the street." Much time, much thought, and still more ingenuity are expended on the production of these so-called novelties; yet how poverty-stricken the results often are. Is it any exaggeration to say that every rule and precept of the laws of beauty is broken in the execution of these products for the market. Nothing seems too vulgar or too stupid so long as it is "new," though now and again really beautiful wares are produced that, so far as England is concerned, are "something new."

The great Japanese boom of thirty years ago brought decorations and suggestions that were worked for all they were worth, and they were worth a great deal. This has made a mark, a very deep mark, on the potter's art in England, but much water has run under the bridge since then, and the public are again asking for a fresh departure which, if it is to be successful, must be on other lines. The Japanese craze was an exotic, and that was its weakness. Much of the decoration was utterly foreign to our people, and, therefore, liable to great errors in application. All exotic art slavishly copied and ignorantly used is bound to exhaust itself and speedily deteriorate into drivelling stupidity. Our potters may legitimately adopt means, methods, and suggestions, but to copy the special decorations as was done and still is by some makers of ornamental ware is to count disaster and to demonstrate the incapacity of the manufacturers. Where the greatest successes were obtained the ideas and methods were Anglicised, or, at least, Europeanised, and so made sources of strength instead of weakness.

Quite recently there has been a development of slip decoration deserving much praise for its simplicity and freshness. It is worthy of regard, for it is one of our old and national styles, and possesses much beauty. There is no seeking after extravagance in shape or ornament, no handles or legs in which the clay is tortured out of all reason. The artist in his striving after originality has not forgotten the fragility of his material, and has not produced such forms as would be right enough if hammered out in metal, but are far wrong when modelled in clay. On this slip decoration we hope to have something to say at some future time.

The great difficulty that besets the English art potter is the comparatively narrow limits of his realm. To the many great artists the bounds may be wide enough, but the trouble is that few are really great artists; the ruck are only too well aware of their mediocre skill. Terra-cotta, majolica in its many developments, salt-glazed wares, one-fired glazed wares, underglaze, enamel, china, have all been tried and tried again by our people at home. Two branches of the potter's art are all that are left that, so far, have never been attempted in England, except as experiments—hard china and tin-glazed ware. We believe we are correct when we say that no manufacturer in the United Kingdom has ever gone into these branches in any other than a very tentative and experimental form.

The manufacture of hard china is a departure that the home trade would do well to study. There is a future and a fortune for the men who bring it out successfully. But we propose now to say a few words on the manufacture of tin-glazed ware. It is a branch of trade almost unknown at home, yet it has certain qualities that recommend it to the pottery amateur and to the peasant and labourer, It may be made very ornamental, and it can be made cheap. In writing about tin-glazed ware, it is almost as hard to keep Palissy's name out of the story as Mr. Dick found it to keep King Charles' head. Yet there is a lesson to be learnt in the story of Palissy, apart from the moral of perseverance and energy overcoming difficulty. Palissy spent months and years striving to produce a fusible frit of his materials when all the time fusibility in the frit was the quality to be avoided. This was his great and initial error, and, like all pre-conceived or accepted ideas, it was long before he discovered his mistake. Nor is this to be wondered at, for who would imagine that a glaze to be smooth, even bright and perfect, must not be fused? In passing, we may note how Palissy's story proves the non-circulation of news in the Middle Ages, and even at their very close, for the practice and method that Palissy discovered was common knowledge across the Pyrenees What then are the possibilities and characteristics of this tin-glazed ware and where is it used, and for what? Tin-glazed ware is made in Brittany, in the Orleannais, along the north of the Pyrenees, in many parts of Spain and Portugal and in Italy. It is a material from which cups, bowls, plates, are made for the peasant and the labourer, and from which are also fashioned some of the loveliest productions of the potter's art for the dilettante and art lover. The pity of it is that no British firm shares in this last market. The striking characteristic of the ware is that it permits, nay, is best suited for, the use of what are termed inferior earths. Given a rough, crude, sandy clay, and you have a base from which a good tin-glazed ware may be produced. It is fired at a low temperature, the fire of hard enamel kiln is almost sufficient. The glaze is compounded of tin, lead, salt, and sand. The proportions vary a little in different districts, but the manner of production is much the same in every part of Europe. The lead and tin are oxidised and mixed intimately with the salt and sand. The mixture is very often laid in a thick bed on the fireplace, floor or hearth of the oven, wood being almost invariably used in the firing. After the oven is fired, the frit is found in a more or less solid mass. This is broken up and ground and is then ready for use.

In the factories where a high-class ware is produced, greater care is taken in the firing than in those factories which produce only for the market-place. The biscuit, as has already been stated, consists nearly always of a red or yellow clay. In Holland, where this class of glaze was greatly used in making the famous Delft tiles, the body was of a very friable yellow clay. After dipping, the ware may be decorated on the unfired glaze. This is almost invarably done when the pieces are intended for the cheap wares sold to peasants and labourers, heaps of which may be seen in almost any French or Spanish market-place. The colouring is almost invariably brilliant, and very striking, as it is possible to produce a most vivid scarlet on this ware. For higher class wares the process slightly differs. The ware is dipped and then fired, and if the glaze is a reasonably good one, the product presents the appearance of a fine white smooth ware. Indeed, there are to be found in some of the ceramic museums samples of the old makers that no one except an expert could distinguish from fine white earthenware. In this glost state it may be decorated and refired, and some of the most beautiful wares made in France and Italy are produced in this manner. It lends itself especially to reproductions of old ware for the great part of the famous earthenwares of the past were made in this manner.

The most exquisite pieces produced in France are made at Blois, where the artist found nearly all his inspiration in the ornament of the beautiful old castle. In Italy there is a maker at Perugia who has a steady trade in making wares along the traditional lines of Urbino and Faenza, and there are also two more makers at or near Florence. It is very interesting to note how all these manufacturers.

have complied, no doubt unwittingly, with Ruskin's dictum that really original artistic work can only be produced by the artist regularly enforcing on himself defined boundaries within which to work. In Germany very little of this ware has been produced; indeed, it may be said to be unknown, although the earthenware stoves seem in some cases to be glazed with a material closely akin. Those of our readers who visit the Franco-British Exhibition will find a few pieces exhibited, but the exhibit, like all the wares exhibited, is cramped for space and meagre in number. We hope we have said enough to show that this tin-glazed ware is worthy a little consideration and have shown that it possesses a considerable interest for enterprising seekers after novelties.

POTTERS' ACCESSORIES.

Wengers, Limited, colour and chemical manufacturers for potters, glassmakers, &c., Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, have just published a useful addition to their numerous trade catalogues and price lists. This is their new machine price list, No. 40. The company are well known as manufacturers of colours and chemicals for potters, glass manufacturers, enamellers on metals, and others. This new machine list, No. 40, includes descriptions and illustrations of practically every kind of machinery used in the manufacture of pottery and in the preparation of the materials used in those processes. Amongst a large number of machines and accessory appliances illustrated and described there are crushing mills, pan-grinding or levigating mills for pottery purposes, improved grinding or pulverising cylinders, colour grinding pans or mills, blungers, sifting machines, electro magnets, pumps and filter presses of various types, combined jigger and jolley, a new patent rotary flower-pot-making machine, continuous roller printing machines, and other machines and appliances used in the decoration of pottery. This is something more than a price list—it is a handy compendium of useful trade information. There is a map of the Potteries, showing railway and canal communication to Crewe, Runcorn and Liverpool, and also to Kidsgrove and Manchester. This is accompanied by a table of distances from Stoke-on-Trent to many of the principal towns and to ports of loading for pottery clays, and of shipment for many places abroad. These distances are given in miles and in kilometres. The company consult the convenience of their foreign customers by offering to invoice their goods in metric weights and measures, if desired, and also in any currency. The book is well printed, and the illustrations especially are of a high class. It is strongly bound, and the front cover is artistically printed in colours. This useful book of reference is provided with an attachment for hanging on the desk or office wall.

Wm. Boulton, Ltd., Providence Foundry and Engineering Works, Burslem, have recently produced the new oval dish machine which is the subject of our illustration. The machine is used like any ordinary jigger and jolley, and will make articles from a round to an elliptical shape, 6¼ in. longer than the width, any size up to 20 in., and with bellied or undercut sides. It is self-contained, and may be adapted to either a rope or a belt drive, and possesses the following important advantages, viz. :—Special adaptation of profile to bellied or undercut shapes; firm and strong frame and spindles and superior wearing surfaces; great accuracy and permanence in all the working parts; perfect alignment and adjustment; requires little attention and cost of maintenance. Absolutely perfect fit of the iron rings, which are made by a special machine to standard gauges, and are interchangeable from one machine to another. Elliptical articles can be made on this machine with the following advantages over the old system of hand working, viz. :—30 per cent. saving in wages; reduction in quantity of clay used, as the articles can be made thinner; greater uniformity; closer nesting in bungs, equal to that of plates, &c., by which means more articles can be placed in a saggar, thus effecting a considerable saving in the cost of firing, storage and packing. About thirty years ago Messrs. Boulton made a machine for the same purpose, but the demand for oval dishes at that time was very limited, and they were sold in comparatively small quantities. This fact, combined with strong conservative feeling on the part of manufacturers and prejudice on the part of operative potters, prevented the sale of the machine, but within recent date the demand for oval-shaped articles in the pottery trade has become very great, and the necessity for a machine to make ovals has grown with the demand for the oval shapes. To meet this, several dish machines have been put upon the market. Messrs. Boulton, knowing from past experience some of the difficulties which were sure to be encountered, have been at great pains so to improve the former machine as to be able to overcome all the known



OVAL DISH MACHINE.

difficulties and to put upon the market a perfect machine for the purpose. In addition to adapting the machine for the making of "flat" oval dishes and "baker" dishes, they have added to the machines a special arrangement for producing "bellied or undercut" articles of oval shape, and so successful was their effort that they made a perfect dish at the first try. During the recent Staffordshire County Agricultural Show at Burslem they exhibited one of their machines in operation, making use of an oil engine, dynamo, and electric motor, for the power to drive same. The machine worked splendidly, and attracted much attention in two ways—first from the country people, who were interested in watching the potter at work, and, second, from the pottery manufacturers of the district, who are on the look-out for a machine for the purpose. Many of those present volunteered expressions of admiration at the perfect working of the machine, and already a number of the machines have been sold, including the one at the exhibition. Certain special features of this machine have recently been made the subject of a new patent.

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EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR JULY, 1908.

	Quantities.				Value.			
	Month ended July 31.		Seven Months ended July 31.		Month ended July 31.		Seven Months ended July 31.	
CHINA OR PORCELAIN, AND EARTHENWARE.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany ..... cwts.	11,459	8,042	58,793	48,084	£8,915	£4,929	£48,660	£35,811
„ France ..... „	5,725	4,108	37,147	24,872	5,362	6,359	37,047	43,844
„ United States of America ..... „	47,537	37,267	305,024	240,556	54,737	43,620	360,757	306,684
„ Brazil ..... „	28,557	32,458	124,027	137,961	18,639	13,092	93,669	74,747
„ Argentine Republic ..... „	23,112	15,831	214,820	170,804	12,045	14,502	104,213	116,373
„ British South Africa ..... „	12,130	5,480	80,077	48,813	8,091	4,768	53,303	42,457
„ British East Indies..... „	22,806	22,150	194,723	203,568	13,634	16,065	96,229	109,837
„ Australia ..... „	23,387	16,306	118,612	110,029	26,552	20,377	134,885	126,645
„ New Zealand ..... „	6,156	7,198	45,032	54,725	9,683	11,135	62,940	63,666
„ Canada ..... „	27,010	45,509	185,024	246,202	27,229	24,091	169,542	166,290
„ Other Countries ..... „	92,776	117,942	583,325	583,505	58,273	52,890	347,010	350,752
MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:								
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian..... „	2,211	1,776	11,436	10,922	15,766	9,568	97,865	74,343
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „	152,662	6,066	903,391	47,629	187,931	5,280	1,122,889	42,963
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... „		10,243		59,108		6,198		43,490
Sanitary Ware ..... „		15,667		104,469		25,189		158,856
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... „		106,149		715,407		133,353		900,447
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	47	954	193	5,497	111	1,539	356	8,503
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	134,218	166,910	943,835	880,432	26,671	24,485	181,226	147,715
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) „	11,517	4,526	87,749	45,655	12,681	6,216	105,919	60,789
GLASS.								
To British South Africa.....value £	—	—	—	—	4,955	5,226	35,609	31,993
„ Other Countries .. .. „	—	—	—	—	121,713	106,753	776,346	734,200
MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:								
Plate Glass .....cwts.	14,293	15,765	93,189	89,066	24,410	27,510	153,697	145,925
Flint Glass ..... „	7,333	4,721	41,297	33,341	21,001	14,993	122,266	102,813
Glass Bottles .....gross	76,780	51,109	497,526	439,914	49,241	36,424	319,060	296,628
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	42,736	40,533	275,879	270,763	32,016	33,052	216,932	220,827

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR JULY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian..cwts.	5,063	4,855	29,854	34,578	22,320	21,294	144,880	156,949
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „	30,933	8	194,424	2,216	66,684	23	381,834	666
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... „		1,196		17,636		1,019		11,026
Sanitary Ware ..... „		80		401		244		889
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)..... „		22,285		163,466		45,804		335,227
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	51	—	151	131	204	—	538	480
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	7,575	4,259	36,422	57,364	1,403	1,236	8,089	20,452
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware) „	2,449	1,881	14,990	13,219	3,629	3,176	19,571	20,748
Window and German Sheet Glass „	110,512	95,152	749,470	685,905	62,567	55,512	416,558	387,493
Plate Glass ..... „	34,532	24,768	262,740	192,167	41,559	31,220	323,412	239,962
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	71,630	60,331	452,124	395,153	110,211	89,818	662,344	588,183
Glass Bottles.....gross	119,899	108,733	882,479	908,717	49,879	44,821	366,434	376,345
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	5 80	262	8,649	4,367	890	522	10,859	5,959

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR JULY.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ...cwts.	1,106	1,484	9,013	11,275	5,298	6,481	40,938	54,268
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „	2,407	—	8,209	32	6,015	—	16,767	55
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)..... „		—		211		—		223
Sanitary Ware..... „		47		52		192		196
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)..... „		662		3,715		1,735		9,353
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	—	—	15	2	—	—	42	5
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	—	41	99	1,398	—	170	24	1,272
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) „	40	24	118	80	90	77	228	221
Window and German Sheet Glass „	391	313	4,372	4,428	221	159	2,096	2,406
Plate Glass ..... „	118	100	3,515	848	148	121	3,884	966
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	1,435	548	4,440	2,919	2,631	2,174	9,944	10,457
Glass Bottles .....gross	5,016	7,453	28,945	33,785	2,923	3,683	16,700	17,539
Glass Manufactures of other sorts ..cwts.	596	568	4,492	2,891	2,487	1,194	11,042	7,028

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, June 28 to July 25, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to July 25, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	527	457	3,366	3,375
,, New York	485	641	3,434	4,247
,, Baltimore	1,447	1,962	10,994	11,857
,, Philadelphia	489	339	3,131	1,606
,, New Orleans	198	714	3,184	4,444
,, Newport News	—	107	370	807
,, San Francisco	—	112	39	336
,, Portland, Me.	—	548	3,771	4,322
,, Galveston	45	314	552	1,064
,, Portland, Or.	—	—	—	109
,, Inland Points	—	160	392	643
Total	3,191	5,354	29,233	32,837

Legal.

Carriers' Liability on Broken Vases.—In the City of London Court, on Aug. 13, before his Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by Mr. Walter Sharer, glass merchant, 26, Ely-place, Holborn, E.C., to recover the sum of £3 8s. 7d. against Van Dam & Co., carriers, 4, Cullum-st., E.C., for damage done to 19 vases. Mr. Sharer, the plaintiff, said the vases were handed to the defendants to bring to him from Rotterdam, and when they arrived the cases were all broken up. The vases were smashed to pieces, and he, therefore, now sued the defendants for their value. The dofendants were foreign carriers. Mr. Fenwick, solicitor for the defendants, said the wrong people had been sued. The plaintiff's contract was with the shipowners who brought the vases from Rotterdam to London and the defendants were merely the agents in the matter. Mr. Sharer was cross-examined, and he said the reason he had sued the defendants was because they had demanded payment from him for carriage of freight for bringing the vases from Rotterdam to London. They were the contracting carriers. Before they delivered the goods they said they must have the money in advance and he had to pay it to them. The defendants made a contract of carriage by carrying the goods and demanding the money. The goods were handed to the defendants at Rotterdam. The bill of lading, which was produced to the Court, was made by the Rotterdam and London Steamship Co. He did not know that the vases were shipped by them on board the steamship "Express." He was suing the defendants for breaking his goods. Mr. Fenwick told the Court that according to the bill of lading the plaintiff had no case. The defendants were the London agents to the Rotterdam Steamship Co. The goods were put on board one of their steamers at Rotterdam, and they were delivered to the plaintiff by the defendants as agents for the steamship company. The plaintiffs should have sued the owners of the steamship with whom he had entered into his contract. Under the terms of the bill of lading in consideration for a low rate of freight, the bill of lading provided that the shipowners should not be responsible for any negligence of their servants, for damage done to glass goods, even when caused by negligence, unless notice was given at the time of shipment and an extra freight paid thereon. The glass was carried at the shipper's risk, the shipowner being in no way liable for anything that happened. The steamship company had been paid no additional freight, and therefore no claim whatever could be successful against either the defendants or the owners of the steamship. Judge Rentoul said he was afraid the plaintiff was in the wrong. His goods had been smashed, but having regard to the terms of the bill of lading, the shipowners and their agents were exempted from liability, except the plaintiff could prove that the shipowners had wilfully damaged the goods. If the plaintiff could prove, say, that the defendants' servants took a hammer and smashed the goods, then he might have some chance of recovering. The bill of lading showed clearly that the goods were carried at the plaintiff's own risk. Mr. Sharer replied that the defendants had admitted their liability in letters which had been written. At first, he declared, the defendants wanted to put the matter on to the poor carman and make him pay the amount. The vases were signed for "received in bad order and broken condition." He refused to take delivery of the goods unless they were signed for in that way. Judge Rentoul: If you give a parcel of goods to a carrier on the terms that he is not to be liable for broken goods unless you can prove he wilfully smashed them, you will have no remedy. The Plaintiff: I suppose you are fully aware, sir, that carmen handle these goods in a shocking way, and you will have noticed how they ill-use cases by throwing them on and off vans. These cases must have received fearful ill-usage. Judge Rentoul: I am perfectly well aware that luggage especially is often very carelessly handled, and some people are rather suspicious that some goods are wilfully carelessly handled, especially luggage forwarded in advance. Sending luggage in advance deprives porters of a good deal of tips, and there is a strong suspicion they are purposely handled carelessly and things lost. You have to prove in your case that your vases were damaged intentionally—that is your difficulty of proving wilful damage on their part. There are two rates. The carrying of goods on one is higher than the other. That is a kind of insurance, and the lower rate is one at which they are taken at your risk. The plaintiff further said that the goods were not of the value of £10, therefore the carriers were responsible for the damage which had been done. Judge Rentoul said there was certainly a law on that subject. Mr. Fenwick pointed out that the plaintiff was in error in thinking that the Land Carriers Act applied. Carriers were liable for negligence up to £10, unless there was a signed contract by the consignee to the contrary, but that did not apply to sea transit. Judge Rentoul said there was always a risk of storm at sea which might throw goods about very much. Somebody had to take the risk of that, but it was a matter of contract between the parties who was going to take the risk. That was the first point in the case, and the second point was as to whether the defendants were the right people to have sued. Mr. Fenwick said the defendants were only agents for the steamship company, and the defendants saw that the consignee was advised of the arrival of the ship. They gave notice as agents of the steamship owners. Judge Rentoul thought that point was fatal to the plaintiff recovering anything at all, as the plaintiff had evidently sued the wrong parties. The plaintiff replied that he had a facsimile case only recently where the goods were consigned by the Great Eastern Railway and they were damaged. He made a claim against the Great Eastern Railway, and their representative called and inspected the goods. A few days afterwards they sent him the amount of his claim. If the Great Eastern Railway had not been liable, they certainly would never have paid the amount of his claim. Judge Rentoul: There may have been a different contract in that case. The Plaintiff: No, no contract whatever. Mr. Fenwick pointed out that the Great Eastern Railway Co. were carriers in that case. In the case now before the Court the defendants were not carriers at all. Judge Rentoul said that was so, and he did not see how the plaintiff could show that the defendants were liable in any way. Just because the defendants insisted upon payment of the carriage of goods, that did not make them liable. The plaintiff pointed out to the Court that the defendants must have known there was something wrong with the goods, or they would not have demanded freight before delivery. Judge Rentoul said he was willing to concede all that. The plaintiff had no chance of recovering. One might just as well try to make the clerks in that office of that Court responsible for any fault made by the judge sitting in Court. The defendants were simply employed to collect money, but not to accept liability. If the plaintiff gave instructions to have his goods removed and there was a lot of breakage, the man who collected the money would not necessarily be responsible for the breakage. The bill of lading determined the matter, and that seemed to have put the goods into the defendants' hands at the risk of the plaintiff. Unless the plaintiff could prove intentional damage on the defendants' part, then he could not recover. Whether the plaintiff had any case against the steamship company or not he would not advise him. The preliminary point was that he had sued the wrong people. He could do nothing in the case whatever. Those matters about carriers' law were really very difficult, and an ordinary layman, without the assistance of a lawyer, could not be sure of his ground. There was nothing to do but to give judgment for the defendants with costs.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

XVIII.—THE RATIONAL ANALYSIS OF CLAYS.

By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc.

1.—*Rational v. Ultimate Analyses.*

IT is the fashion among a certain section of clayworkers to belittle the ultimate analysis in vigorous terms, while the rational analysis is claimed to be the only satisfactory mode of representing the composition of a clay. It will be remembered that the *ultimate* analysis shows the proportions of the different elements in a clay in terms of their oxides—silica, alumina, lime, magnesia, etc. The *rational* analysis attempts to show how the different elements are combined togother, and the composition of the clay is expressed in terms of clay substance—generally assumed to be kaolin—felspar, and quartz; or of clay substance, mica, felspar, quartz, free alumina, free iron oxide, free limestone, etc.

The practical worker holds "arm-chair philosophy" in great contompt; but, after all, is not "arm-chair philosophy" one great object of his quest? The experienced manufacturer makes fewer mistakes and has a greater output with a smaller expenditure of energy than his less fortunate colleague. Why? Experience has taught him that certain effects will follow certain conditions. He, from his "office chair," can instruct his workmen to take certain precautions or dire results will follow. Unfortunately, the most experienced clayworker knows but little, after all. In consequence, he too is largely dependent upon the painful method of trial and failure. When we have learned enough about the inter-relations and the inter-actions of the different constituents of a clay mixture to be able to predict what will happen at different stages in the process of manufacture of particular types of ware; and when we know sufficient to be able to modify the manufacturing conditions so that the final result may have certain assigned physical and chemical properties, clayworking will pass from an abstruse technical art to a philosophical science. It is claimed that the rational analysis furnishes the clayworker with an exact knowledge of the minerals which make up his clay. This information would be most valuable, and we naturally inquire: Is this information really available? Unfortunately, no! I contend that:

(1) *In the hands of experienced men the two leading methods adopted on the Continent for conducting the rational analysis of a clay frequently furnish results incompatible with an ultimate analysis of the same clay.*

(2) *The ultimate analysis can be conducted with a great degree of precision.*

(3) *Ergo, other things being equal, the rational analysis must be frequently erroneous.*

(4) *The process cannot be recommended as a general method for comparing the properties of different types of clay.*

(5) *Manufacturers of refractory materials are therefore more "rational" in presenting the results of an ultimate analysis than they would be in presenting the results of a rational analysis.*

Mr. F. J. Bywater, in a recent paper before the Institute of Gas Engineers (*Brit. Clayworker*, 17, 94, 1908; *Trans. Inst. Gas Eng.*, —, —, 1908), "considers that the salvation of the fireclay trade lies in the manufacturers carrying out a very complete series of investigations as to the real composition of their clays—ascertaining for each seam or pocket the proportions of felspar, quartz, and clay substance present on the lines suggested many years ago by Seger and other famous scientific clayworkers, and by a series of actual tests made on a sufficiently large scale, under men who are able to carry out the investigation with proper scientific accuracy" (*Brit. Clayworker*, 17, 88, 1908). Mr. Bywater writes as an experienced gas engineer, and the part of his paper dealing with the wear and tear of gas retorts and firebricks, in consequence, is a valuablo contribution to that phase of the subject. Mr. Bywater's papor has given rise to some discussion, and I therefore take the liberty of using the analyses published in his paper as a basis for my remarks.

2.—*The Proportion of the Alleged Clay Substance, Quartz, and Felspar can be approximately calculated from the Ultimate Analysis.*

The analysis of a medium Stourbridge clay is stated to be:

Silica	64·62%
Alumina	21·65%
Ferric oxide	1·48%
Lime	1·88%
Magnesia	0·62%
Moisture	9·62%

making a total of 99·87. A total deviation of $100{\cdot}00 \pm 0{\cdot}5$ represents the maximum usually permitted in clay analyses. Mr. Bywater claims that the reason this clay does not furnish satisfactory bricks is not revealed by this analysis. He says the analysis "gives no information as to the condition in which silica is present in the clay. It may exist as quartz, or in combination with alumina . . ."

An expert would see at once, *assuming* that the clay contains "true clay-substance, quartz, and felspar," a large proportion of free silica—at least 20 per cent.—must be present. He could also state the approximate proportion of felspar if the ultimate analysis had been stated in full. The oxample quoted is particularly unfortunate, because the alkalies have not been determined, and the analysis is, in consequence, imperfect. The importance of the alkali determination is recognised by the author, since, in a later part of the paper, he says: "No brick should be accepted for use where high temperatures are to be withstood containing more than a total of 1 per cent. of potash and soda."

I feel sure that there is some confusion in some parts of Mr. Bywater's paper between the composition of a *fired brick* and of an *unfired clay*, with its approximately 10 per cent. "loss on ignition." I mention this because the confusion likewise prevails in many of the (British) handbooks to the clayworker's art; but the fact has no particular bearing on the present argument, since if the *fired* brick is not to have more than 1 per cent. of alkalies, the limit for the unfired clay would be about one-tenth per cont. less than this.

I may also be permitted to express my doubt whether a single analysis—rational or ultimate—quoted in the paper is worth very much. No direct method for the determination of "alkalies" as such is known. The "alkalies" must be separated into "potash and soda" before a determination can be made. Had this been done the result would, no doubt, have been stated in the table, because this data is of importance in estimating certain qualities of a clay. Again, most fireclays contain about 2 per cent. of titanic oxide. This has obviously not been separated. I have not met a Stourbridge clay without this constituent. I doubt, therefore, if a clay expert would attempt to show why the clay in question makes unsatisfactory firebricks. This would not justify Mr. Bywater's charge of the "futility" of ultimate analyses in general; but it does show the "futility" of slovenly analyses—ultimate or rational. However, this point does not affect the validity of my argument.

The method of calculation for transforming the ultimate analysis of a clay so as to show "clay substance," "quartz," and "felspar" need not be elaborated here. The principle is described in any elementary text-book of chemistry. The bases can be calculated to the "RO" of felspar stated by Mr. Bywater to be $RO\ Al_2O_3\ 6SiO_2$. The corresponding silica and alumina are deducted from the total silica and alumina; and the remaining alumina can be calculated to clay substance, stated by Mr. Bywater to be $Al_2O_3\ 2SiO_2\ 2H_2O$ (I assume, of course, that Mr. Bywater's $Al_2O_3\ 2SiO_2$ is a misprint). The corresponding silica deducted from that left after the preceding operation furnishes the free "quartz." There is a pitfall. The multiplication of the "comparatively large" errors in the determination of small quantities of bases in the higher grade clays renders it necessary to label the process "approximate."

3.—*The Results Furnished by the Rational Analysis are Unreliable—Frequently False.*

Can the rational analysis do more? Mr. Bywater gives a brief outline of the principle adopted in one method of conducting the rational analysis which is so well known that it need not be stated here. The next three analyses are quoted by Mr. Bywater to show that "clays may be similar in composition when analysed by the one method but entiroly different by the other, or both may give similar results." The analyses quoted are:—

Ultimate Analyses.

	A Per Cent.	B Per Cent.	C Per Cent.
SiO_2	60·49	62·52	56·14
Al_2O_3	26·10	25·57	30·99
FeO	2·11	0·92	0·80
CaO	tracc	0·65	nil
MgO	0·56	0·10	0·27
Alkalies	1·08	1·04	0·78
Loss on ignition	9·80	9·27	11·27
Rational Analyses.			
Clay substance	71·54	72·05	79·47
Quartz	25·97	27·78	18·92
Felspar	2·49	0·10	1·61

Is Mr. Bywater's condemnation of the ultimate analyses justified? Surely there is an appreciable difference in the ultimate analyses of any two of these clays. The rational analysis of the B clay furnished 0·10 of felspar. Under the condition least favourable for my argument, this corresponds with at most 0·017 of RO bases, yet the clay has a hundred times this quantity of alkalies! And this without mentioning the 1·67 per cent. of additional bases FeO, CaO, and MgO. This number, 0·017, is absolutely incompatible with the 2·71 per cent. of RO bases actually present. I may say, in passing, that this analysis was published sixteen years ago in the *Tonindustrie Zeitung* (16, 1031, 1892). The analysis was made in Germany, and it represents the composition of a German clay from a pit at Löthian in Saxony. It makes no differ-

ence to the argument whether FeO be a misprint for Fe_2O_3 or not. The rational analyses of clays A and C are likewise incompatible with the corresponding ultimate analyses. Tho felspar in the former corresponds at most with 0·4 per cent. of RO bases, actually 3·75 per cent. are present. It will not do to refer the discrepancy to "clay substance," because we should then be confronted with another incongruity.

On comparing a number of published analyses and reports two or three years ago, I found this sort of thing quite general. Here, for instance, is one selected at random from a Report on some Shropshire clays by Mr. J. T. Norman (September 25, 1903) :—

ULTIMATE ANALYSIS.

	Per Cent.
Free silica	27·19
Combined silica	32·11
Alumina	27·17
Ferric oxide	1·44
Lime	0·48
Magnesia	nil
Alkalies	0·52
Sulphur trioxide	1·40
Loss on ignition	9·67

RATIONAL ANALYSIS.

Kaolinite	43·74
Quartz	19·42
Felspathic matter	36·84

"Kaolinite" is here a term intended to be synonymous with "clay substance"; the "combined silica" probably means the silica which is combined as kaolin; "free silica" that which is really "free" as well as that *combined* with the 36·84 per cent. of "felspathic matter." Without dwelling on this point, we see at once that 36·84 per cent. of "felspathic matter" in the rational analysis is quite incompatible with the RO bases in the ultimate analysis. Similar discrepancies occur in the table of rational and ultimate analyses quoted in H. Ries' *Clays: Their Occurrence, Properties, and Uses*, New York, 63, 1906.

It is necessary to bear in mind: (1) The accuracy of the ultimate analysis within the limits indicated above has never been questioned; and (2) the journals are strewn with records of attempts to improve the old German process of rational analysis—suggested by G. Forchhammer (1835), and advocated by H. A. Seger—and make it applicable to clays in general. But with no marked success. The improvements involve so many debatable assumptions that I am very doubtful if it gives results so exact as those calculated as indicated above. Consequently, E. R. Buckley, in his *Report on the Clays and Clay Industries of Wisconsin*, Madison, Wis., 267, 1901, abandoned the rational analysis of the Wisconsin clays as being of "little significance," and calculated the mineralogical composition of the clays by a method similar in principle to that just outlined. There is no known accurate process for the general determination of the exact mineralogical composition of clays, and I am not very sanguine of the discovery of such a process in the immediate future. I have indicated (*Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.* 7, —, 1908) what I consider, at present, to be the best way of finding the proportions of the different minerals in a clay once the minerals have been identified. This information is embodied in the ultimate analysis.

In capable hands, the *method* for conducting the ultimate analysis is very exact, whereas the *method* employed for the rational analysis is extremely faulty when applied to clays generally. The term "rational" is therefore somewhat misleading. When a process, in the hands of an experienced analyst, furnishes results similar to those just quoted, I claim, in all seriousness, that *the process is irrational, misleading, and false.*

Possibly, Mr. Bywater will say that this is a problem for the chemists to settle. It certainly is. But until the chemists have perfected this objectionable process, it is scarcely fair to preach its great virtues.

This paper is a brief neither for nor against the methods in vogue for the manufacture of British or German firebricks. My remarks are directed solely against the idea that the process of rational analysis indicated by Mr. Bywater can be applied to fire-clays in general. If Brongniart, in 1840, had used some adjective other than "rationelle," this note might never have been written. The adjective is without doubt responsible for many of the virtues which writers claim for this irrational process.

To prevent misunderstanding, I must add that it is a very great convenience, in practical work, to assume that the higher grade clays—and pottery materials, Cornish stone, flint, and felspar—are composed of "clay substance, felspar, and quartz." These constituents can be calculated from the ultimate analysis more accurately than determined by rational analysis. To facilitate this work, therefore, it might be advisable for clay analysts to append to their analyses a "Mineralogical Composition computed from the Ultimate Analysis," and this, in spite of the fact that a man who can work with a "rational analysis," could himself calculate the data from the ultimate analysis. It must also be remembered that in dealing with ordinary brick clays, it would be necessary to have an ultimate analysis of the part soluble in, say, dilute hydrochloric acid, in order to avoid confusing free limestone, &c., with the normal constituents of clays.

XIX.—CENTRIFUGAL EXTRACTORS *V.* FILTER PRESSES.*

By J. W. MELLOR.

IN the hydro- or centrifugal extractor the rapid rotation of a perforated cage containing the material drives the fluid portions through the walls of the cage, and leaves the solid material behind. The process works well with fibrous materials and granular substances, but not with finely divided substances. The question naturally arises: Will the process work well with clay slip? If it would, centrifugal extractors would soon displace the cumbrous filter press. On trial, it was found that the clay slips forms a hard crust on the walls of the perforated cage. The crust is not permeable enough to permit the passage of the water from the slip in the interior of the cage. Centrifugal extractors are not, therefore, adapted for removing water from clay slip.

The result here obtained is an exaggeration of that produced when filter presses are made with deep trays. The removal of the water from the interior of the cakes is then very imperfect, for the slip in the interior of the cakes contains nearly as much water as the original slip, while water is alone extracted from the exterior of the cake.

I have some hesitation in laying the matter before the Society, because it is not customary to record failures. It is, however, very obvious that if the work is conscientiously done, failures are nearly as important as successes. After all has been said, successful results can only be obtained by a process of trial and failure. A record of some of our failures may prevent others wasting time following up wrong clues.

W. J. Gee (*Brit. Pat. No.* 4,155, 1907) has recently patented a process for washing and drying clay slip, in which the principle of the centrifugal extractor has been applied in a very ingenious way. The clay slip runs through the centre of a long cylinder with solid walls. The cylinder is rotated rapidly (500—600 revolutions per second), and solid clay collects on the walls of the cylinder, and water free from clay flows from the opposite end. The most finely divided clay collects near the exit, the coarser particles at the opposite end, where the clay slip enters the rotating cylinder. When the exit water appears turbid, the cylinder is emptied, and again set to work.

I desire to thank Mr. Hoc, of Messrs. Manlove, Alliott & Co., Ltd., Nottingham, for making the trials for me.

U.S. Fluorspar Production and Imports.—The total quantity of fluorspar marketed in 1907 in the United States is reported at 49,486 short tons, valued at $287,342, which represents a gain in quantity of 8,690 short tons and in value of $43,317 over the output for 1906. Up to October, 1907, the demand for fluorspar was generally strong, with prices ranging from 75 cents to $1 in advance of those of 1906. Towards the end of the year there was a decided falling off in production as a result of the depression in the iron and steel business that followed the financial stringency. Many producers found, however, that the net result of the year's business was no worse than that of 1906, and others report decided gains. Wholesale prices in December, 1907, on domestic lump spar free on board shipping point ranged from $8 to $10 per long ton; on ground spar, from $11·50 to $13·50 per long ton; and on foreign crude, ex-dock, from $8 to $10 per long ton. In May, 1908, the quotations were exactly the same. The fluorspar imported into the United States is said to come largely from English mines, the competition being felt principally along the Atlantic coast. The fluorspar produced in England is obtained mainly from mines, but a small quantity is obtained from open quarries The output is from the counties of Derby and Durham. The total quantity of fluorspar produced from these two counties in 1906 was 41,849 long tons, valued at the mines at $97,442, as compared with 39,446 long tons, valued at $95,174. From 1899, when the fluorspar obtained was only 783 tons, the production increased very rapidly up to 1905. The average value per ton in 1906 was $2·33, which is $1·12 less than the lowest valuation placed on American spar at the mines.

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* From *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6, 171, 1907.

Foreign Notes.

The China Clay Imports of Boulogne-sur-Mer amounted last year to 849 tons, as compared with 474 tons imported in 1906.

The Russian Clayworkers' and Tile Makers' Congress.—The Clayworkers' and Tile Manufacturers' Congress, announced to be held from Aug. 7 to 14, has been postponed till further on in the year (date not fixed) by reason of the poor response by expected participants.

Porcelain and Glassware to the value of £8,500 were imported into Damascus last year; 30 per cent. was supplied by Austria-Hungary, 10 per cent. by Belgium, and the remainder by France, Italy and Germany. The value of the import in 1906 was £8,000 and in 1905, £7,800.

The Pottery Trade of Alexandria.—The French Consul at Alexandria states that in 1907, glass, pottery, and chinaware were imported to a total value of £E.770,000, of which £E.144,000 fell to France. Belgium rivals France in the supply of these goods. Italy also presses France very closely. England takes a large sum under this category, but a considerable portion of the total is for Portland cement, which falls under this class of goods in the returns.

Opposing the Stores.—The Board of Aldermen of Buffalo, N.Y., are considering ordinance, which it is thought will come into operation:—"No such licence shall be issued to any person, firm or corporation to transact or carry on more than one line of business unless such two or more lines of business are carried on each in a separate store not connected by a doorway or passage-way with any other store in which another line of business is carried on by such licence." A fine of $50 to $250 is provided for violation of the ordinance. This would do away with departmental stores.

Decrease in United States Commerce. — While we are pondering over the lamentable falling off in our own imports and exports, news arrives of a serious decrease in the trade of the United States. The total imports in July last were 86,406,000 dollars, as against 124,622,000 dollars in July, 1907. The total exports from the States in July amounted to 103,200,000 dollars, as compared with 125,500,000 dollars in the same month last year. For the seven months ending July 31 this year, the total value of the imports into the States was 250,000,000 dollars less than in the same months last year, while the exports for the same period were 88,000,000 dollars less this year than last.

Cracked Crockery Condemned.—A much-needed impetus would be experienced by the depressed china industry if the use of cracked cups, plates, &c., in hotels and restaurants were prohibited. And this might well be the case if the public realised the danger incurred by using such utensils. The chief of the Bureau of Chemistry in the U.S. Agricultural Department declares the damaged mugs used in lunch rooms to be unsanitary and dangerous. He has found twenty-three distinct specimens of organism in the visible cracks of mugs gathered impartially from several bars. His assistants counted on a given area of cracked surface from five hundred to nearly four million germs. One State has already threatened to legislate against cracked dishes.

French Glassworkers' Dangers.—A Berlin social journal, in an article on dangerous trades in France, devotes some space to glassmaking, and states that the work is often carried on under unhealthy conditions, the workrooms not having proper ventilation and the men being exposed to great heat, which sometimes brings about fatal illness and at others mental aberration. There is constant danger to the eyes from glass splinters. The heat engenders a continuous thirst, the water jug or can is passed from hand to hand, and diseases are by this means often transmitted from one to another. Glass-blowers seldom reach their fiftieth year. In this trade the "truck system" is largely prevalent; instead of money wages the men receive credit coupons, which, however, do not represent the value of the goods actually received, as the factory proprietor and shopkeeper both reckon to make some profit on the exchange. In the glass trades there is a good deal of child labour, the ages being wrongly returned in many cases in order to circumvent the law. The cheapest class of child labour comes from Italy, where parents hire out their children for a number of years to a padrone, who again sublets them to a glass manufacturer for a monthly payment.

German Porcelain Companies' Reports.—A business report just issued by the important German chinaware factory, Porzellanfabrik Königszelt, states that, up to the end of March last, the factory was doing well and had plenty of work in hand. With the commencement of April, however, orders began to drop off so considerably (especially for export to North America) that the company was not only compelled to shorten the hours of work (so as to prevent an accumulation of stocks), but also was compelled to forecast a marked falling off in receipts at the end of their next business year. However, after all, the drop in the profit secured for manufacturing account is very small in comparison with last season, but on the other hand costs of management, taxes, and such like expenses have all shown a marked increase. Profits have also decreased, due to the unproportionate advance in working expenses, &c., in the case of the Porzellanfabrik Hutschenreuter Akt. Ges., of Selb. The Königszelt company, which holds Mk.800,000 worth of their shares, are only getting a dividend of 18 per cent. as against 20 per cent. last year. It is hoped that things will improve towards the close of the year, and that things will be better all round in 1909.

The German Porcelain Convention and Retail Prices.—It is stated that the German Porcelain Convention, which recently entered into an alliance with the Austrian association, has drawn up new conditions of sale, to be signed by all purchasers. According to these conditions, buyers of white ware, who undertake the decoration of the ware themselves, engage to sell the same wholesale at prices not below those quoted by the Convention, and to add not less han $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. to these rates on all retail sales. The "Tonindustrie Zeitung" regards this step—which has been taken at the request of members of the trade—as a very useful measure, and expresses the hope that the convention will take care that the conditions are fulfilled, this being the only way to put a stop to the cutting of prices in porcelain ware, chiefly by the large stores, that has done so much injury to manufacturers. Some traders are not favourably disposed toward the new state of things, and these have had their views expressed by a correspondent of the "Berliner Tageblatt," who has attempted to show that the terms are calculated to injure the trade. He considers that large purchasers should not be handicapped by restrictions that can retard their operations by compelling them to charge the same prices as small retailers whose expenses are relatively heavier. In his view $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. is a really exorbitant addition to the price, and he claims that the large stores, by offering the goods at low rates, have benefited the porcelain industry largely by popularising the goods. On the other hand, the "Tonindustrie Zeitung" points out that the prices of porcelain ware had been so forced down it was high time for a change to be made, and hopes that the new conditions will be strictly enforced.

SPANISH POTTERY—II.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

IN this second article upon the subject of Spanish pottery, it is intended to combine a discussion of the more ambitious achievements of the Spanish potter, with an account of his methods of disposing of his finished wares. As pottery making and pottery selling are among the most important contributions to what is picturesque in Spain, most students of modern



I.—SPANISH WATER JARS ON RAIL.

Spain, we believe, will agree that what appreciation of the fact has been evinced by most writers has been fearfully inadequate. Every pottery manufacturer knows that his business has an artistic as well as a commercial side, and that persistent study of both phases of the industry is necessary to his continued welfare.

It was while we were taking our way from Granada and its famed ceramico to Sevilla, whence Spaniards say the "really fine" pottery comes, that we began to notice specimens of pottery that the ceramico at Granada would have found it impossible to turn out. The first discovery that we considered important was a huge white jar that looked as though it might have been moulded inside of a cistern. It was leaning against the side of a way station. This piece of pottery was ten feet high and six feet through at its widest part. Had it existed in the time of Diogenes, it would have made a nice roomy apartment for the old philosopher who made his habitat in a tub. Inquiry developed the fact that this huge piece of work really was intended for use as a cistern above ground, for catching the water which would run off the roof in time of rain. The walls of the jar were about six inches thick, and the whole immense pot had been burned in a special temporary kiln dug in the side of a near-by hill, according to the explanations given us by the custodians, who added that Portland cement had been added to the clay for strength. Attempts to take a photograph of the jar were frustrated by the heavy rain which was falling at the time. Our opportunity to secure pictures of large specimens of pottery came, however, a day or two later, when we descried two of the "dinky" little open freight cars in use on Spanish railways, loaded with them. These pots were not so large as the one previously described, but they were of the same shape, and big enough to attract attention, as may be seen from the accompanying photograph. As will also be noted from the picture, two methods of packing pottery for transit—large pottery, that is—are employed. One is to place the jars upright in the cars on a bed of straw with rope guys to hold them, and to act as buffers. The other is that of laying the jars on their sides with straw packed in between them, and with ropes run over the top. Similar methods are employed in the United States in the case of cement or concrete culverts.

When we reached Sevilla, one of the first of the smaller shops to attract our interest was devoted to the sale of pottery at retail. The simple arrangement of the stock, and the fact that much of the ware on display was unglazed, was reminiscent of the pottery booths conducted by the descendants of the Aztecs in Mexico, or of Mohammed in Morocco. Imagine, if you can, a cubical cement room ten feet each way in dimensions, and with a narrow door in front, but without windows. Then picture tiers of the peculiar unglazed pottery of the common sort stacked from the dirt floor to the ceiling, the tiers of larger pots on the floor and the smaller ones brushing the rafters. Probably on the floor, with some wisps of straw hanging to them, are glazed and coloured utensils of pottery and some blue or red glass vases with white sprays of paint upon them. These supposedly ornamental vases are of the sort that one secs in the "racket" stores in America and the "sixpenny" shops in the British Isles. Beautiful cut glass imported and sold at high prices is to be had in the land of the Don, but its sale is confined to the jewellery stores. Much the same thing may be said of the fine lamp shades and pottery. The seller of the common variety of pottery does not try to tempt his patrons with pretty things. In fact, he does not try to tempt them at all so far as we observed. He



II.—A GOOD-CLASS VASE.

simply sits in his cave-like apartment smoking the vile cigarettes of the country, and gazing out into the lazy life of the sunlit street with no more care apparent than

a cat. It is patent that prospective pottery buyers must come to the seller unbidden, for the seller has no disposition to advertise his wares. But, then, in all probability, his trade is dependent upon Spanish housewives who know just where to go for new dishes when bowls are broken on baking day. He supplies curious little charcoal braziers, which are exactly like thick bowls with ears on them, and two or three holes punched in the sides to promote a draught. Sometimes these braziers have bee-hive shaped covers with a hole in the top, the use of covers being to conserve the heat. The prices in these small pottery shops seem very small indeed to English-speaking foreigners. A "perrogorda" (a nickname for the Spanish penny, meaning literally, fat dog) will buy a jar large enough to contain a couple of quarts. A heavy water jar three feet high, and just porous enough to keep the contents cool by evaporation, may be had for three pesetas—sixty cents in American values. Odd shaped jars and candlesticks finished in the natural clay colour, and without glaze, are retailed at numerous railway stations in Spain for a penny or two each. Sometimes clay bottles of ordinary red wine are sold to travellers.

In Seville we made an inspection of what is reputed to be the best pottery store in the city. Generally speaking, it was filled with the ordinary line of cheap pottery and glass that one can find almost everywhere, and which reeks to high heaven of the trade-mark "Made in Germany." There were clay cuspidors that were only half glazed, and water jars over which red and green glaze had run together into a kaleidoscopic and evidently unpremeditated pattern. Some of the higher priced jars were of Moorish pattern and Spanish manufacture, but there were not many of them in sight. Representative of one of the more attractive classes of Spanish pottery was a water jug with a globular base, slender neck, and stopper in the form of a bust of a child. The body of the vessel was of a fine-grained stoneware with enamelled design. Just below the neck the glaze began, the rich brown glaze



III.—Common Spanish Pottery.

of the old "Rebecca at the Well" pattern clay tea-pots which our grandmothers used. The stopper was glazed with more or less natural colours. This jug, for use at table, sat upon a dark glazed saucer, the tout ensemble being pretty, but rather archaic. Fig. 2 represents a jar valued at about five dollars. It is a specimen of art ware modelled after the Moorish, and rather uncommon. The colours are soft and finely glazed. The two jars pictured in Fig. 3 are worth about a dollar each. The prevailing colours in these jars are green and yellow.

While the Spaniards make as full use of the ground they walk on as any of the peoples of the earth, after viewing their efforts, it must be admitted that what they need is modern machinery and some of the refinements of art, to temper their crudities. We do not intend the foregiong as a sweeping condemnation of the Spanish pottery products, for in some instances they are exceedingly creditable. It is intended only as a temperate criticism of work that in Spain is painfully common.



TECHNICAL TEACHING IN THE GLASS AND POTTERY TRADES.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

HIS article is intended to deal in the main with Departmental Education, but as there are other bodies who help forward education in pottery and glass, they will be referred to as opportunity offers.

Art education will be dealt with first, as it was the first to be established.

Before considering what has been done in this country by the various authorities and societies having art teaching under their care, it will be well to observe the simple objects of this education. Although they are all equally important, yet I shall put as the first the education of the public in good taste and principles of art. I put that first because it is useless to attempt to sell good articles to those who do not understand them. General good taste will, in fact, produce what I put second—*i.e.*, good artists and workers. These, again, naturally create in others a desire to emulate them, and so a continual advance in art and taste should take place.

In most public schools the authorities and masters clearly understand this, and feel that a great part of the teaching is not with the object of producing artists or art works, but of teaching what is good in art and design.

The third object in the Departmental system of art education is the training of suitable masters of schools or classes; but, whatever art knowledge a man may have, to be a successful master in a glass or pottery district he must have a knowledge of the methods of work in use as well as the qualities of the materials used.

Our present system of education in art and technique is due, in a great measure, to the work done by the late Sir Henry Cole. He initiated nearly all the great movements in special education which are bearing fruit to-day. I well remember his striking personality, and admired his breadth of appreciation and rapid judgment. If one thing had a favoured place above another in his mind, it was that of Ceramics in all its branches. He encouraged glass painting, and the fine collections of Venetian and other glass in the Victoria and Albert Museum show with what taste he collected examples for the national welfare.

He was a pioneer in constructive terra-cotta, and, noting the genius displayed in the work of Alfred Stevens, he obtained the services of three of his disciples—Sykes, Gamble, and Townroe—students of the Sheffield School of Art, to carry out the decoration in the varied works going on at South Kensington at that time. Workshops were instituted, and students from the various art schools of the country found that a part of their scholarship consisted of actual work. This system was carried out also in the Training School, Mr. F. W. Moody being the master.

As I consider the work done in various parts of the country (and out of it) by the students of those days, I feel a pride in the knowledge that I was one of those students.

I am now speaking of the period following the 1862 Exhibition, but in the decade before that time much work had been done in establishing art and science schools over the country. Before the 1851 Exhibition had given such a stimulus to the various industries of the country there was little public teaching of either art or technique for the ordinary workers.

My friend Mr. John Randall, of Madeley, now in his ninety-eighth year, one of the best bird painters the Coalport China Works ever had, writing me on this point, says that in those days "no systematic teaching was given, the young people learning to copy from the adults."

Mr. Randall himself, one of the grand old men of the potting industry, is a proof of the success of the good qualities of the apprenticeship system in a life's work, for at the time he was painting for the Coalport China Works he was also editor and proprietor of the local newspaper, "All Round the Wrekin," and was esteemed as a man of wide knowledge of all places and things around and in Shropshire.

For perfection of dexterity of hand it is doubtful if any teaching can surpass such a "workshop" system, in which the personal mannerism of a factory was sustained for many years by clever individuals who had in early life learned the special technique, and which they again passed on to others.

From a high level, however, an art or technique can rapidly descend to a low in such a system, if the personal high aim is lost. "Like master like man" is an established maxim here, and if the master has no ambition the workman has no opportunity to exercise his skill, nor has the apprentice, whatever his talents, any chance of advancing.

Even prior to the 1851 Exhibition the old "workshop" system appears to have broken down, doubtless due to the great increase in trade and the wider scientific knowledge in manufactures and materials.

The old system can, I think, never be resuscitated, nor do I know that the masters would wish it, as under the present scheme of Government education they are provided with workers educated, in great part, at the expense of the nation; and on the other hand, the workers have a far wider education open to them, which, if they take advantage of, can lead them on, not, as in the "workshop" system, to do one thing only, but to advance to the highest knowledge in their profession.

In the establishment of the department of education we are now considering, the Prince Consort had taken the deepest interest, as well as in all matters concerning the general advancement of the people. After his death, Sir H. Cole took the most active interest in the erection of the Albert Hall to his memory. The material made choice of was terra-cotta, and the modelling was done by Gamble and Townroe, assisted by students from various art schools of the country.

I am anxious to speak of this time because it has had, through the influence of the men trained in this actual work, who have gone out as decorative artists into the country, a very great effect on the manufacturers as well as on architecture itself.

Amongst the many students of great merit I could mention, Rowland Morris of the Potteries stands out as one of the first-class decorative modellers. As a School of Art student he showed exceptional ability, and was made choice of to do the modelled panels and figures in terra-cotta for the Wedgwood Institute, Burslem. These were executed in the training school at South Kensington, and I had the privilege of seeing them grow into being, day by day, under the facile handling of this genius in clay.

Practically all the terra-cotta done in this country had its root in the works I have mentioned at South Kensington, with others done by the same influence. Then followed the Natural History Museum, and later the Courts of Justice at Birmingham, as well as many other public and private buildings.

Not only did Sir H. Cole forward the development of terra-cotta, but he also introduced the use of constructive and ornamental architectural faience into this country. The refreshment room at South Kensington Museum was one of the first large works done. Minton & Co., who carried out the work, had previously shown their skill in faience by the large fountain which formed so conspicuous an object in the 1862 Exhibition.

The Criterion Hotel was designed by Verity. This architect received his training in the office of works at the Museum, and got his impressions there, and introduced faience largely into his work. Much of this class of potting has been done since, not only in restaurants, but also in public and other large buildings, as at the Great Central Railway Hotel, London, &c. Poynter, R.A., designed the beautiful painted tile panels in the refreshment room at the Museum; they were painted by lady students under Minton & Co.'s directions, and fired, I believe, at Stoke.

Here I must mention a student from the Potteries who had a very great effect on tile painting and designing. Mr. Eldon was for some years connected with W. B. Simpson & Sons, of St. Martin's Lane. He was, in his special style, one of the cleverest men I have had the pleasure of knowing. He developed the mannerism peculiar to Sykes and Stevens in a marked degree, with special features of his own. Later, W. B. Simpson & Sons, who were always anxious to acquire talent, also engaged the services of Mr. Turner from the School of Art at Sheffield. Afterwards Mr. Turner joined Carter & Co., of the Pool Tile Works, and the effect of his work is seen in their catalogue.

Messrs. Doulton, of Lambeth, were only known as stoneware manufacturers until they employed students from the Lambeth School of Art. The late Mr. Sparkes, afterwards well known as headmaster of South Kensington Training School, was master at that time, and is said to have made designs himself for Messrs. Doulton. A number of his students have since made names in the artistic world.

Messrs. Doulton's works were very interesting even then, as I found when Mr. F. W. Moody, of the South Kensington Museum, was deputed to inspect a statue of Art for the pediment of the Museum, modelled by Ball, which Messrs. Doulton were reproducing in terra-cotta, and as there would be probable alterations I went with him to assist.

On meeting Sir Henry Doulton, we walked through the works. On the way we noted a terra-cotta eagle, which, to my mind, though very naturalistic in treatment, was beautifully modelled.

"Now," said Mr. Moody, "you should have sent your modeller to the British Museum to study the eagles on the

base of the Trajan Column ''—for he always had a love for the Roman art.

"I did not think of that,'' said Sir Henry, "but I sent him to make studies from the eagles in the Zoological Gardens.''

(To be continued.)

MODERN CHANGES IN DECORATION.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

ALTHOUGH the pottery industry is conservative to the last degree, as indeed it has occasion to be, yet the present era of hustle, labour-saving appliances, and competition has not developed itself without its influence being felt on our lethargic industry. The last 25 years have seen perhaps more changes in methods of manufacturing and decoration than the previous fifty years. Whether all these developments and changes are for the better may be left to individual opinion; the object of these remarks is to diagnose them and point out a few collateral facts connected therewith.

Could we be transported back to some year, say, between 1860 and 1870, and placed in a high-class crockery stall, one thing at any rate would strike the experienced observer—the fact that so far as durability and finish of our wares is concerned, we cannot congratulate ourselves upon any material advance, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two leading firms. Another point may be mentioned by the way—that practically all the goods displayed would be of British production—a feature that would not be likely at the present day.

But to come to a closer inspection of our crockery stall, let us take a glance at the principal sources of decoration in vogue at that period. We should see what seems destined to endure through all changes of fashion, viz., the ordinary printed dinner, toilet, and tea patterns, and in practically all the colours that we see them to-day. Further we might see some of the identical patterns—pheasant, willow pattern, &c.—which for some inscrutable reason seem gifted with immortality. We might see printing in two or three colours—a style which has apparently died an undeserved death. Elaborately tinted and enamelled printed patterns would form the principal feature of the next grade, while in fancy articles and dessert ware, ground laid colours with hand-painted panels elaborately traced in gold—that is in real burnished gold. At that period the art of the old pottery painter was at its height. The style was no doubt conventional, but it was undoubtedly clever. That it was original we cannot claim, being inspired by both Dresden and Sèvres, but its dexterity of manipulation and the simple honesty of its effects are such that cannot be excelled to-day throughout the whole range of the British Potteries. Groups and sprays of flowers, rose, poppy, anemone, forget-me-not, pansy, every painter had a list of flowers, each of which required certain stereotyped but elegant turns and strokes of the brush, which were never departed from. An artist painting groups of flowers, say, on a dessert service, would go through the entire service with the roses, then he would follow with the anemone or poppy, and so on, till all the flowers being completed he would add leaves in two greens (light and dark), and afterwards put in tracing and various touches to his flowers, all according to rule. The principle was to work through in the various colours one at a time, and it was extremely curious to see how the parts of different flowers which happened to be of the same colour were touched in when he was working in that particular colour, having the appearance of a Chinese puzzle to the uninitiated. This style of decoration has become quite obsolete. In fact the art of the pottery painter of the more modern type is fast becoming defunct; there is a limited and diminishing market for the very highest class, and a similar demand, unfortunately, for the very lowest.

These, then, are the principal forms of decoration we should find in our old time store, the sources of which would be printing, ground-laying, gilding, and painting, each entailing male skilled labour of no mean order. Now practcally all the changes that have come about in the intervening years are due to three things, viz., liquid gold, the aerograph, and the chromo lithographic transfer, each one in its turn, it should be said, exercising a retrograde influence on the skill of the old pottery decorator. The first named, dependent for its effect on its glitter and not to elegance and accuracy of line, has displaced to a large extent the old-fashioned gilder, whose place has been taken by women with technical ability which does not rise above ugly and inaccurate splashes of gold, and edges and lines of varying breadth. Incidentally, the art of the burnisher has become a disappearing quantity, as, of course, liquid gold does not require it. The aerograph is not such a sinner in this respect, as there are many beautiful effects obtained by this ingenious contrivance, but there is no doubt it has exercised a decimating influence on the little army of groundlayers that existed formerly. The male groundlayer was once an important feature in a well equipped pottery, and was a skilled worker of no mean order, but at the present time it is probable that one might count on the fingers of one hand the firms that employ men groundlayers as such only. What is left of the old art of groundlaying is mostly what is known as "oil and dusting,'' which is an unskilled and feeble imitation of the old method, chiefly done by women. But it is the advent of the chromo lithographic transfer that has dealt a deathblow to the art of pottery painting, and further, adding insult to injury, many of the painters have gone over to their enemy and assist by what is known as "touching-up'' and extending the lithos, to further cripple their industry; they have to do it or join the ranks of the unemployed. So we are compelled reluctantly to come to the conclusion that the principal changes during the period we have mentioned are due to inventions which militate against application and skill, and tend towards a dead monotony of mechanical processes, requiring a minimum of intelligence and capacity.

To revert a little to these forenamed items, for the benefit of the uninitiated we may explain that what is known as liquid gold is not a gold in the true sense of the word. Although containing a certain proportion of the precious metal it is in reality a lustre in composition. It is supposed to be a German invention, but the date of its inception is shrouded in mystery, and for a long period its exact composition was a mighty secret. Although it is pretty well known in England how it is made, up to the present time almost our entire supply is obtained from Germany and France. For a long time its use was very limited in this country, it contrasted so badly with the ordinary burnished gold that the trade would have none of it. Improvement, however, continued to be made in its preparation, a better colour was obtained, and a greater facility for working it, till eventually opposition was broken down, and the years 1870 to 1880 saw a huge extension of its use, which has gone on increasing, till, at the present time, no potter who decorates his ware at all can afford to do without it. It is, however, even now a peculiar product, and has vagaries and disadvantages to which ordinary gold is not subject. Of course, it is the price, being only a fraction of that of ordinary gold, that has brought it into favour so extensively. Of the aerograph little need be said except that it is an extension of the principle that is in vogue in every hairdresser's

shop in the land, viz., a spraying device; colour is blown through a small aperture in a kind of tube by compressed air. Its manifest advantage over groundlaying is in the facility it affords of varying the strength of colour, and the delicate gradation of tint that it allows. Its manipulation is exclusively a feminine operation, and its introduction on a large scale dates from 10 to 15 years ago. The application of a form of chromo lithography to the decoration of pottery is an entirely modern affair. The first patent taken out for this process was by a Frenchman about 20 years ago. The difficulties connected with its perfection were enormous and intricate, but local firms have successfully overcome them, and at the present time our local productions are quite equal, if not superior, to the foreign article. The designs in this process are printed in ceramic colours on a film-like paper, which is placed on the pottery, previously sized, which retains the design, allowing the paper to be removed, when the ware is ready for the kiln. The effect of a good lithographic transfer is equal to that of a fine china painting and the difference cannot be detected by the casual observer. The only serious defect connected with this process is that of necessity, large editions of each design have to be produced to make it profitable, and, unless in the case of exclusive designs, one sees the same design so often on all manner of articles that the eye thoroughly wearies of it. Of course, in this hasty review of the changes that have come about in modern times we cannot take note of all the various special decorations of firms, which spring up from time to time and are exploited with various success. What we have set out here are the main features that have modified and altered the styles of decoration that existed in the good old days when the art of potting was not a misnomer for the manufacture of pottery.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Mr. W. Reason, china and glass dealer, has opened premises at 329, Barking-rd., East Ham, E.

Mr. C. E. Homan, china and glass merchant, has opened premises at 44, Park-st., Camden Town, N.W.

Mr. J. Needleman, glass merchant, has acquired the premises 60, Clarence-rd., Lower Clapton, N.E.

Mr. C. G. Peacock, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 47–48, Houndsditch, E.

Kerry & Co., china and glass dealers, &c., are removing from 12–14 to 2–10, Upton-lane, Forest Gate, E.

Ramus Bros., china dealers, announce their intention of shortly vacating the premises 87, Piccadilly, W.

Mr. F. Soloman, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 94, Chapel-st., Pentonville, N.

The China, Glass, and Earthenware Stores is the title of premises opened at 247, Green-st., Forest Gate, E.

Ambridge & Co., china and glass merchants, have acquired the premises 42, High-st., North-East Ham, E.

Mrs. A. Groom, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 963, Romford-rd., Manor Park, E.

The Central China and Glass Stores (Mr. F. W. Currie, proprietor), have recently been opened at 13, York-rd., Ilford, E.

The "London House" China and Glass Stores, have been opened at London-rd., Norbury, S.E., corner of Fairview-rd.

W. & A. Barrington, china and glass merchants, announce their intention of shortly vacating the premises 106, Wood-st., Walthamstow, E.

Mr. C. F. Robinson, an old-established china and glass merchant, 566, Old Kent-rd., S.E., announces his intention of shortly retiring from business.

The business of Shrimpton & Co., glass merchants, 98, Goswell-rd., E.C., has been transferred to Mr. G. H. Gorring, 78, Bastwick-st., in the same district.

Mr. James D. Stove, who formerly represented Messrs. Hy. Alcock & Co., of Cobridge, is now engaged with Mr. E. Enderlein, of Charterhouse-st., London, E.C.

The Pottery Gazette Diary and Trade Directory for 1909 closes for press on Sept. 12, and all communications referring to it should reach the publishers before that date.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—No china, glass or earthenware dealer was gazetted as bankrupt in England or Wales during the month of July last. One was gazetted in July, 1907.

Mr. A. Scott, china and glass dealer, &c., is about to remove from 68, Chalk Farm-rd., N.W., to his original premises at 75 in the same thoroughfare, where a fire recently took place.

W. G. Edmonds & Co., 55, Aungier-street, Dublin, cork merchants and bar fitters, have recently added a glass department to their business and are buying glasses suitable for hotel and publichouse use.

Mr. J. A. Sawdon is about to commence business as a glass and china merchant, at No. 8, Birdgate, Pickering, when the extensive alterations to the premises are completed. Mr. Sawdon has had twenty-two years' trade experience in the town.

Household Stores, Wolverhampton.—Registered capital £3,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of glass, china, and earthenware merchants, &c., carried on by B. Williams and B. F. Williams at Wolverhampton and elsewhere as the Household Stores. Private company.

E. Coaney & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, of £10,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of a glass, china, and earthenware merchant carried on by W. Manson, at Dale-end, Birmingham, as E. Coaney & Co. Private company. Registered office, Kodale Works, Dale-end, Birmingham.

Unmanufactured Clay to the value of £62,000, and weighing 60,843 tons, including 3,863 tons of fire clay, valued at £3,396, was exported from the United Kingdom during July. The value is greater than in July, 1907, but less than in July, 1906. The quantity is greater than in either of those two months.

W. A. Bailey & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £5,050, in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of a dealer in glass, pottery, and other articles carried on by W. A. Bailey at Audrey House, Ely-place, Holborn, E.C. Private company. Registered office, 148–150, Audrey House, Ely-place, E.C.

Frank Love, Ltd.—Registered capital £5,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business of a manufacturers' agent and exporter, factor and merchant importer of and dealer in glass and earthenware goods, &c., carried on by F. Love at Rose-alley, Park-st., Southwark Bridge, S.E. Private company.

The China and Glass Dealers' Association.—The third annual meeting of the Leeds and District Branch of this Association will be held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 7.30 p.m., when several matters left over from the last general meeting in London will be dealt with. All china and glass dealers are cordially invited to attend.

Mr. R. Blyth, of Nether Dalbeattie buildings, Dalbeattie, N.B., furnishing ironmonger, has purchased the business and stock belonging to Mrs. Wright, of "Wright's China Warehouse," lately carried on at High-st., Dalbeattie. Mr. Blyth has combined this stock with his own and is carrying on the business as a separate china, glass and earthenware department.

Socicte des Emaux Décorés, Ltd.—Registered capital, £40,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agrcement with H. Desforges, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in enamelled plaques, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, terra-cotta and ceramic ware, executors of photographic, photogravure, lithographic and typographic works of all kinds, &c.

F. Winkle & Co., Stoke-on-Trent, have sent us a copy of an artistic illustration they are forwarding to their friends in the trade. It is in form a handy show-card, with cover dish and dinner plate in their new "Whieldon ware." The pieces are shown with a blue-grey background and the Sèvres sprays in colours, and the gilding are in exact facsimile of the original. This is a reproduction of Sèvres sprays on earthenware.

Empire Glass Works, Ltd.—Registered capital, £2,000. Objects, to acquire the lease of an existing bottle factory at 63, Forty Acre-lane, West Ham, and to carry on the business of glass blowers, manufacturers of and dealers in glass, glass bottles, and stoppers, jars, &c. Private company. The first directors (to number not less than two nor more than five) are: P. E. Beachcroft and W. P. Jones. Registered office, 63, Forty Acre-lane, West Ham.

Cocking and Sons, Ltd.—Registered capital, £25,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to takc over the business of manufacturers of bricks, tilcs, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, stoneware, plastic materials, or products, &c., carried on by G. E. Cocking and F. W. Cocking, at Walkeringham, Notts, and at Balby, near Doncaster, Yorks, togethcr with all the real and personal property used in connection therewith, except the book debts and a canal boat, rcferred to in an agrcement between G. E. Cocking, F. W. Cocking, Cocking & Sons, Mary J. Cocking, A. Carr, W. T. Duckitt and the company. Private company. Registered office, 1, Furnival-rd., Balby, Doncaster.

Stevens & Williams, Ltd.—Registered capital, £50,000, in £1 shares (12,000 preference, 36,000 ordinary, and 2,000 employees'). Objects, to adopt an agreement with J. S. Williams-Thomas and to carry on the business of glass workers, manufacturers and dccorators of table glass, glass shades, ornaments, lenses, painted windows, mirrors, &c. Private company, with two signatories, namely:—J. S. Williams-Thomas and H. S. Williams-Thomas, glass manufacturers, both of Parkfield, Stourbridge, taking one share cach. J. S. Williams-Thomas is permanent governing director, subject to holding £1,000 shares. The business has been registered as a private company for family reasons, and no shares will be issued to the public. The management will remain exactly as before.

Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville, have issued a very comprehensive catalogue of their numerous productions in Brctby ware. This catalogue of nearly sixty pages is evidence of the wide range covered by this very attractive art pottery. Flower vases, pedestals and pots, bulb bowls, plant pots, art vases, umbrella stands, combination pedestals, and pots, jardinières, table centres, grotesques, trinket sets, &c., are all illustrated. Bretby ware is supplied decorated in bronze, bronze and jewelled, and in various glazes. Other varieties are "carved bamboo" ware, "Ligna" ware, and "Bretby cloisonné ware," all of which are represented by excellent toned illustrations, with sizes. The book is beautifully printed and will be found very useful to dcalers. Messrs. Tooth & Co. will forward a copy of this catalogue to any bonâ fide glass and china dealer at home or abroad, who may apply for one.

Contracts Open.—For supply of earthenware for the Guardians of Cardiff Union for six months. Forms of tender may be obtained from Mr. A. J. Harris, Queen's Chambers, Cardiff, to whom tenders must be sent by 5 p.m. on Sept. 4.——The Poplar Guardians invite tenders for the supply of earthenware. Tender forms may be obtained from Mr. G. H. Lough, 45, Upper North-st., Poplar, E., and must be filled in and returned to him by 6.30 p.m. on Sept. 11.——The Guardians of the parish of Fulham invite tenders for the supply of carthenware for 12 months Forms of tcnder may be obtained from Mr. E. Mott, 129, Fulham Palace-rd., W., to whom tenders must be delivered by 10 a.m. on Sept. 10.——The Romford Guardians invite tenders for the supply of earthcnware. Tenders by 5th inst.——The Chelsea Guardians invite tcnders for the supply of earthenware for twelve months. Tenders by the 8th inst.

Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd.—The report for the twelve months ended June 30, 1908, presented at the meeting on Aug. 12, stated that after charging £12,000 for debenture interest and £2,575 for the redemption of debentures, there was an adverse balance on the year's working (after deducting the balance brought forward from last account) of £8,677. In addition, the directors recommended writing off £4,739 for depreciation of investments, making a total of £13,416, and that the sum of £14,000 should be transferred to appropriation account from the amount standing to the credit of thc reserve fund. Up to June 30, £13,972 had been expended in the purchase of land, in sinking a new shaft to the company's minerals, and in necessary preparatory work in connection with the proposed new works in Gelderd-rd. In the directors' opinion it was a matter of urgent necessity to proceed to erect these works, and negotiations are proceeding with a view to raise the amount of capital required for that purpose. The report was adopted by the meeting after some severe criticisms had been expressed. The retiring directors were also re-elected.

Potteries and Smoke Prevention.—In his annual report, which has just been issued, the medical officer of health for Lambeth (Dr. Jas. Priestley) pays attcntion to the question of smoke abatement, and makes special reference to the potteries of Doulton & Co., Ltd., and J. Stiff & Sons. He explains that smoke observations were made during the year throughout the borough, particular attention being paid to the chimneys of firms whose premises are situated in Belvedere and Commercial roads and along the Albert Embankment (the potteries mentioned above). In connection with the potteries there is a total of 37 shafts, one or all of which, says the medical officer, may become a nuisance at any time by sending forth black smoke. However, during the year there were practically no nuisances observed in connection with these 37 shafts—a fact explainable by the care taken by the two firms named in employing private smoke inspectors of their own to observe hourly the chimney shafts and by the system of a bonus distribution once or twice a year to these stokers, against whom there are no complaints of neglect.

Recent Company Liens Registered, &c.—F. H. Barker Rhead Co., Ltd. (Pottery manufacturers, Hanley and Manchester).—Particulars of £500 debentures have been filed. Property charged is the company's undertaking and property, present and futurc, including uncalled capital (but excluding any freehold or leasehold land hereafter acquired).——Park China Clay Co., Ltd. (Liskeard).—Particulars of £3,000 debentures have been filed. Property charged—the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. ——James Sadler & Sons, Ltd. (Burslem).—A memorandum of satisfaction, to the further extent of £300, of debentures securing £900, has been filed. (Previous partial satisfaction filed, £600.)——W. A. Bailey & Co., Ltd. (pottery dealers, London).—Particulars of £5,000 debentures have been filed, the amount of the present issue being £1,850; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capi-

tal.——Burslem and Tunstall Fireclay Co., Ltd.—Particulars of £1,000 debentures have been filed, the amount of the present issue being £250. Property charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital (if any).

New Trade Marks recently advertised for registration (up to Aug. 19) include the following :—Class 15.—MICHAEL MURPHY. 303801. Glass bottles, sold empty, that is to say, independently of any contents. M. Murphy, Main-st., Kiltimagh, County Mayo, Ireland. HYPERION. 304,556. Glass. A. Jay & Son, 166D, Pentonville-rd., King's Cross, N. Class 16.—"BRANDEM." 298,810. Bricks of all descriptions included in Class 16. No claim is made to the exclusive use of the letter "M" or of the name "Brandon." R. Brand, Jun., 7, Melville-st., Perth, and T. Dempster, 2, Leonard Bank, Perth. CIMBRIA, 302,803, and ADAMANT, 302,306. Sanitary and domestic earthenware goods included in Class 16. Twyfords, Ltd., Cliffe Vale, Hanley, Staffs. CUPOLINE. 303,192. Refractory material for the lining of furnaces included in Class 16. G. H. Key, Green Bank, Holme-rd., Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire. Design as illustrated. 301,452. Porcelain and earthenware. C. G. Schierholz & Sohn, Porzellan-Manufactur Plaue, G.m.b.H., Plaue, in Thuringen, Germany. Address for service in the United Kingdom is care of T. B. Browne, Ltd., 163, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.



Lead Poisoning. — The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Acts during July was 71, as compared with 53 in July, 1907; and the total number of deaths from the same cause was 4 in July this year, as compared with 6 in July, 1907. In addition to these 19 cases of lead poisoning (4 of which were fatal) were reported during July among house painters and plumbers, as compared with 13 cases (none of which were fatal) in 1907. During the seven months ending July, 1908, the total number of cases of lead poisoning was 380 (exactly the same number as in 1906), as compared with 272 cases in the same months last year. The number of deaths in the first seven months of this year was 18, as against 17 in the same period last year. Amongst house painters and plumbers there were 113 cases and 17 deaths in the first 7 months this year, as compared with 87 cases and 22 deaths last year. In the month of July this year there were 6 reported cases of lead poisoning in the china and earthenware trades and 2 deaths, as compared with 12 reported cases and 1 death in July, 1907. In the seven months ending July, 1908, there were 76 reported cases in the china and carthenware trades, and 7 deaths, as compared with 50 reported cases and 7 deaths in the same month last year.

Recent Wills.—The will of Mr. Thomas Forester, of Blythe Bridge, and founder of the business of Thomas Forester & Sons, Ltd., Longton, who died on June 7, 1907, aged 75, has been proved for £19,445.——Mr. Thomas G. Booth, of Southport, who died on Sept. 17, 1907, left estate valued at £9,542. Mr. Booth was chairman of directors of Booths Ltd., china and earthenware manufacturers, Tunstall. He was chief bailiff of Tunstall for four years.——Colonel Richard Pilkington, C.B., of Rainford Hall, St. Helens, a director of Pilkington Bros., Ltd., glass manufacturers, formerly M.P. for the Newton division of Lancashire, who died March 12, aged sixty-seven, left estate valued at £692,858 gross, of which £477,527 is net personalty. He left the bulk of his property to his sons, and made the following remarks by way of restriction on his estates :—"My experience, acquired as a large employer of labour, and as a justice of the peace, and my observations of what is hourly taking place, have convinced me that the present facilities for the sale of intoxicating liquors operate to the prejudice, both morally and materially, of large masses of the community, and that those facilities ought to be curtailed. As I desire to give practical effect to my conviction, I direct that any sale of my real estate to any purchaser, being one of my sons or any other person, shall be subject to the following conditions: That my son, or other purchaser, his heirs and assigns, shall not, during the period mentioned, so far as it may be in his or their power to prevent the same, allow any present or future building, structure, or erection erected, or set up, upon any part of my real estate to be used for the sale for consumption on or off the premises of any ale, porter, beer, wine, spirits, or other intoxicating liquors, or for the purpose of receiving orders for the sale thereof, or knowingly let or lease any part of such real estate for the purpose of being used for any such purpose. If any tenant should so use any building, the landlord is to put an end to the tenancy at the earliest date which the law will allow, in order that the premises may no longer be used for such purpose, and that effect may be given to this condition as far as it be possible." Colonel Pilkington made this condition to last for twenty-one years after the decease of the longest-lived survivor of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and stated that he would have made it to last longer had the law allowed.——Mr. James Shorter, of The Limes, Epping, Essex, glass and china merchant, of Shorter Bros., of 36, Crispin-st., London, who died recently in Yorkshire, left estate to the value of £54,236.

Not Very New.—A United States Consular report calls attention to a novel stopper for soda-water bottles that is in use at Calcutta. The "novelty" is the common glass ball stopper.

Russian Glass Imports.—The total quantity of glass goods imported into Russia in 1907 is named in the official returns just published as 278,000 poods, against 279,000 poods in 1906 and 317,000 poods in 1905; the respective values being 1,819,000 roubles, 1,642,000 roubles, and 1,452,000 roubles.

A Curious Omission.—The "Worcester Herald" of Aug. 15 publishes an extract from its issue of Aug. 13, 1808. It is an account of the presentation of "a most beautiful vase" to one of the members of Parliament of the City of Worcester. The vase is described as of "exquisite workmanship and large dimensions, from a design of truly classic taste; the form, a simple and grand Etruscan outline, with decorations of a bold relief, and characteristic of the subject; the handles, which are decorated with laurel leaves, are attached to the body of the vase by two highly finished lions' heads, and under them is a frieze of civic crowns :—on one side of the body of the vase is placed the arms of Mr. Gordon, surrounded by a wreath of laurel, and on the reverse the following inscription, likewise encircled in a wreath of laurel."' (The inscription is quoted). It is added, "The whole forms an assemblage of magnificence and art highly gratifying to all parties." But there is no mention of the material, or the manufacturers of the vase. Was it of silver or porcelain? It was most likely a porcelain vase, produced either by "Barr, Flight & Barr" at the old Worcester Works, or by the brothers Chamberlain at their works. It is curious that there is not a single expression either in the inscription, or in the recipient's lengthy acknowledgment, which implies that it was a porcelain vase.



The following are the IMPORTS of CHINA, EARTHENWARE, &c., during the last three years.

	Value.		
CHINAWARE or PORCELAIN, and EARTHENWARE:	1905.	1906.	1907.
Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian:	£	£	£
From Germany	45,021	26,370	21,657
„ Netherlands	21,767	31,517	24,146
„ Belgium	5,272	5,428	5,730
„ France	128,518	141,843	154,389
„ China (exclusive of Hong Kong and Macão)	9,015	9,406	11,118
„ Japan (including Formosa)	17,547	26,558	44,812
„ United States of America	561	732	550
„ Other Foreign Countries	2,257	2,133	1,724
Total from Foreign Countries	229,958	243,987	264,126
From British East Indies	526	656	586
„ Hong Kong	2,343	2,505	2,418
„ Other British Possessions	68	80	70
Total from British Possessions	2,937	3,241	3,074
Total	232,895	247,228	267,200
Earthenware (including Semi-Porcelain, Majolica, and Glazed Hearth and Wall Tiles):	£	£	£
From Germany	274,430	285,061	274,786
„ Netherlands	297,877	301,464	332,634
„ Belgium	20,678	20,745	22,658
„ France	38,544	27,406	41,076
„ Algeria	—	100	10
„ Spain	2,894	2,131	2,177
„ Italy	401	3,368	1,049
„ United States of America	2,477	2,725	1,231
„ Other Foreign Countries	4,621	9,726	11,184
Total from Foreign Countries	641,922	652,726	686,805
Total from British Possessions	588	194	611
Total	642,510	652,920	687,416

	Value.		
CHINAWARE, &c.—*continued.*	1905.	1906.	1907.
Jet, Rockingham, and Glazed Terra-Cotta Ware:	£	£	£
From Belgium	573	946	172
„ France	574	354	83
„ Other Foreign Countries	459	1,279	391
Total	1,606	2,579	646
Red Pottery, Stoneware, Brown and Yellow Ware:	£	£	£
From Netherlands	5,703	2,176	1,691
„ Belgium	693	5,457	3,593
„ Italy	604	56	4,606
„ Other Foreign Countries	2,464	4,769	5,394
Total from Foreign Countries	9,464	12,458	15,284
Total from British Possessions	55	—	—
Total	9,519	12,458	15,284
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings, and Chemical Ware):	£	£	£
From Germany	21,879	32,560	29,394
„ Netherlands	2,802	1,177	1,598
„ Belgium	533	640	787
„ France	409	221	723
„ Other Foreign Countries	1,406	176	595
Total from Foreign Countries	27,029	34,774	33,097
Total from British Possessions	—	10	—
Total	27,029	34,784	33,097

The following are the IMPORTS of GLASS during the last three years.

	Value.		
GLASS:	1905.	1906.	1907.
Window and German Sheet, including Shades and Cylinders:	£	£	£
From Germany	121,217	100,385	123,481
„ Netherlands	208,147	215,681	158,178
„ Belgium	389,089	456,725	444,562
„ France	5,007	3,964	3,579
„ Other Forcign Countries	2,287	1,433	936
Total from Foreign Countries	725,747	778,188	730,736
Total from BritishPossessions	—	—	59
Total	725,747	778,188	730,795
Plate:	£	£	£
From Germany	5,318	5,822	9,138
„ Netherlands	5,920	11,511	17,017
„ Belgium	491,893	481,854	462,729
„ France	13,660	9,708	11,295
„ Other Foreign Countries	5	4	387
Total	516,796	508,899	500,566
Flint, Plain, Cut, or Ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass:	£	£	£
From Sweden	43,433	39,732	37,016
„ Germany	705,142	633,428	583,633
„ Netherlands	183,189	186,019	173,092
„ Belgium	374,915	361,219	310,960
„ France	37,800	41,297	37,522
„ United States of America	17,786	24,091	25,205
„ Other Foreign Countries	11 367	18,763	14,344
Total from Foreign Countries	1,373,632	1,304,549	1,181,772
Total from British Possessions	—	43	79
Total	1,373 632	1,304,592	1,181,851

	Value.		
GLASS—*continued.*	1905.	1906.	1907.
Bottles:	£	£	£
From Sweden	48,115	43,086	61,301
„ Norway	672	3,071	4,808
„ Denmark	—	2,425	6,266
„ Germany	211,389	199,441	192,686
„ Netherlands	135,624	133,700	130,490
„ Belgium	57,063	55,010	52,993
„ France	183,499	174,936	165,636
„ Italy	701	588	908
„ United States of America	1,870	2,831	3,758
„ Other Foreign Countries	37	52	92
Total from Foreign Countries	638,970	615,140	618,938
Total from British Possessions	23	45	166
Total	638,993	615,185	619,104
Manufactures, other sorts:	£	£	£
From Sweden	3,904	656	91
„ Norway	330	48	18
„ Denmark (including Faroe Islands)	22	36	—
„ Germany	65,091	28,614	3,228
„ Netherlands	14,672	6,908	1,582
„ Belgium	44,466	20,448	7,336
„ France	8,272	3,657	3,182
„ United States of America	6,199	1,760	828
„ Other Foreign Countries	155	161	97
Total from Foreign Countries	143,111	62,288	16,362
Total from British Possessions	380	41	113
Total	143,491	62,329	16,475

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AUGUST has lived up to its reputation for being a "dead" month—at any rate, so far as the Potteries is concerned. Though the "wakes" have been over and done with now for several weeks, yet we have not yet fairly shaken down to work again, and, consequently, topics of trade interest are far from plentiful. The heads of many firms are still enjoying a welcome rest from the worries of business at the seaside or in the country, and one or two have taken advantage of the opportunity of combining business with pleasure, by taking a trip abroad and trying to whip up a fow orders. Trade throughout the Potteries is still terribly slack, and the number of unemployed on their books is causing no little anxiety to the officials of the Potters' Union, who, for some time past, have been distributing a good round sum of money every week in out-of-work pay. Several large firms which have only recently felt the full force of the wave of depression found it convenient to close down at the wakes for a full fortnight; in a few cases works have been idle for a longer period still, while some factories which reopened their doors more punctually, have only sufficient orders on the books to keep the places running three or four days a week. The general outlook remains exceedingly unsatisfactory, and, so far as can be judged at present, work and wages are likely to be considerably curtailed during the ensuing autumn.

We may, however, comfort ourselves with the reflection that, sooner or later, things must improve again. The swing of the trade pendulum is governed by laws which are perfectly well understood. A season of activity leads to the employment of much capital, new works are built in every industry, the output of all things is increased and goes on increasing till there is a surfeit and markets become glutted. Then the pendulum commences to swing back, and we get a period of depression. Trade never stands still for long; it either gets better, or vice versâ, and periods of activity or depression follow one another in natural sequence. The present period of bad trade was, it must be admitted, overdue, for we had experienced several years of commercial prosperity, culminating in a year of great activity last year, until, in the autumn, the financial crisis in the United States precipitated the inevitable crash. Since then the tide has been running back with a vengeance. The Board of Trade returns show that the total decline in British exports and imports during the first seven months of the present year amounted to £58,500,000! During the same period, however, the imports and exports of the United States have declined by still more, the figures being £67,000,000. The July returns are not available in respect of other leading nations. Wo find, however, that during the first six months of the year (up to, that is, the end of June) France's imports and exports declined, in round figures, by £12,500,000, Germany's by £11,000,000, and Belgium's by £6,500,000. These figures all go to emphasise the world-wide depression which exists. Every country alike is affected. This means that almost every department of industry over the whole globe has suffered, that the people have been earning less money, and that they have been spending less. In the light of these figures it becomes easy to understand why there is dull trade in the Potteries. When the purchasing power of the great masses of people, both at home and abroad, is so greatly diminished, the potting trade—the first trade to feel depression and the last to revive—naturally suffers severely. It is no good grumbling against unalterable laws; we must wait until the tide turns, and be ready to make the best use of the trade revival when it comes.

As anticipated, the July returns issued by the Board of Trade show a great decline in the exports of British pottery. The value of the ware sent abroad was £211,828, which is £31,332 below the exports for July last year, and only £4,959 more than those of July, 1906. The exports of ware for the seven months ended July 31 were £1,437,106, which is £71,149 below those for the corresponding period of last year, but £116,175 in excess of those for the first seven months of 1906. The countries to which we have exported less ware this year than we did last, and the respective amounts by which their custom has, thus far, declined, are:—The United States, £54,000; Brazil, £19,000; Germany, £13,000; South Africa, £11,000; Australia, £8,000; and Canada, £3,000. Similarly the countries which have taken more, and the amounts of their increases, are:—The East Indies, £13,600; the Argentine Republic, £12,000; France, £6,800; New Zealand, £700; minor countries not specifically mentioned in the returns, £3,000. The imports of foreign ware amounted in July to £72,796 as compared with £94,240 in July, 1907, and £77,711 in July, 1906. The imports for the seven months were £546,437, a decrease of about £8,000, as against the first seven months of last year. Deducting re-exports, we find that the value of the foreign ware actually placed on the markets of the United Kingdom in July was £64,141, and, in the seven months, £480,844. At the time of writing it was reported that the American market was still lifeless, while the home trade was without movement. The china and earthenware departments are equally slack, and the sanitary trade has gone back still further since last month. The prospect of trouble in the cotton industry makes the outlook for Longton and Fenton even worse than it otherwise would be, but better reports come from North of the Tweed, and it is said that trade is likely to revive shortly in the markets of the United States and Germany, the harvest being uncommonly good. Manufacturers were congratulating themselves a few weeks ago upon the reduction in the price of coal, but it is now reported that prices will probably return to their former level before the winter arrives.

A question of great interest to the potting industry at the present time is the scarcity of hard purple stone, and the matter is one of increasing importance because, as the scarcity makes itself felt now, when trade is dull, it is sure to be still more felt when trade revives again. It will be remembered that, so recently as about ten years ago, the hard purple stone was a comparatively neglected article, owing to its hardness on grinding. The white soft stone, which is very plentiful in Cornwall, had then full sway in the market, and a certain proportion of Jersey stone was largely ground with it, to make it more fusible. The Jersey stone, however, somewhat detracted from the whiteness of the finished ware, and ultimately it came about that stone breakers were provided by the mills, and purple stone, especially the hard purple, sprang into favour almost at a bound, although in whiteness it had hardly any advantage over the white soft stone when not admixed with Jersey stone. The "hard purple" is now so popular that its scarcity becomes a matter of concern to many consumers, especially as that scarcity is more likely to increase than to decrease. The news will, therefore, be hailed with satisfaction that a new material—a new cheap felspar resembling Jersey stone in composition—is being introduced, which is said to greatly improve the white stone, both in whiteness and fusibility, without any increase in price, making it, in fact, equal to hard purple stone. How far the new material will bear out the claims made on its behalf remains to be seen, but some of the most influential gentlemen in the trade are interesting themselves in the matter

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It is stated that the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce has received, through the Board of Trade, inquiries respecting quotations for teapots from a large firm in London which purchases Continental and Japanese articles of pottery to the extent of from £7,000 to £10,000 per annum. Being anxious to buy British goods, instead of foreign productions, the firm have sought the assistance of the Board of Trade in getting into touch with home manufacturers who are prepared to make a certain sort of teapot, of which the firm buy large quantities from abroad for the purpose of supplying teashops, restaurants, &c. The Board of Trade sent the application on to Mr. T. C. Moore, who is the chairman of the Parliamentary and Tariffs Committee of the N. S. Chamber of Commerce, and who has duly laid the matter before the members in order to ascertain whether any English manufacturor would undertake to supply such goods and cut out the foreigner. The firm, it is said, stipulated that the price of the teapots should not, under any circumstances, exceed $2\frac{3}{4}$d., and they sent down a sample for manufacturers to look at. It was obviously a German production, a neat teapot with lock cover, aerographed, and with lithographed sprig. But, when manufacturers heard of the price, they pulled long faces, for $2\frac{3}{4}$d. is, as nearly as possible, the sum which the English manufacturer has to pay for the making alone of similar earthenware teapots in the Potteries. To think of supplying the finished article at such a price was entirely out of the question. The case is regarded as one of dumping pure and simple, and its importance is emphasised by the fact that it has come to the knowledge of the Chamber through a Government department. The facts are to be reported to the Associated Chambers of Commerce when they hold their autumnal meetings in September.

The Census of Production Act, which became law in the year 1906, is now being put into operation throughout the country, and the manufacturers of the Potteries, in common with those of other districts, have received the Schedules which they are to fill up in conformity with the provisions of the measure. The Act has come in for severe criticism in some districts, and such terms as "tyrannous," "inquisitorial," "costly," and "useless" have been applied to it. But inquiries in this district, among leading representatives of the potting trade, go to show that entirely different views are held concerning the measure, which is welcomed

as an addition to our legislation which has long been overdue. Perhaps one's first glance at the Schedule issued to the potting trade is not reassuring. The questions which are to be answered are numerous and intricate, and it is not consoling to the manufacturer to learn that, if he fails to supply the information asked for, or if he wilfully makes a false return, he runs the risk of incurring a penalty of £10 and a recurring fine of £5 for every day during which the offence is persisted in. But, as one becomes more familiar with the Schedule, its terrors diminish, and if manufacturers in other trades are dissatisfied with it, it is probably because they have not taken the trouble to consider it fairly and carefully. Everyone who takes an intelligent interest in trade affairs has long been of opinion that our existing trade statistics are lamentably deficient. One has only to recall the ludicrous difference which existed between the estimates made by Free Trade and Fiscal Reform orators respectively, as to the value of our home trade in pottery, during the great Chamber of Commerce debate a few years ago, to realise how utterly inadequate our present trade returns are. On the one hand was Mr. Walton Stanley, the Free Trade champion, putting down the value of the goods produced by our own potteries and sold in our own market at £16,000,000 sterling per annum, upon which basis he argued that the three-quarters of a million pounds' worth of foreign pottery coming into this country every year was a mere fleabite. On the other hand there were Fiscal Reform advocates who put the home consumption of English-made ware at a figure as low as two millions, and, arguing upon this hypothesis, they contended that about £1 worth of every £3 worth of pottery sold in this country was of foreign manufacture. There was, of course, no reconciling antagonists who started their arguments from points so widely divergent, and no reliable figures could be appealed to in order to settle the point at issue.

Probably the most correct estimate was that of Mr. J. Ridgway, who held that the production of British ware for the home market in 1902 was some £3,550,000 in value. He estimated, by means of figures very carefully compiled and worked out by means of blue-books, that the amount paid in wages to people employed in the potting trade was £2,775,000 per annum, and that the total output of ware was equal in value to double the wages paid, *i.e.*, about £5,550,000. Allowing about £2,000,000 of this for exports, the balance "consumed" at home (he estimated) was in the neighbourhood of the £3,550,000 already mentioned. Mr. John Ridgway himself has stated to the writer that he welcomed the Act. "It may give us some little trouble," he said, "but it will not entail a great amount, and it will certainly give us home statistics that have long been lacking." To an inquiry as to whether he did not think that there would be a good deal of guess-work about the estimates of the value of their output of ware which manufacturers furnished, Mr. Ridgway replied: "There is, of course, a danger of these returns being prepared carelessly, but in any case we should get figures which approximate to the truth, and which will be exceedingly useful. I welcome the Act in that way. It will give us an idea of what the home trade is, and it will show us what the trade is that we most want to protect." As to the fear which has been expressed in some quarters, that the Schedules will be used as a check upon the returns of the income-tax payer, Mr. Ridgway declared that he did not think there was any justification whatever for such an idea He pointed out that it was specifically stated on the front page of the Schedule that "all information given in fulfilment of the obligations imposed by the 'Census of Production Act' will be treated as strictly confidential," the last two words being underlined. Further than this, the Department promises that as soon as a Schedule has been returned by a manufacturer with the required particulars inserted, the front leaf, which is the only leaf upon which the manufacturer's name and address appears, is to be detached—the leaf is specially perforated with that end in view—and the other pages only, with no indication of the name and address of the firm, will be dealt with by the staff engaged in the work of compilation at the Board of Trade offices. Mr. Ridgway, in concluding, added that there had been a much more complex Census of Production in force in America for many years, and though, no doubt, some people would raise many objections to the present Act, he did not think there was much in it that pottery manufacturers need grumble at.

Another leading manufacturer said that he was consulted by the Board of Trade before the Schedules were issued, and that he made a number of suggestions regarding the questions asked, and the instructions for filling in the Schedule, several of which suggestions were adopted. This manufacturer also remarked that though, at first, there might be some difficulty in filling up the Schedule, he did not think it would amount to much, and the Act was certain to do good. Questioned as to the extra labour entailed on the counting-house staff, he laughed at the idea. The accounts of business firms, he agreed, would not, in a large number of cases, be kept in precisely the form that the Board of Trade wanted, but, said he, "if difficulties of that kind arise, the result will be that manufacturers will make a guess at the figures, and the amounts set down in the Schedule will be estimates, not, of course, wildly made, but approximately correct. The Schedules will thus be reliable, and need not entail the vast amount of labour which some people seem to fear." Other inquiries went to show that this view is generally shared by responsible manufacturers, and, whatever may be the case in other districts, the efforts of the Board of Trade to furnish us with really reliable statistics regarding the productiveness of our industries are being received by the potting trade (so far as can be ascertained) in a really sympathetic manner. The very fact that the Schedule sent out in the Potteries, together with the instructions for filling it in, have been prepared after consultation with the N.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Staffordshire Potteries Manufacturers' Association, the Plain, Decorative, and Encaustic Tile Manufacturers' Association, and important firms representative of both the china and the earthenware trades, should be sufficient to disarm criticism, and cause any manufacturers who may at first be disposed to grumble to refrain from doing so, until they have given the Schedule more careful and deliberate consideration. When the Bill was in Parliament it received the support of very many Chambers of Commerce in all parts of the country. The precautions taken to prevent the leakage of any details concerning the business of one firm into the hands of another, are so elaborate that no abuse of the Schedule seems possible, and there is the further safeguard that any person improperly disclosing information contained in the Schedules, or publishing information so disclosed, renders himself liable to imprisonment with hard labour for two years, in addition to a monetary penalty. The questions in the Schedule are reprinted on another page of this issue.

Dr. W. A. Potts, Lecturer in Pharmacology at the University of Birmingham, recently visited the Potteries in connection with the investigations of the Royal Commission on the Care and Control of the Feeble-minded, and his report is bound up in a blue-book issued a few days ago by the Commission. In the course of his observations Dr. Potts remarks: "When pottery-making was started in the seventeenth century in this district, feeble-minded persons were largely employed, with the idea that they would not be able to impart the secrets of the trade to others. In consequence defectives were attracted here. Some colour is given to this idea by the fact that nearly all the feeble-minded found in the district belonged to the type I have described as characterising those sprung from insane parents." This is an ancient story in a modern dress. Ward, the historian, it will be remembered, tells how the process of salt-glazing was first practised by "two ingenious foreigners," the brothers Elers, who set up a small pot-works at Bradwell, near Burslem, "from whence the people flocked in astonishment to see the immense clouds of smoke which rose from the Dutchman's ovens." The historian goes on to say: "But they did not long continue their operations in Staffordshire, being eyed with the utmost jealousy and inquisitiveness by the native potters; and they removed the seat of their manufacture to the neighbourhood of London. Their practice of glazing with salt was, however, according to general tradition, obtained surreptitiously by the Burslem potters by the artifice of a workman, who, feigning himself an idiot, got access to their works, and, while they took no notice of the apparent dolt, he took sufficient notice of their mode of glazing and other particulars to enable him to communicate the secrets to his employers, who soon adopted the discovery." This is the picturesque but flimsy evidence upon which Dr. Potts builds the paragraph quoted from his report. It is rather hard on the modern generation of potters to have it suggested that their forbears were imbeciles on the strength of such a story, which hardly anyone believes nowadays.

Dr. Potts' report, however, contains much else that is more worthy of attention, and he is a fairer critic than some of those who have visited it. He says that after all that has been written about physical degeneration, and after what he had himself seen in large towns, it was refreshing to come to the Potteries and find a different state of affairs. The children in the schools were robust and big for their age, while, even in the slums, they were well developed. He also alludes to the kindheartedness of the people, and to the sturdy mental development of the children. There are some remarks in the report, however, which are less satisfactory reading. He refers to the prevalence of "much immorality in the district"—a canard which should by this time be decently buried and forgotten. The Potteries is probably neither better nor worse in this respect than any other big industrial centre. The doctor also refers to the heavy drinking which takes place, but in this case, also, it is doubtful whether the conditions are as bad as they are painted. Certainly there has been a great improvement in the male population in the matter of sobriety within the past generation. Dealing with influences which make for physical degeneration, Dr. Potts has, of course, a good deal to say about the employment of married women in factories. "The towns are growing," he says, "women are being employed more than ever in factories, and are, in consequence, neglecting their homes and their families, while men are becoming more lazy

and ready to join the unemployed.'' In the course of a general survey of the needs of the district at the end of his report, Dr. Potts again presses the importance of the regulation of female labour on the attention of the Royal Commission, remarking: ''A woman cannot work and take care of her house and family. She often only goes to work in order that her husband may loaf and drink, thus aggravating the evil. Unless there is some reform in the matter of female labour, the number of defectives in the next generation will be greatly increased.''

The Staffordshire County Council have issued their annual directory for higher education, which states that instruction in pottery and porcelain manufacture will be again given, during the session 1908–1909, at Burslem, Longton, Stoke, and Tunstall, under the instructorship of Mr. J. W. Mellor, D.Sc., assisted by Messrs. A. D. Holdcroft, A. Richardson, and F. Turner. There will be three grades, corresponding to the preliminary, ordinary, and honours syllabuses of the City and Guilds of London Institute, while, in addition to these lecture classes, practical work will be taken in the preliminary, ordinary and honours grades. Hanley, of course, being a county borough, is independent of the County Council, and makes its own arrangements in the matter of pottery classes. With respect to the new pottery school at Stoke, alluded to above, it may be of interest to mention that the County Council have accepted the tender of Meiklejohn & Son, of Stoke, to carry out the builder's work to foundations, the fittings, railings, &c., at the temporary school near Stoke Station, for the sum of £136, while the tender of Humphreys, Litd., of Knightsbridge, for the provision of an iron building for £192, has also been agreed to. Mr. H. M. Robinson, on behalf of pottery manufacturers, has sent a trade contribution of £250 to the County Council in respect of the school, and also a further guarantee for £200, in accordance with a stipulation of the County Education Committee, prior to the work being proceeded with. Mr. E. Schmatolla, the expert in the gas-firing of potters' ovens, has presented an experimental gas-fired oven to the pottery school now being erected at Stoke. The oven is to be fitted with his improved regenerator, and Mr. Schmatolla has promised to give a demonstration of the working of the oven when it is erected. A similar oven on a large scale at Stourbridge is said to be giving excellent results.

There has been a lull, lately, in the discussion of the proceedings for the federation of the Pottery towns, but the controversy will break out anew in the course of another week or two. The Bill to give effect to the proposed federation has passed through the committee stage with various amendations in its financial clauses which nobody seems to understand very clearly. It has also passed its third reading in the House of Commons, and it now awaits the tender attentions of the House of Lords during the autumn session. The proceedings in the Upper House are bound to be engrossing, because Hanley is by no means satisfied with the amendments made in the original Bill. Nevertheless, few people doubt that the Bill will ultimately pass through Parliament and become law, though its clauses may yet undergo further alteration. One notable point is that the operation of the Bill is now postponed until November, 1909, so that, whatever the result of the Parliamentary proceedings may be, federation cannot now take place for another twelvemonth.

The conclusion of a working agreement between the Midland and London and North-Western Railways is not viewed with unmixed satisfaction by the manufacturers of the Potteries, and it has been suggested that the Chamber of Commerce should discuss the subject. The companies promise great advantages—the acceleration of goods traffic, the provision of more through trains, and optional use by passengers of either company's system between points common to both companies. It sounds very nice, but we know something about railways and railway rates in North Staffordshire, and that is why a good many people are inclined to look this wonderful gift horse in the month. If the agreement gave traders hope of more reasonable conditions in the matter of railway rates, and provided a better and quicker tribunal for the settling of disputes as between the companies and the traders, we might bo a little more enthusiastic.

The very intimate friendship which has always characterised the relationship subsisting between the firm of Wedgwoods, of Etruria, and their employees was once again evidenced by a happy gathering at the works on the afternoon of Tuesday, Aug. 25, when the workpeople assembled to make a presentation to Mr. Kennard Wedgwood on the occasion of his marriage. Though never an actual member of the firm, Mr. Kennard Wedgwood, who is the son of Mr. Lawrence Wedgwood, chairman of the directors, has for a number of years been intimately associated with the business, and a great part of the managerial responsibilities devolved upon his shoulders while Messrs. Cecil and Frank Wedgwood were in South Africa at the time of the war. Mr. Kennard Wedgwood has now for some little time been the firm's American director, and he entirely controls their American business. Recently he married Miss Wright, eldest daughter of Mr. O. D. Wright, of Johannesburg, and the workpeople, desiring to mark the event, arranged a gift to which every single operative in the place contributed. The present was very happily chosen. It consisted of a breakfast, dinner and tea service in the famous ivory-bodied Queen's ware, the pattern chosen being a revival of one invented by Josiah Wedgwood himself. The service was hand-painted, the subject being the clover flower and leaf, the ware also bearing a monogram and the date of the presentation. The service consisted of no fewer than 168 pieces. Mr. Charles Gee, the general manager of the works, presided at the presentation ceremony, and was supported by Messrs. Lawrence, Cecil, and Frank Wedgwood, while the heads of departments and many of the workpeople were also present. Mr. Thomas Lovatt, who has worked at Etruria for no less a period than 58 years, was chosen to make the presentation, which he did in a happy and humorous speech. Mr. Kennard Wedgwood, who was accorded a rousing reception, acknowledged the gift very feelingly, expressing his pleasure that the present selected was one upon which practically all the hands at the factory had worked.

In the presence of a number of guests from the Potteries, the reconstructed ''boat lift'' at Anderton, on the river Weaver, was reopened on July 29. The event was of considerable importance to the trade of the Potteries, as much of the clay, flint, bone, &c., brought into the Mersey for the potting trade is conveyed by canal boats along the Weaver Navigation to Anderton, where, by means of the lift, the boats are raised bodily some fifty feet up to the level of the North Staffordshire Canal, along which they continue their journey to the Potteries. A large amount of the finished ware intended for export to America passes over the canal in the opposite direction, and the lift is requisitioned in this case to lower the boat loads from the N.S. Canal to the level of the Weaver Navigation. The lift was formerly operated by hydraulic power, but it has now been greatly improved and adapted to electrical power at a cost of some £25,000. There was some little speechmaking at a luncheon following the reopening ceremony, and, of course, further allusions were made to the oft-talked-of project for bringing a ship canal to North Staffordshire. Mr. Walter Stanley suggested that if a ship canal could not be taken in hand, on account of the expense, it might still be possible to improve the existing waterways so as to enable craft of 70 tons to come up to Hanley, which would satisfy the Staffordshire Potteries for a beginning. It is worth while remembering that the engineer to the Weaver Navigation, in the course of evidence which he recently gave before the Royal Commission on Waterways, advocated the connection of the four ports of Liverpool and London, Hull and Bristol, by means of enlarged waterways, carrying vessels of three hundred tons burthen. The idea of extending the Weaver Navigation to the Potteries, and thence to Birmingham and the Severn, has often been mooted, and would obviously be of immense advantage to the Potteries, but the cost would be heavy, and the ways and means have never been seriously discussed.

The members of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce, at their annual meeting a fortnight ago, re-elected Mr. Cecil Wedgwood as president, and among a variety of other business discussed the Daylight Saving Bill. Mr. Wedgwood roundly condemned the Bill, calling it nonsense, and expressing astonishment that the time of Parliament should be wasted in discussing such a proposal, but the Bill was cordially supported by Mr. Boddington, Mr. Wilcox Edge, and Mr. Ridgway. The result of the debate was inconclusive, a motion that the Bill should lie on the table being defeated by a majority of one vote, while an amendment supporting the Bill fell through because the voting was equal. A letter was afterwards read from the South African agent of the Henry Richards Tile Co., Tunstall, stating that in the new Budget for Cape Colony it was proposed to increase commercial travellers' licences, for which agents to British firms already paid from £25 to £50 per annum. The agent added that, if the proposal passed, he was afraid a number of agents would have to seek other countries for business. The Chamber have communicated with the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject, and a copy of their protest has been forwarded to the Governor of Cape Colony for consideration.

The ninth annual report of the General Federation of Trade Unions shows that during tho year ended March 31 last, the Potters' Union was subscribing to the central fund in respect of 4,339 members, the United Ovenmens' Society in repect of 500 members, and the Pottery Engraver's Trade Union in respect of 65 members. The membership of the Potters' Union is now several thousands in excess of the numbor stated above.——At the time of writing no progress had been made with the negotiations between the manufacturers and workpeople on the subject of wages and working conditions raised last March. A meeting was to be held on Thursday, Aug. 27, at Stoke, when it was hoped that some definite step would be taken. This meeting was, however, held too late in the month for the result to be dealt with in the current issue of THE POTTERY

GAZETTE.——The Departmental Committee appointed by the Government to consider the use of lead, &c., in the potting trade, visited the Potteries last week to take evidence and make personal investigation, their stay lasting from Aug. 17 to the 21st.

We deeply regret to have to record the death of Mr. George Edwards, of Rose Bank, Dresden, youngest son of the Mayor of Longton (Alderman Aaron Edwards). The deceased gentleman was a partner in the firm of Cartwright & Edwards, china manufacturers, and had charge of the clay, colour, and glaze departments. For some little time he had been too ill to attend business, and his death at the early age of 39 years is greatly deplored by a wide circle of friends. The funeral was attended by many of the deceased gentleman's fellow-manufacturers in Longton, and a deputation of employees acted as pall-bearers. Many beautiful wreaths were se t.

An inquest was held at the Town Hall, Burslem, on Aug. 11, as to the death of Sarah Sweeney, of Burslem, aged 30, a lead worker, who died on Aug. 6. The mother of deceased said her daughter came home ill on Friday, July 31, and was ill until Thursday, when she died. She was ill in June, but could not tell the certifying surgeon because she was afraid he would stop her from work. She had never been suspended. Dr. N. C. Gilchrist said he was called to the deceased on Tuesday, Aug. 4, last. She was dull and listless, and complained of headache. He had been unable to come to any definite diagnosis of her illness. With Dr. King Alcock he had made a post-mortem examination. He came to the conclusion that the cause of death was extremely doubtful. If he had not heard she worked in lead, he could not say what the cause of death was, but he thought it to be lead-poisoning. In reply to Mr. Llewellyn, witness said there was no actual symptoms which might account for death. Dr. King Alcock, certifying surgeon for the Burslem district, said the deceased was not examined until March 10. With regard to the post-mortem examination, there was congestion of the kidneys and the brain.—The Coroner : Can you tell us what is the cause of death ?—My opinion must be guided by the fact that she was a lead worker. If I hadn't known she was a lead worker I should have been puzzled, for there were slight post-mortem symptoms which were consistent with hundreds of other diseases. There were indications that she was not very careful. No one could say definitely that lead-poisoning was the cause of death.—The Coroner pointed out the difficulty of the case, and remarked that it was no good women being examined if they misled the doctor as to their condition, and apparently the deceased did not tell Dr. Alcock of her illness in June. After retiring, the jury returned a verdict that the cause of death was lead-poisoning.——On July 27 the New Hall Pottery Co., Ltd., Hanley, was fined 50s. and ordered to pay costs for failing to maintain a reasonable temperature in a workroom. Factory inspectors gave evidence that on May 30 men were drawing ware from an oven, and were at work in a place where the temperature was 167 deg. F. Mr. Robert Audley, the managing director of the company, giving evidence, disclaimed responsibility for the heat of this particular oven and said that the men themselves were to blame for neglecting to open the "clammings." He was always willing to take all steps for the comfort of the men. On a point of law, the deputy stipendiary, Mr. T. B. Wall, held that during the time an oven was being charged and drawn it was a room within the meaning of the Act, and he remarked that if the defendant company's employees were to blame, as alleged, the company could have taken advantage of the provisions of the Act, and the men could have been dealt with. The magistrate agreed to state a case on the point of law as to whether an oven is a "room" within the meaning of the Act.——At the same court, Messrs. Hobson, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, of Sutherland-rd., Longton, were fined £2 and costs for employing a lad under the age of 16 years for more than seven working days without having obtained a certificate of his fitness from the certifying surgeon. The defence was that the omission was an oversight.

A new casting machine for the production of cups, jugs, bowls, &c., has been erected for Messrs. Stubbs at the Britannia China Works, Edensor-rd., Longton, where it will be submitted for inspection by manufacturers. The machine revolves vertically, and carries moulds in a series of cages seven in number. Each cage consists of a sliding board holder to accommodate five moulds, the machine, therefore, holding 35 moulds when filled. On the cage being placed in position—the moulds as they revolve being prevented from tippling out by the pressure of rubber rollers—it passes beneath a tank which can hold about 50 gallons of slip. Here a valve over each mould is lifted by a handle, and the five moulds are filled simultaneously in from five to ten seconds. The slip in the tank is agitated and prevented from setting by a series of paddles fixed to a central rod. The filled moulds are carried upwards as succeeding cages are placed in position, and on reaching a third stage the filled moulds are automatically tipped, allowing the slip not adhering to the mould to form the cup to fall into a trough, from which it is filtered through an agitated lawn sieve and re-enters the tank. The moulds drain as the machine travels two more stages, and when a complete revolution has been made the moulds are then in a state to be replaced by a cage of empty ones, which in turn pass through similar stages from filling to carrying away. The speed of the revolutions can be regulated to the character and strength of the ware required ; and allowing 20 seconds for the filling and replacing operations, the capacity of the machine ranges from 75 dozens an hour. The same sized machine as that in operation will, if necessary, hold 14 cages, each carrying five moulds, and thus double the capacity ; but seven cages will probably be found to turn out sufficient for the demands of an average manufactory. The machine has been constructed for the inventor by Hartley, Causton & Co., engineers, of Stoke. The invention, it is stated, can be applied to the casting of any kind and size of hollow article in semi-porcelain or stoneware.

We understand that the more advanced students of the pottery classes of the Staffordshire Education Committee will commence the coming session in a new laboratory at Stoke. The laboratory is to be fitted up for research work, &c., in pottery, clays, refractory materials, &c. Dr. Emil Weber, one of the pioneers of the Continental fireclay casting industry, has promised to give a lecture on the subject before the English Ceramic Society in October next. The Society elected a sub-committee some months ago to report on the advisability of formulating an official standard process for clay reports. The Committee decided last month to approach the Iron and Steel Institute, the Gas Institutes, the Fireclay Manufacturers, and the joint committee with the object of arranging a conference on refractory materials.——Fruit and flower artists engaged at pottery factories are to have another opportunity of inspecting examples of the handiwork of Mr. E. Seymour, the accomplished photographer of fruit and flowers, at Longton on Sept. 24. Last year when Mr. Seymour paid a visit to the district his specimens were so much admired that arrangements were made for the copies to be exhibited in Longton for a lengthened period, during which time they were inspected by artists and flewer painters from many of the leading potteries in the district.

THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE wave of depression which seems to be passing over the business world shows no signs of being dissipated, and until it does we can expect no improvement in the glass industry. Not for many years has trade been so dull, and there is a general agreement that business is in an extremely unsatisfactory condition in almost every branch, and though here and there a firm is to be met with who have a fair amount of work in hand the output of the Midlands and North of England is very much below the average. Here is the declaration of a gentleman who has been in the flint-glass trade for more than half a century, and who has peculiar means of knowing how others in the same industry are situated. "The glass trade," he remarked to the writer, "is in a very bad way. All departments are feeling the slackness, and there are few works which are not either discharging hands or running short time. I have been in the trade for a considerable number of years, and seen many periods of depression, but that now prevailing seems more general than I have known before. Go into any town—north, south, east or west—and the same complaint meets you, 'Nothing doing.' It seems general all over the country. Last year everything seemed brisk; this year one house in the Lancashire district has two out of three furnaces not working, and another three out of four. This shows you how things are, and the foreigners are sending goods in without restriction." The gentleman had much to say of the crisis in the cotton trade, and the possibility of a lock-out in the event of a reduction of wages being enforced ; but it is not necessary to dwell on these matters, unsettling as they are.

The growth of foreign glass imports is a sore point, yet there is little that manufacturers can do to prevent this. New designs are copied almost as soon as they are placed on the shelves of the tradesmen's shops, and at prices which the home manufacturer cannot approach if he is to pay his men a living wage. One or two makers en-

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LARGEST PRODUCERS OF

CHINA CLAY for POTTERY, PAPER AND BLEACHING PURPOSES.

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. . DEPÔTS. . .

RUNCORN—Manchester Ship Canal Co.
WESTON POINT—River Weaver Navigation Co.
GARSTON—L. & N. W. Ry. Co.
FLEETWOOD—L. & Y. Ry. Co.
MANCHESTER—Ship Canal Co.
ROCHDALE—Canal Wharf.
LEITH—2, Queen's Docks.
GLASGOW—88, Clarence Street.
CHATHAM—2, Holborn Wharf. BO'NESS—Docks.

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deavour to circumvent the enterprising foreigner by not bringing novelties under the notice of the retailer until they have made a large number, and can, as it were, flood the market; but this is not an altogether satisfactory method of procedure, because it can only be done with articles which the maker is convinced will be certain to sell. Yet it oftens happens that an article of which the designer was most sanguine fell very flat on the market, while another at which he had looked askance met with great popularity. The growth of 4½d. and 6½d. bazaars, which are making their appearance in almost every town and village, is affecting the glass and china dealers, and causing many of them to go in for these cheap lines. The fact that the goods are of foreign make does not seem to affect the public, whose sole object is to buy in the cheapest market. The working classes are, perhaps, the worst offenders in this matter.

It is satisfactory to be told that the recent appeal by glass manufacturers to the licensed victualling trade on the subject of the use of foreign wines and tumblers in hotels and inns is meeting with a certain measure of success, though the Birmingham and Stourbridge glasshouses have not been inundated with orders as yet. There is a disposition to give orders for tumblers, sandwich stands, and covers to the northern houses, but it is doubtful if orders for wines will be placed in the Midlands until prices more nearly approximate to those now paid the foreigner. What has been done so far is full of encouragement for the future, and this branch of the glass trade should, before long, be materially benefited. Both at Birmingham and Stourbridge the depression in the silver and electro-plate industries is being felt, and fewer orders are coming to hand than usual. As a rule there are large stocks in the warehouses of Sheffield and Birmingham, and until these are worked off orders are not likely to be placed. Latest accounts show a slight revival in the silver trade, but there is no improvement in the electro-plate branch. The London season has not been so good as in the past, which is somewhat surprising considering the great number of visitors who have flocked to the metropolis from the Continent and the provinces. But there seems to be a feeling that the visitors have spent less than in former years on presents, and the falling off in Americans is regretted, because they were very good customers. Until London dealers materially reduce their stocks orders for cut glass of various kinds are not likely to be placed, which fact is to be regretted, for the manufacturers in the Midlands have some very choice specimens in their showrooms, an examination of which will soon convince the sceptical that designers and workmen are as skilful as ever they were, and that all have benefited by the art training schools of Birmingham and Stourbridge.

O. C. Hawkes, Ltd., of Birmingham, who have declared the usual dividend of 5 per cent. per annum on the preference shares for the past half year, and an interim dividend of the same amount on the ordinary shares for the same period, are busily engaged on one of the largest orders of the kind every given out. The working agreement between the tube and other electric railways in London, and the decision that all shall be known as the "Underground," is responsible for the order. There are upwards of three hundred stations on the various systems, and that the public shall not fail to observe them it is proposed that outside each there shall be an illuminated sign and map. Above the main entrance will be a perpendicular sign with the word "Underground" in letters three feet long placed one above the other. Some of these have three faces, so that the word can be read from the front and from either side, while others will be "V" shaped, giving side views only. The letters are to be white on a blue ground, and they will be electrically illuminated at night, as will also be the maps, which are 7 ft. by 4 ft., and the tablet below them giving directions and particulars as to times of trains and journeys. The contract is for 700 or 800 of these devices, the execution of which will necessitate the use of about 70,000 square feet of plate glass, besides ironwork and electrical equipment. The placing of the contract has found welcome work for a large number of men.

The glass bottle trade of South and West Yorkshire remains in pretty much the same condition as it did a couple or three months ago. A fine warm summer would, it was anticipated, give a greatly needed fillip to business, but the warm bright days have come and gone, leaving things very much as they were. The desired "all round" revival has not yet made its appearance, and evidently will not until the general trades of the country improve. There has been an improved demand for mineral water bottles, chiefly of the split soda variety, and makers of syphons have been somewhat busier. Ale and stout bottles have sold a little more freely, but the general tone of business is flat, and this is indicated by the fact that at the majority of places the workmen have still to play every alternate week, or one week out of three. Orders for jam and pickle jars have been booked, but as the bulk of these are now made by machine the work has not found so much employment as was formerly the case. Taken altogether, however, bottle manufacturers are disappointed to find that sales have not come up to the average attained in former prosperous years. It would seem that the system of charging for bottles by acrated water manufacturers and beer and porter bottlers, and so ensuring a large return of empties which can again be used, has seriously affected the output of new bottles. The system of exchanges by which "stray" and practically lost or broken bottles are recovered has now reached such dimensions that the number returned to the original owners is in the aggregate very considerable. The large importation of foreign bottles is also assigned as another contributory cause of the slackness which prevails in the home market.

Efforts continue to be made to induce the score or so firms who at the outset kept aloof from the European Association previously referred to in THE POTTERY GAZETTE to reconsider their decision, but they are stated to have only met with partial success. It is reported that one of the objects of the Association is to keep up prices, and another to purchase and work a costly machine, but a number of manufacturers declined to join the body on the ground of expense, which was said to be prohibitive in the case of small manufacturers. The latter are said to have been taxed with a desire to undersell, and matters became so acute that these outside firms were informed that if they did not join their men would cease work on a given date in August. This led the manufacturers to question their men, who admitted they had no cause for complaint respecting the conditions under which they worked, but they failed to obtain any satisfaction as to why they were handing in their notices. The employers referred to held a meeting in Leeds, and all pledged themselves to resist all efforts to compel them to join the combine. Representatives are understood to have attended this meeting from London, South Wales, Castleford,, Mexbrough, Hunslet, Knottingley and Swinton. The threatened strike of workmen did not come off, for the men, who are members of the National Glass Bottlemakers' Trade Protection Society, withdrew their notices, which it is reported they were led to give by the statement that the firms outside the combine were "cutting the trade to ribbons," and that a reduction of wages would probably follow if they did not enter the ring. Matters are, therefore, as they were, but it is not supposed by those in the know that the last has been heard of the subject. Great reticence is being observed on all hands, and it is difficult to get at the real facts. One

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thing, however, is certain ; there are a dozen or fourteen firms in various parts of the kingdom who are not members of the combine, and the pressure which was being exerted by their workmen has been withdrawn.

The class of bottle-makers formerly styled "flint hands," after seceding from the National Flint Glassmakers' Society, formed an organisation of their own under the title of "The National Society of Glass Bottle-makers of Great Britain and Ireland." The society has now over 800 members, and the funds are steadily increasing. This will render future amalgamation with the older and larger society of ordinary bottle hands a more feasible scheme than when previous overtures were made. A conference of glass-workers' societies, representing some 10,000 members, has been held at Manchester to discuss the question of joining the General Federation of Trade Unions. At present the latter has a membership of 700,000, and it is expected that this will be increased to 1,000,000 before many months have gone. The object of the Federation is to secure joint action in the case of disputes affecting one or more trade unions.

Death has removed from our midst Mr. Isaac Judson, head of the timber works connected with Messrs. Pilkington's extensive glassworks at St. Helens. Deceased, who had held that responsible position for more than twenty years, was widely known, and his funeral at Eccleston was very largely attended.——Mrs. Hard, wife of Mr. Ward, glass and china dealer, of Scot-lane and Baxtergate, Doncaster, has met with a sad death. She was lighting the gas stove in preparation for tea when by some means her dress caught fire. Unfortunately no one was in the house at the time, the servant having gone on an errand, while Mr. Ward was away in London. Mrs. Ward was terribly burned, death taking place the same night. In returning a verdict of "Accidental death" the coroner's jury expressed their sympathy with Mr. Ward and his family.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE best of weather has prevailed all over Scotland during August, being even an improvement upon that of July. This has sent shoals of family parties away to coast and country, where the retailers of pottery and glass have come in for a better season than was anticipated. Yet there has been, even at these crowded resorts, nothing out of the way in the turnover of china, glass, crystal, whiteware or stoneware goods. The wholesale merchants in the cities are able to report a few coast repeat orders, but these run to no great figure after all, and trade travellers find, when visiting these places, that the crowds of temporary dwellers there are not at all liberal in spending, but confine themselves to the smallest possible outlay on indispensable things, and deny themselves almost entirely such things as are merely optional. And it is well known that our readers' wares have a trick of falling into the optional class, as at present, and of being put off, to be purchased at a time when money is more plentiful.

Conversely, the great rush of families coastwards has signally diminished the little counter business going to the city and town retailers, and with these August has been a very idle month, although the finest of shopping weather has prevailed. It has been noted by some of the city retailers that August of last year, though very indifferent as to weather, was much less dismal as to counter turnover than the corresponding month of this year..

In the country trade travellers have been on the quest for orders, with September deliveries to follow. Of course, some such orders have been booked, but it is uphill work, although the cereal harvest promises to be abundant, if no meteorological catastrophe intervenes. The fishing around the Scottish coasts has been good in parts only, and the aggregate of the whole will probably rank as under the average. These considerations always have a close bearing on the fortunes of the glass and ware industries so far as regards demand in the fall and during the winter.

The prices of most of the lines within our category remain nominally unchanged, but there is some little increased suspicion of a mild sort of incutting on the part of a few of the sellers in order to enliven business somewhat. English glass on the Scottish market, and the Scottish high-class home makes of the same are held fairly firm in value as yet, but there seems to be some informal easing off in the glass of foreign makes, the prices of which, it will be remembered, were put up some time back.

The recent temporary and tentative arrangement of disputes in the Scottish stoneware potteries (by the Arbitrator of the Board of Trade) is likely to lead to something more permanent. The existing agreement runs only for one year. Meanwhile, the attention of the pottery workers (stoneware, Rockingham, whiteware—practically the whole) is being favourably turned in the direction of a Conciliation Board, permanent in character, and empowered to settle all disputes, so as to avoid strikes and lock-outs in the industry. It would appear that this movement has taken some definite shape already, with the men as a body enthusiastic, and with a number of the masters, though not the whole of them as yet, ready to fall in with the idea. There are different sections of the pottery manufacture in Scotland, as elsewhere, and each has its own peculiarities to consider. One of these sections for the moment holds off from the proposed conciliation expedient, but its ultimate consent is probably attainable, and all must admit that, were the industry wholly safeguarded from the risk of stoppage of production, and the heavy sacrifices arising therefrom, the gain would be great alike to masters and to men.

Since my last report the makers of jam jars have been less busy, and the prospect of the final summing up for the season has become impaired a little, though in any case the results are bound to be reasonably satisfactory.

AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, July 7.

AS you are aware by the tone of my previous letters the pottery trade in Australia has of late not been particularly bright on account principally of the hampering of business generally by the continuous changes in the tariff of the Deakin-Lyne Government. Sent back and forth between the Upper and the Lower Houses of our Federal Parliament, no sooner were rates of duties fixed than they were altered again and again, a state of affairs that did not ensure sane and sound trading, and which luckily is now ended with a settled tariff for some time to come. I give herewith the fixed items relating to the pottery trade, which may now be taken as conclusive. The first figure represents the general tariff, and the second in brackets the tariff on goods the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom :—Portland cement, plaster of paris, and other like preparations having magnesia or sulphate of lime as a basis, also gypsum, per cwt., 1s. (9d.) ; china, parian and porcelain ware, ad val., 25 per cent. (20 per cent.) ; scientific apparatus, porcelain, viz. : crucibles, tubes, pressure filters and evaporating dishes for laboratory use, free ; earthenware, brownware, and stoneware n.e.i.. ad val., 25 per cent. (20 per cent.) ; roofing tiles, flooring tiles, and tiles n.e.i. of all materials and mosaic flooring, and tiles of fibro



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Also best qualities and special terms for Blue, Black, Ivory, and Buff Clays, for various Earthenware, Tile, Sanitary, Majolica, Stilt, Door Furniture, &c., Bodies.

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cement, asbestos cement, and similar substances, ad val., 30 per cent. (25 per cent.); asphalt mastic, ad val. 15 per cent.; earthenware, viz.:—spurs, stilts, and thimbles, free; fire and glazed bricks, fire lumps, fibro cement n.e.i., fireclay manufactures n.e.i., and asphalt tiles, ad val., 15 per cent. Roasting dishes, assay furnaces, crucibles, skittle pots, scorifiers and muffles, free.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements, the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

ARTUR & Co. (Emile Artur and Frank McMorland), 90, Hatton-garden, E.C., china merchants, &c. May 6. Debts by E. Artur. (Aug. 4.)

LINES BROS. (Jno. Farrer Mason and Alf. Austin Augustus Lines), 15, Holbeck-lane, Leeds, manufacturers of porcelain incandescent lighting (gas and electric) goods and fittings, and lighting appliances. July 22. Debts by J. F. Mason. (July 28.)

Limited Companies: * Appointments of Receivers; Resolutions and Notices as to Winding-up; Petitions; Orders and Official and other Notices.

** Some of these entries refer to appointments prior to the Companies Act, 1907, and registered under Sec. 11 (2) of that Act. The date of appointment appears in the entry.*

ASHBOURNE BRICK, TILE, AND PIPE CO., LTD., Derby. W. Hart, 43, Wardwick, Derby, C.A., apptd. recr., Dec. 10, 1901.

BRITISH MACHINE BOTTLE CO., LTD., London, E.C. A. H. Hale, 14, Redston-rd., Hornsey, acct., apptd. recr., May 7, 1908.

BROUSSON'S AGENCIES, LTD., London, W.C. L. B. Linnett, 42, Poultry, E.C., apptd. recr., April 25, 1907.

DUBLIN FIRE CLAY CO., LTD. Resolved July 17, confirmed Aug. 5:—That the company be wound up. W. Poulter, liqr.

GODWIN & HEWITT, LTD., Hereford. C. C. T. Parsons, 120, Colmore-row, Birmingham, C.A., apptd. recr., March 7, 1908.

Trustee Appointed.

MEIKLE WM. T., glass merchant, glazier, glass stainer, &c., Glasgow, a partner of the firm of, &c., 21, Wellington-st., Glasgow, as an individual. Tr., D. Strathie, 162, St. Vincent-st., Glasgow. Coms., J. G. Deans, A. Aitchison, and J. Macgregor, all Glasgow. Meeting, trustee's, Sept. 1 at 12.

Notice of Dividend.

FINNEY VINCENT J. and EDMUND F. FINNEY, trading as Finney Bros., 6 and 8, St. James's-walk, and 1 and 2, Suffolk-st., Clerkenwell, Staffordshire warehousemen. Second and final, 1s. 8d., at 4, Charterhouse-sq., E.C.

Notice of Intended Dividend.

GROVE ALLAN, 17, Gillott-rd., and Blucher-st., Birmingham, stained glass artist. Claims to A. S. Cully, Birmingham, O.R.

Estate Sequestrated.

MEIKLE WM. & SONS, 21, Wellington-st., Glasgow, glass merchants, glaziers, glass stainers, &c., and Wm. Tait Meikle, Wm. Meikle, jun., and Andrew Currie Meikle, individual partners. July 23.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. Under this Act it is nccessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registercd within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

HARRIS SARAH ANN, trading as Harris & Co., 31, Regent-st., Clifton, and 60, Cotham-hill, Bristol, china dealer. Assignment of business estate upon trust, &c. Dated August 12. Filed August 18. Liabilities unsecured, £705. Assets, after deducting secured claims, £415. Tr., C. B. Winson, Bridge-st., Bristol. The following are creditors:—Mayer & Co., London, £14; Rowe & Edwards, London, £20; W. J. Pike, Bristol, £583; rates, £18.

PATTINSON WM., 190 and 192, Whitley-rd., Whitley Bay, glass and china merchant and dealer. Dated, July 21. Filed, July 27. Liablities unsecured, £1,402. Property after deducting secured claims, £667. Tr., J. Kindred, 116, Pilgrim-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne. The following are creditors:—H. Price & Co., London, £10; Fieldings, London, £50; W. Martin, Bournemouth, £53; Misses Lee, Brampton, £25; Burgess & Leigh, Burslem, £19; T. Wanless, Haltwhistle, £23; T. Ellis, Hexham, £30; L. C. & H. F. Lockhart, Hexham, £123; C. M. Pattinson, Hexham, £10; G. & C. M. Pattinson Hexham, £40; S. Harris, Leeds, £21; C. Wells, Leicester, £27; C. Allerton & Sons, Longton, £10; Wileman & Co., Longton, £15; R. Clement, Low Fell, £20; Birks, Rawlins & Co., Stoke, £12; Ball Bros., Sunderland, £11; J. E. Hutchinson, Sunderland, £15; J. C. Clemitson, Whitley Bay, £12; T. English, Whitley Bay, £11; Ann E. Pattinson, Whitley Bay, £330; Mrs. W. Taylor, Whitley Bay, £17; bankers' claims, £414.

SADLER EDWD. WM., Furlong-rd. Works, Furlong-rd., Tunstall, and residing at 5, Upper Hollings-st., Fenton, china and earthenware decorator. Dated, July 20. Filed, July 21. Liabilities unsecured, £207. Property after deducting secured claims, £25. Tr., A. Cotton, the Market-sq., Tunstall, auctioneer, &c. The following are creditors:—R. Hatchell, Burslem, £22; J. & G. Meakin, Ltd., Hanley, £50; H. Malton, Longton, £11; Coloured Paper Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £14; Goldendale Iron Co., Tunstall, £20; W. Adams & Co., Tunstall, £15.

WILLIAMS HERBERT THOS., the Market-hall and 67, Pembrey-rd., Llanelly, china and earthenware dealer. Dated, July 20. Filed, July 25. Liabilities unsecured, £858. Property after deducting secured claims, £217. Tr., C. E. Bullock, Hanley. The following are creditors:—Anglo-Belge Glass Association, Ltd., London, £14; J. Lockett, London, £10; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, £11; King & Barratt, Burslem, £66; H. J. Wood, Burslem, £13; J. Humphreys, Cobridge, £16; J. Bourne & Sons, Denby Pottery, £13; S. Higgins & Co., Fenton, £12; Rubian Art Pottery, Ltd., Fenton, £45; Sandland and Colley, Hanley, £12; H. Newark, Llanelly, £11; South Wales Pottery Co., Llanelly, £85; C. Amison, Longton, £12; J. W. Beswick, Longton, £15; Barker Bros., Ltd., Longton, £46; Clough & Lester, Longton, £12; Mayer & Sherratt, Longton, £21; J. A. Morgan, as assignee of A. Machin & Co., Longton, £23; R. H. & S. L. Plant, Longton, £12; Wild Bros., Longton, £19; T. C. Wild, Longton, £13; Wileman & Co., Longton, £11; J. B. Brierley & Sons, Manchester, £13; W. Williams, Neath, £27; Pargeter & Co., Stourbridge, £10; J. P. Humphreys, Tunstall, £205; A. Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, £21.

Private Meeting.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

GATES A. H. & M. (Alfred Horace Gates, trading as), 27 and 87, West-st., and 13, Emery-lane, Boston, china warehouseman, &c. A meeting of the creditors in this case was held on Wednesday, Aug. 12, when a statement of affairs, prepared by Messrs. Beecroft, Sons & Nicholson, accountants, &c., 12, Wood-st., Cheapside, E.C., was submitted. This showed total liabilities £941 18s. 6d., made up of the claims of trade creditors, £629 11s. 10d.; cash creditors, £257 2s. 10d.: and local, sundry, and other creditors, £55 3s. 10d. The assets were estimated to realise £898 15s. 11d., and consisted of stock-in-trade, £738 8s. 1d.: book debts (£28 7s. 7d.), estimated to realise £21 11s. 7d.; cash in hand, £7 18s. 9d.; fixtures, fittings, and trade utensils, estimated to produce £100 17s. 6d.; and private furniture, £30. Deducting £61 10s. 4d. for preferential claims, the net assets totalled £837 5s. 7d. A policy on the life of Mr. Gates in the Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Society for £100 was of the estimated surrender value of £43 16s., but it was held by the Capital and Counties Bank as part security for their debt of £61 8s. 10d. It appeared that Mr. Gates started business at 27, West-st., Boston, in December, 1905, having £83 odd capital, including furniture and life policy, and he had since paid into the business £210 out of his earnings. He bought the stock and fixtures for £116 9s. 5d., paying £20 down and the balance by instalments. Last October he opened the premises 87, West-st., purchasing the fixtures, &c., for £16 1s. 6d., and last March he also took a branch shop in Emery-lane. The trading figures showed that from December, 1905, to July 27 of the present year the sales at the three shops amounted to £1,630 14s. 2d., on which a gross profit had been made of £515 12s. 5d., the expenses and depreciation amounted to £413 14s. 7d., and the net profit was put at £101 17s. 10d. The drawings amounted to £458 11s. 1d. At the meeting it was resolved to accept 12s. 6d. in the £, payable by four equal instalments at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months. The following are creditors:—C. J. Adie & Nephew, Birmingham, £22; Arnold & Sansum, Ltd., Northampton, £14; J. Bennett, London, £14; Davidson Bros., London, £10; Faudels, Ltd., London, £44; Gibben & Demaine, Leeds, £16; A. Gait, Grimsby, £15: Harburg and Vienna India Rubber Co., London, £10; Knight & Coe, Manchester, £14; Lazarus & Rosenfeld, London, £62; New Polyphon Supply Co.,

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Ltd., London, £44 ; Jas. Pearsall & Co., London, £16 ; Wm. Potter & Sons, London, £28 ; E. Payne, London, £18 ; E. Pollard, London, £16 ; Pountney & Co., Ltd., Bristol, £10 ; Royal Watcomb Pottery Co., Torquay, £19 ; Samuel Barnett & Sons, Ltd., London, £21 ; Seager & Wetmon, Ipswich, £10 ; Simpson & Co., London, £15 ; Raphael Tuck & Sons, London, £15 ; C. E. Turnbull & Co., London, £12 ; W. H. Williams & Co., Nottingham, £23 ; Jas. Wisbey & Co., London, £11 ; Young & Hodgson, Ltd., London, £13 ; creditors under £10, £122 ; cash creditors :—J. R. Anderson, Boston, £100 ; Bankers, Boston, £17 ; John Williamson, Manchester, £52 ; F. A. White, Chesterfield, £35 ; Yarborough A. Cooke, Boston, £15 ; Mrs. Chapman, Boston, £12 ; Miss G. Cook, Boston, £15 ; W. Musson-Brewer, Boston, £10 ; local, sundry, and other creditors, £55 ; preferential creditors, £61.

Circular.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

MEIKLE WILLIAM & SONS, glass merchants, Wellington-st., Glasgow. The following circular has been issued :—162, St. Vincent-st., Glasgow, July 23, 1908. Dear Sirs,—The principal reason for this firm being obliged to consult its creditors arose in consequence of certain complications in the affairs of Mr. W. T. Meikle, the senior partner, which could only have been settled by a withdrawal of capital from the firm's business, impossible at the time, and which, in any event, could only have been detrimental to the interests of the firm's creditors. Since the meeting of creditors on 22nd ult., negotiations have been entered into with Mr. Meikle's personal creditors, and proposals made for a settlement of his liabilities, which, if accepted, would have enabled an offer of composition of 15s. per £ to be made to the firm's creditors as provisionally arranged with the committee of creditors. We are now under the necessity of informing you that Mr. Meikle's principal creditors have intimated that they decline to accept the proposed terms of settlement for Mr. Meikle's personal liabilities, and they demand sequestration of his estate. The committee of creditors have considered the position, and are advised that sequestration of the estates of the firm and its partners should be at once applied for on the petition of the partners. The Court has now granted the necessary order, and we enclose form of affidavit on which to make up your claim, and which please note requires to be signed before a Justice of the Peace, and which we shall be glad that you return to us in the course of post along with mandate at foot completed. The meeting for the election of the trustee will be held in the Faculty Hall, here, on Monday, Aug. 3, at 12 o'clock noon. You will observe that the claim is drawn up according to rules of the bankruptcy statutes, so as to enable you to rank upon the estates of the individual partners by placing valuations upon the company estate and upon that of each partner. This in no way affects the quesfion of any offer which may be made, or ultimate realisation. We may say that it is the intention of the partners to bring forward under the sequestration proceedings the offer of composition to the firm's creditors which they had provisionally arranged for, and this will probably be done by the junior partners to avoid any complication with the estate of Mr. William T. Meikle.—Your obedient servants, David Strathie & Co., C.A.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BROADHURST WALTER, 23, Nicholas-rd., Chorlton-cum-Hardy, and 15, Charles-st., Manchester, glass etcher. R.O., August 18. First meeting, O.R.'s, Manchester, September 2, at 2.30. Exam., C.C. Manchester, Sept. 18, at 10.

STANDEN LEONARD, china dealer, 11, Burnley-rd., Padiham, Lancs. The public examination of this debtor was held on July 31 at the County Court House, Bankhouse-st., Burnley, before Mr. Registrar Hartley, the defficiency being stated at £761. In answer to questions the debtor said that he started business as a china dealer in February, 1903, but the business had never been a success. He might have been on the wrong side in 1904, but he thought things would improve. He had borrowed over £400 from his father and other people. He denied that before he filed his petition a quantity of furniture was taken away, but he said his father took his own furniture away in May, and the remainder belonged to his wife. Ultimately the case was adjourned.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" by Messrs. G. F. REDFERN & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

BED PANS, No. 16,500.—Dora A. Waltz. Improvements in and relating to bed pans and the like. Aug. 1, 1908.

CLAY TREATMENT, No. 16,668.—J. Martin. Improvements in the treatment of clay for the manufacture of pottery. Aug. 7, 1908.

CUPS AND SAUCERS, No. 14,427.—Porzellanfabrik Weiden Gebr. Bauscher, G.m.b.H. Improvements in cups and saucers. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, April 13, 1908.)

DECORATED EARTHENWARE, No. 15,017.—H. E. Bulley. Improvements in and relating to the manufacture of decorated earthenware. July 15, 1908.

DRINKING VESSELS, No. 16,031.—A. J. L. Stokes. Improvements in or relating to drinking vessels. July 28, 1908.

EARTHENWARE, No. 15,243.—T. B. Baylis. Improvement in earthenware or stoneware and cast iron pipes. July 19, 1908.

EARTHENWARE PIPE MACHINES, No. 14,462.—Yarrow & Co. (Bolton) Ltd., and M. Yarrow. Improvements in machines for the manufacture of earthenware pipes. (Application for patent of addition, No. 27,354-07.) July 8, 1908.

EARTHENWARE COCK, No. 15,189.—M. Hense. Improvements in and relating to earthenware cock with wire-netting covering. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, Jan. 11, 1908.)

EARTHENWARE ARTICLES, No. 16,215.—T. Arrowsmith and E. Johnson. Improvements relating to the manufacture of earthenware articles. July 30, 1908.

FICTILE WARE, No. 15,955.—W. Green. Improvements in fictile ware and in the manufacture thereof. July 27, 1908.

INK STANDS, No. 15,445.—J. Preygoda. Improvements in and relating to ink stands, July 21, 1908.

OBTAINING SURFACES IN RELIEF, No. 15,942.—J. Debut. Improved method of and means for obtaining surfaces of glass, wood, marble, or other materials in relief. July 27, 1908.

ORNAMENTAL GLAZING MANUFACTURE, No. 15,762.—I. von der Forst and P. vond der Forst. Improvements in the manufacture of ornamental glazings. July 24, 1908.

POTS, No. 16,543.—A. J. Bates. Improvements in pots for holding molten glass. Aug. 3, 1908.

POTTERY SHAPING MACHINES, No. 16,085.—F. Fuller and F. Riley, trading as The Speedwell Engineering Co. Improvements in pottery shaping or forming machines. July 29, 1908.

SHAVING MUGS, No. 16,111.—T. D. McKown. Improvements in shaving mugs. July 29, 1908.

TILES, No. 14,326.—Amy Baker. Improvement in moulding tiles. July 6, 1908.

URINAL VESSELS, No. 16,035.—Isabella M. O'Connor. Improvements in hospital urinal vessels. July 28, 1908.

VASE PEDESTAL, No. 15,804.—M. J. Adams. Improvements in pedestals for vases, sundials, or other objects. July 25, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

14,643.—Miles & de Brouwer. Method of and apparatus for introducing moulding or plastic materials into moulds or other receptacles.

21,404.—Lamy. Process of moulding objects or other plastic materials. (Rights under Section 91 Patents Act, 1907, not granted.)

21,999.—Smith. Connecting metal-pipes to earthenware or other nozzles.

23,934.—Grindley. Method of and means for placing dishes, plates, saucers and similar articles of earthenware and china in saggars.

12,583.—Lake (Chemische Fabrik Gustrow). Manufacture of enamel.

17,485.—Brooks. Hot water bottles and similar receptacles.

27,714.—Andris. Glass-melting furnaces.

20,634.—Titley & Johnson. Bottle stoppers and the process of and apparatus for manufacturing same.

21,296.—Brauer. Apparatus for automatically conveying bottles or the like into annealing surfaces. (Date applied for under International Convention, Nov. 28, 1906.)

1908.

1,603.—Palme. Method of manufacturing glass arms or brackets for chandeliers and the like.

928.—Murnane. Means for connecting glass plates together for show cases, corner windows and the like.

10,931.—Kroeger. Attachment for flower pots and the like.

11,307.—Escuder. Spittoons.

8,846.—Brooks. Hot water bottles and similar receptacles. (Date applied for under Rule 13, July 31, 1907.)

10,196.—Sherrick. Photographic developing tanks.

Designs.

The following is a list of proprietors of designs entered on the Register in Class 4, which includes "articles composed wholly or chiefly of glass, earthenware, or porcelain, bricks, tiles, or cement."

523,881.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth Pottery, S.E.

524,745.—J. N. Masters, Ltd., Hope House, Rye, Sussex.

524,791-2.—Baxendale & Co., 41, Miller-st., Manchester.

524,909.—A. L. Dunphy and J. Tisot, c/o South Metropolitan Gas Co., Tunnel-avenue, East Greenwich.

525,716-8.—C. T. Malin & Sons, Ford Potteries, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

525,846.—Oates & Green, Ltd., Horley Green, Halifax.

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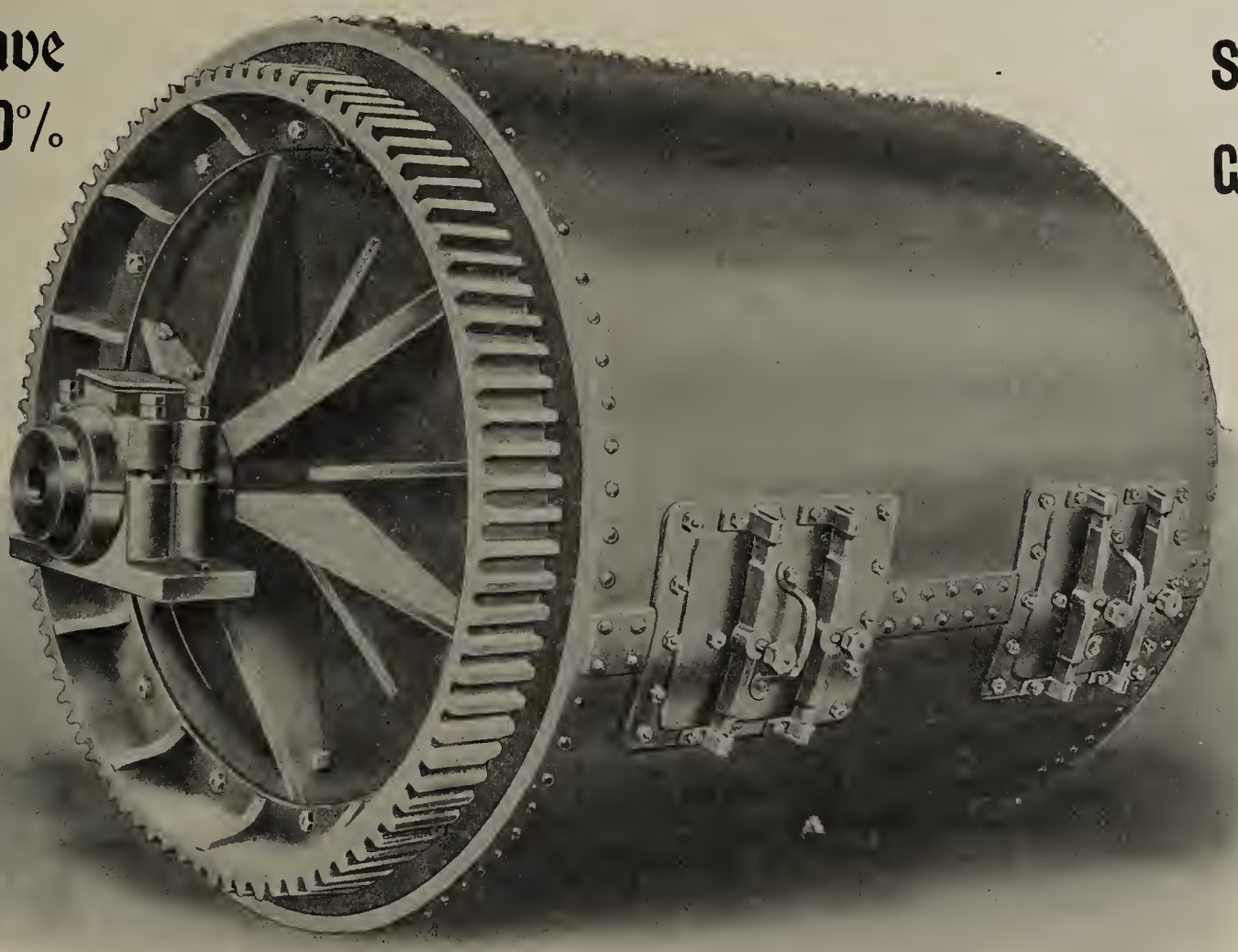
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GRINDING PANS
GRINDING ROLLER MILLS (Parallel Types)
GRINDING INTERNAL ROLLER MILLS (Bousfield System. Patent)
MORTAR MILLS
CEMENT MILLS
STONE BREAKERS (Saxon Patent Safety Bridge)
GRIT CRUSHERS (Saxon Granite Jaws)

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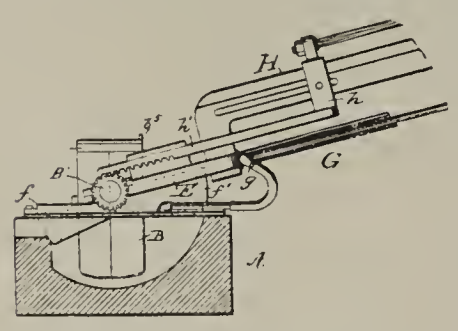
MAIZE, OATS, and CEREALS

525,218.—Broad & Co., Ltd., 4, South Wharf, Paddington, W.
525,497.—W. T. Copeland & Sons, 3, High-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
525,498.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
525,557.—Dorbater Iron Co., Ltd., Larbert-rd., Falkirk.
525,950.—J. A. Edwards, 1, Old Hall-st., Hanley.
525,982.—The French Wreath Co., 199A, Tottenham Court-rd., W.
526,037–8.—Empire Porcelain Co., Hanley-rd., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,094.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
526,187.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.
526,384–5.—W. H. Goss, Edward-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,594.—W. A. Bailey, 148 and 150, Andrey House, Ely-place, E.C.
521,826.—E. J. Dorgins, trading as Maximum Light Window Glass Co., 28, Victoria-st., Westminster, S.W.
523,737.—R. S. Brownlow, Abbey Hey, Gorton, Manchester.
523,321.—Cerebos, Ltd., Cerebos Works, Greatham, co. Durham.
525,436.—Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,032.—J. A. Edwards, 1, Old Hall-st., Hanley, Staffs.
526,070.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
526,071.—A. B. Wells, 1, Trinity-st., Hastings.
526,188.—Schindler & Co., 9, Aldermanbury-avenue, E.C.
526,189.—J. A. Edwards, 1, Old Hall-st., Hanley.
526,356.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,488.—E. Soutter, Handsworth Wood-rd., Handsworth.
526,628.—C. E. Challis, Oakridge, Epping.
526,634-5.—W. G. W. Davis, 8, Throgmorton-st., E.C.
526,749.—J. Walsh Walsh, Lodge-rd., Birmingham.
526,380–1.—W. T. Copeland & Sons, 3, High-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,412.—Empire Porcelain Co., Hanley rd., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,462.—J. A. Edwards, 1, Old Hall-st., Hanley.
526,487.—Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville.
526,592.—Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville.
526,593.—T. Rathbone & Co., Newfield Pottery, Tunstall.
527,018.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
524,753.—Atlas China Co., Ltd., Wolfe-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
525,359.—Beeston Foundry Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.
525,510–15.—Saunders & Shepherd, Ltd., 58–61, Fetter-lane, E.C.
526,069.—R. H. & S. L. Plant, Tuscan Works, Longton.
526,109.—J. A. Edwards, 1, Old Hall-st., Hanley.
526,382–83.—W. H. Goss, Edward-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,465.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
526,851.—Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville.
527,187.—T. Mackie, jun., 16, Upper Grove-place, Edinburgh.
527,395–400.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.

New Foreign Patents.

LATEST COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Machine for Making Hollow Glassware. George A. Marsh Sandusky, Ohio. (U.S. Patent.)—Claim :—In an apparatus for forming hollow glass articles, a mould, a receptacle for molten glass, a closure for the top of the receptacle of which the mould constitutes a part, means for charging the matrix of the mould by exerting on the surface of the glass pressure in excess of that of the atmosphere to force molten glass from the receptacle upward into the matrices of the mould and means for completing the article by blowing. In the art of forming hollow articles from molten glass, a mould having a matrix in which the complete article is formed, a receptacle for molten glass, means for exerting pressure on the surface of the molten glass in the receptacle to force a charge of molten glass upward into the matrix of the mould, and means for completing the article in the matrix by blowing. Glass-forming mechanism comprising a receptacle for molten glass, a mould, a closure for the top of the receptacle, which includes as a part of the same the mould, means for supplying to the space in the closed receptacle above the molten glass and surrounding the mould air under compression to force a charge of molten glass from the receptacle into the mould, means for forming a part of the article by mechanically pressing the charge, means for separating from the mould and cooling the partially formed charge by air under compression, and means for blowing the charge to completion. In the art of forming hollow glassware, a separable mould, a movable bottom or follower therefor, means for gathering a predetermined quantity of molten glass in the mould between its open end and the follower, a plunger nozzle for pressing the charge to partial shape, means for releasing the follower after the charge has been pressed, and means for expanding the glass in the mould in which it is gathered to complete shape. In an apparatus for manufacturing hollow glassware, a separable gathering and shaping mould having a matrix with a contracted open end, means movable within the matrix to divide the same, and provide means for limiting the quantity of the charge, means for charging the matrix through its open end with molten glass, a plunger insertible into the charge to press the charge while confined near the open end of the matrix, and means for expanding a portion of the charge by blowing to complete the article.



ANOTHER SLANDER ON BRITISH POTTERS.

UNDER the double head lines "Colonial Trade" and "An Anglo-German Manœuvre," the following letter appeared in "The Daily Telegraph" of Aug. 11 :—

To the Editor of "The Daily Telegraph."

SIR,—In these times of great depression the following will be somewhat interesting. A large quantity of crockery ware was unloaded in Tilbury Docks from a ship which hailed from Germany. Every piece of this ware was, of course, stamped "Made in Germany."

In the meantime a well-known firm of pottery manufacturers had received an order from an Australian firm, so they sent their men to Tilbury Docks to block out the "Made in Germany" mark, and then shipped the stuff to Australia, where it will, no doubt, enter under the preferential tariff for British-made goods.

The above is only one case out of hundreds of like cases. It is a most deplorable and shocking state of affairs.

Of course, these foreign-made goods are entered in the Board of Trade returns as "exported British manufactures."—Yours truly,

Orsett-rd., Grays, Aug. 10. ALFRED RUSSELL.

On the day this appeared, we wrote to the Editor of the "Telegraph," drawing attention to this gross libel on British pottery manufacturers, and asking permission at once to deny the truth of the statement made. We said : "We challenge Mr. Russell to communicate the name and address of the firm to you confidentially. If in your columns you will give an assurance that Mr. Russell has proved his statement to your satisfaction, and that the firm he names is to your knowledge a well-known firm of pottery manufacturers, the charge will be entitled to serious consideration. Unless he does this we say his statement must be branded as a cruel untruth."

The Editor did not do pottery manufacturers the justice to publish this disclaimer on their behalf.

Our Potteries correspondent comments on the matter very reasonably as follows :—"The story is interesting but may probably be dismissed as a myth. The statement about taking out the German mark is absurd : if the pottery had been decorated in the ordinary way and the 'Made in Germany,' mark was fired on, the mark, of course, could not be removed in the way suggested. One would like to know the name of the 'well-known firm,' which is supposed to have acted in the way the correspondent describes. In all likelihood the incident if it had any foundation in fact at all, was no more than an ordinary re-exportation transaction, on to which a lively imagination has tacked on the other ornamental details."

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A Description of all the Processes for Decorating Pottery and Porcelain.

BY RUDOLF HAINBACH.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN. CROWN 8vo. 250 PAGES. 22 ILLUSTRATIONS.

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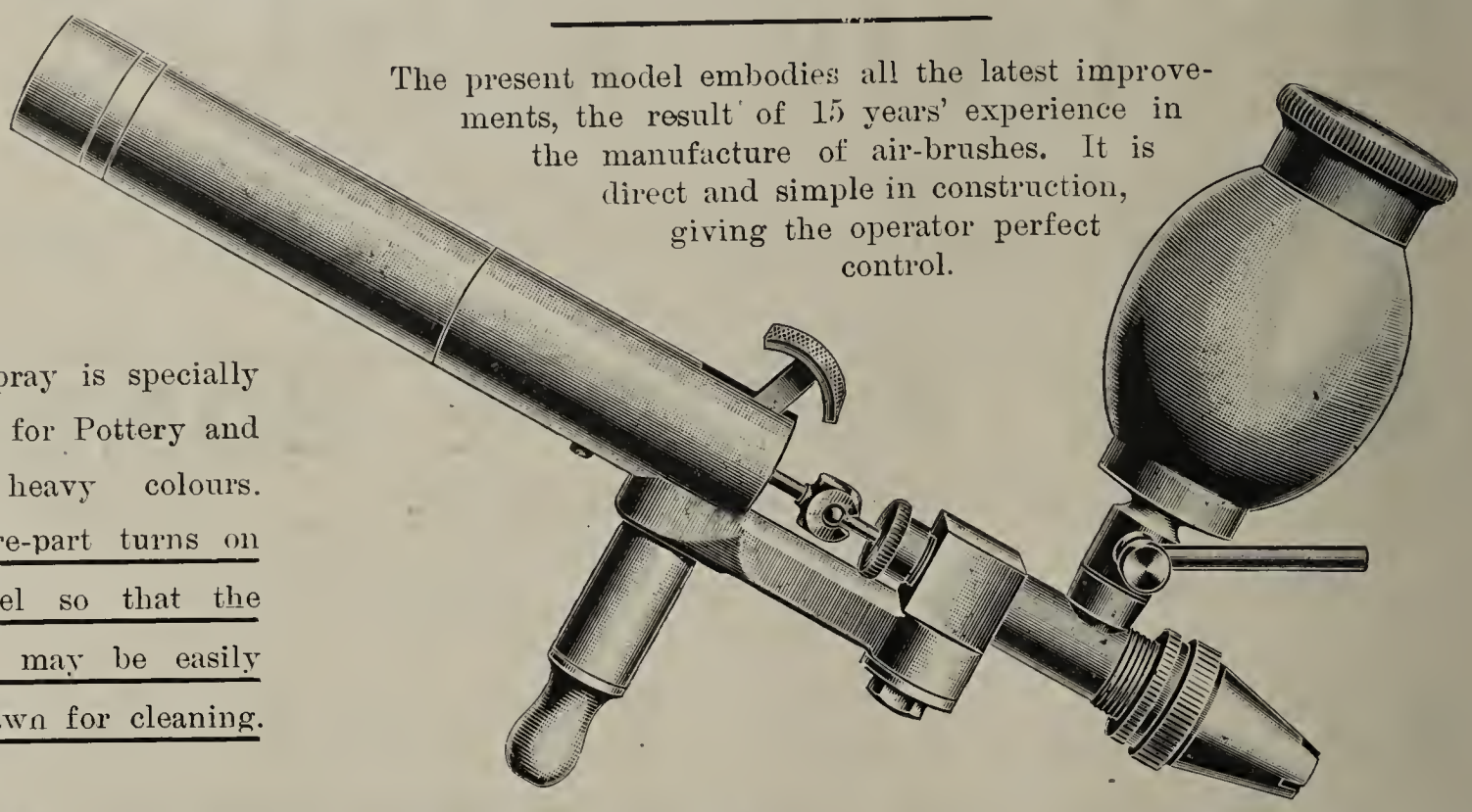
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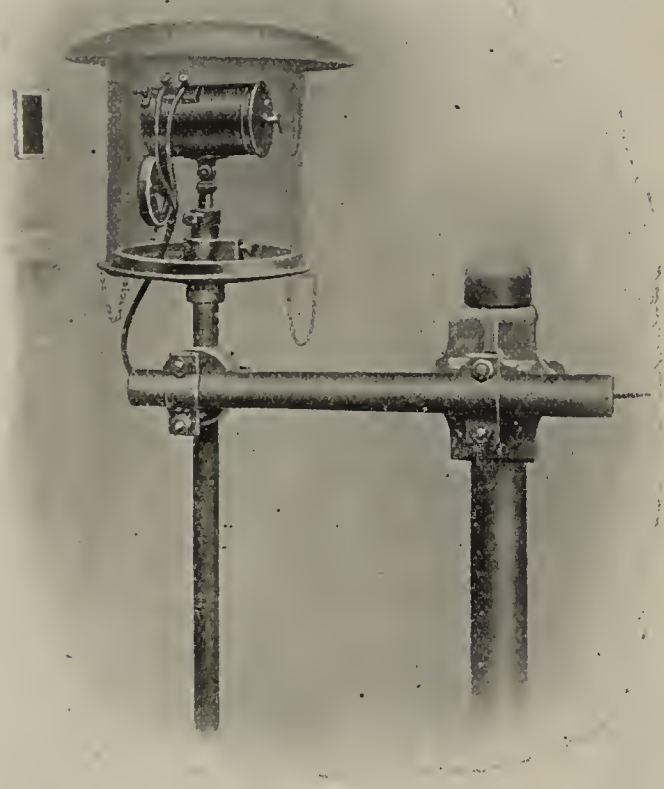
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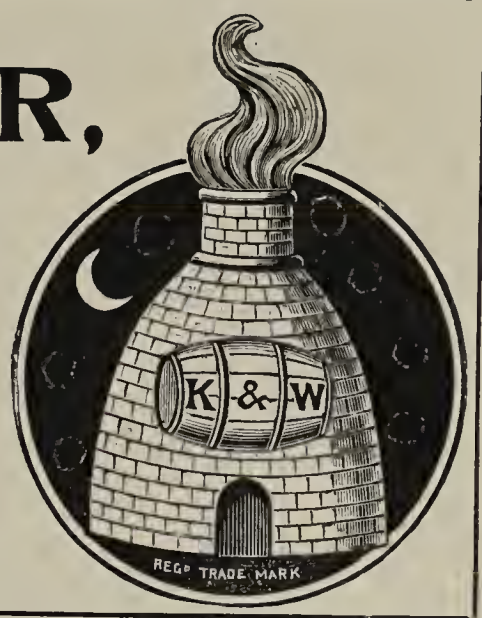
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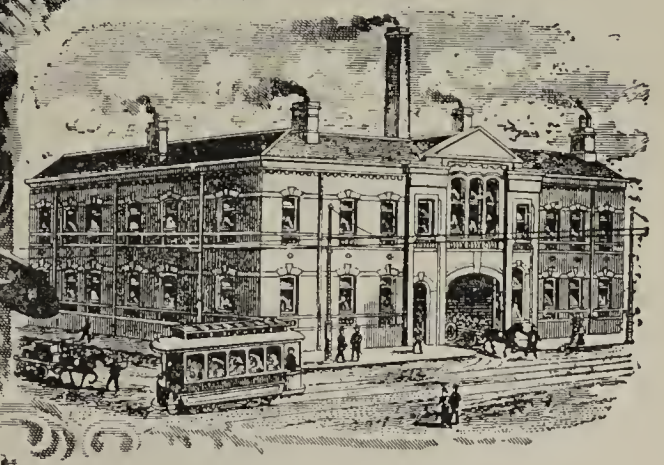
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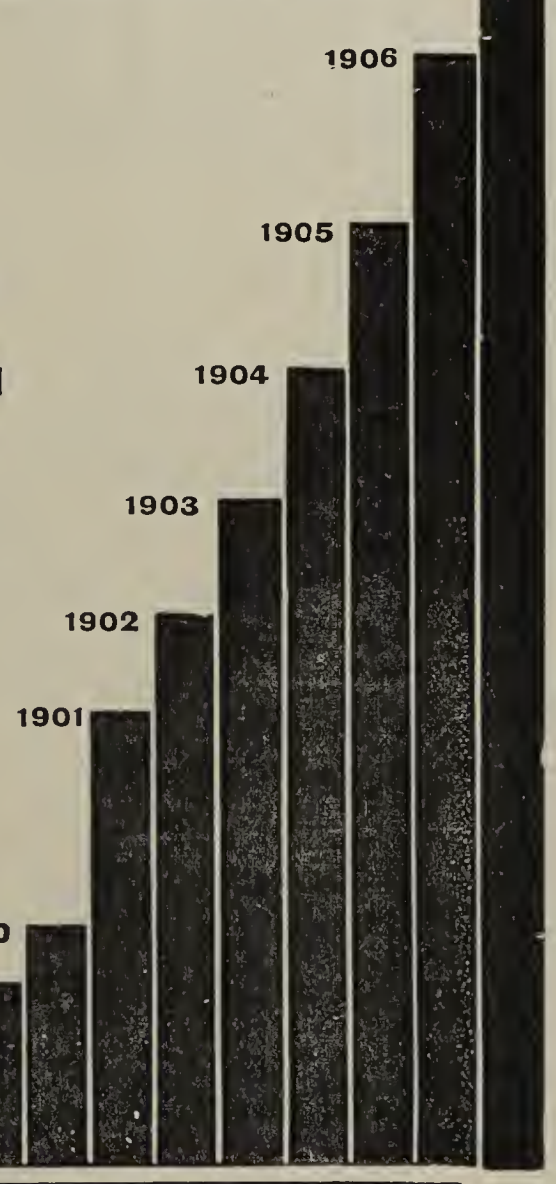
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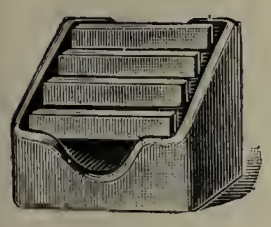
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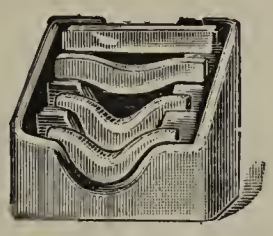
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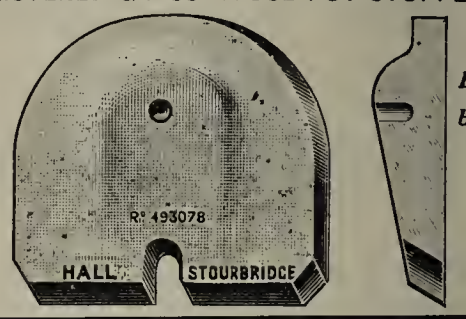
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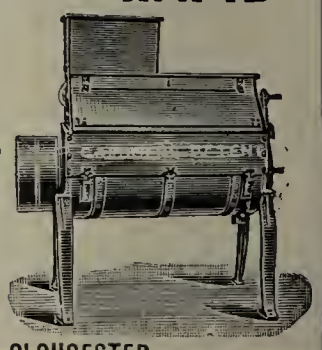
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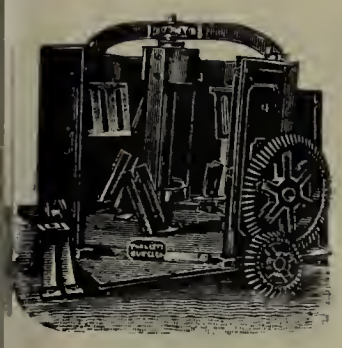
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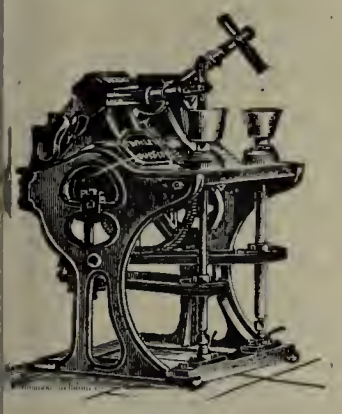
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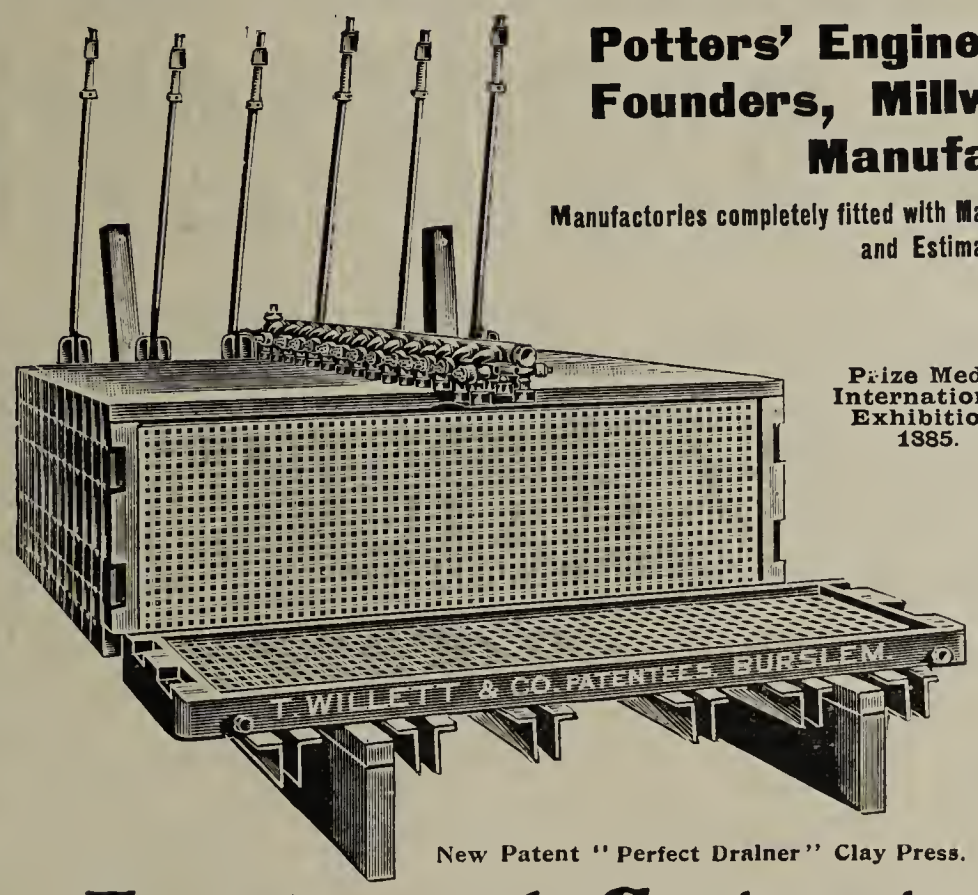
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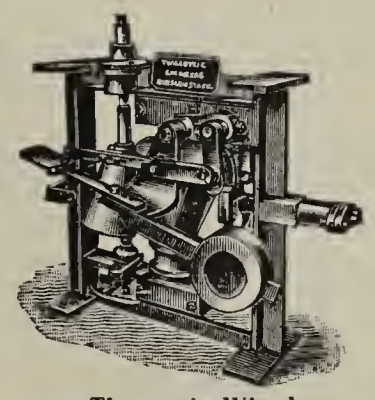


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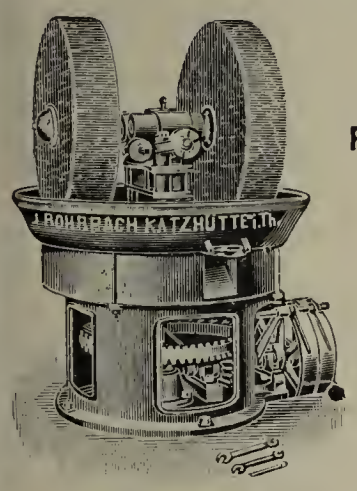
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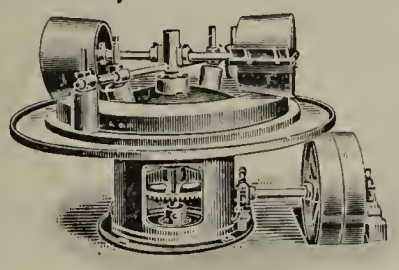
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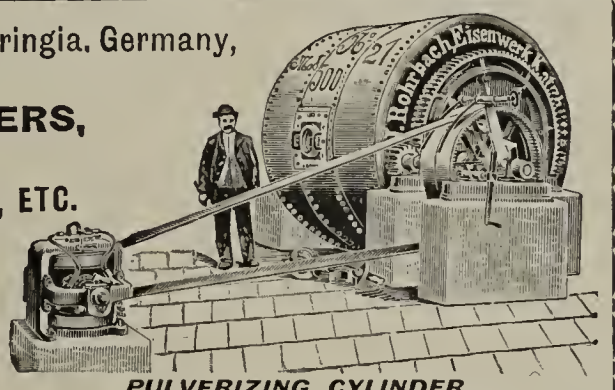
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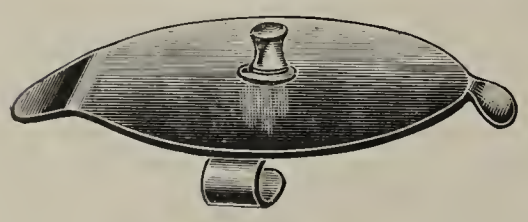
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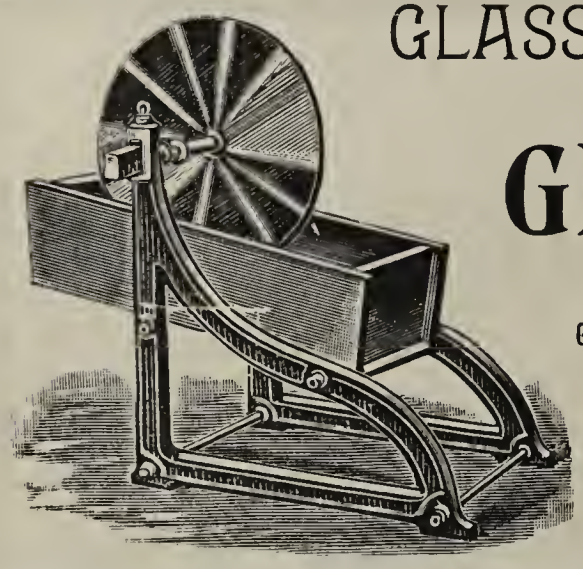
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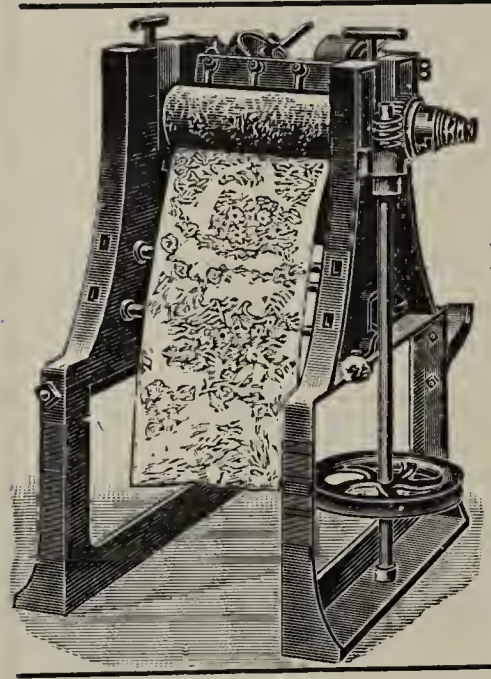
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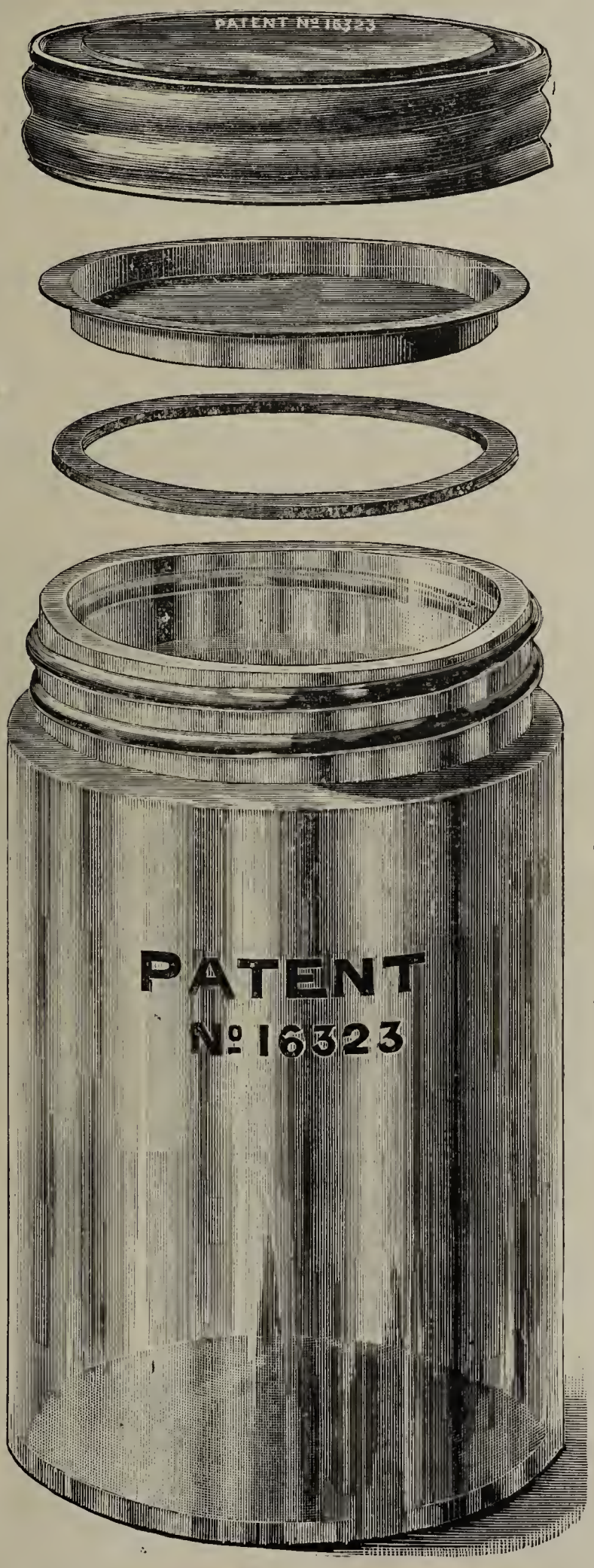
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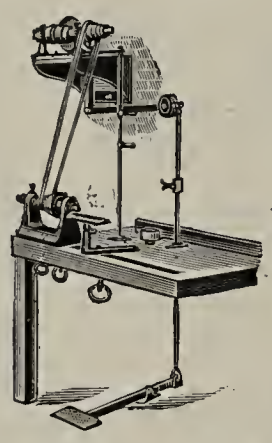
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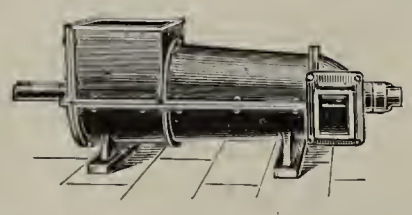


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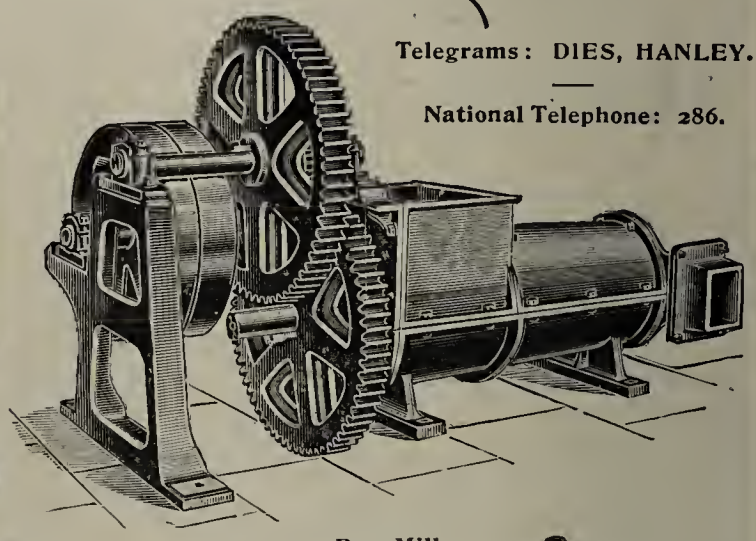
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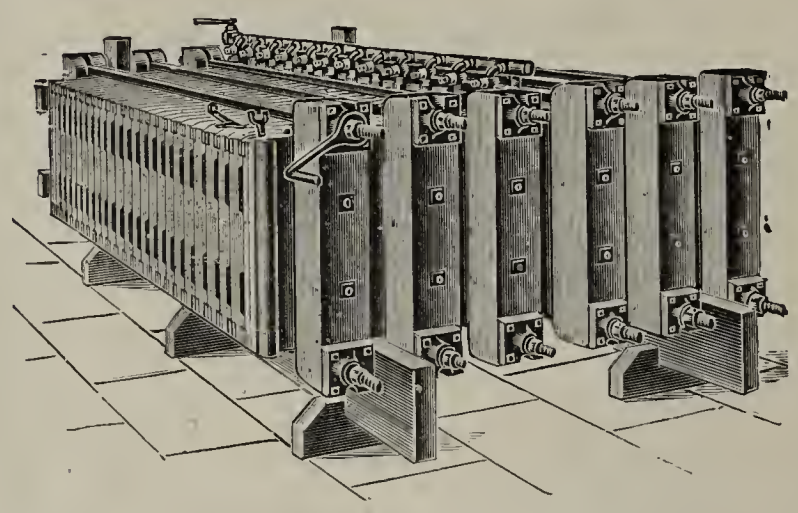
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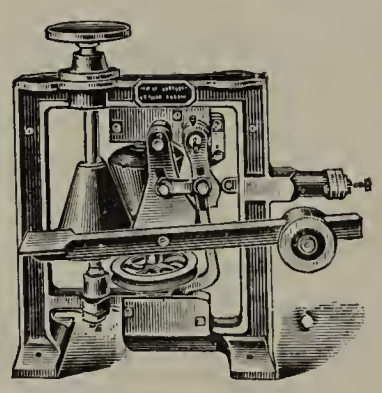


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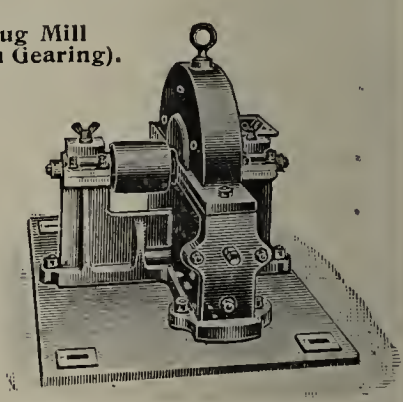


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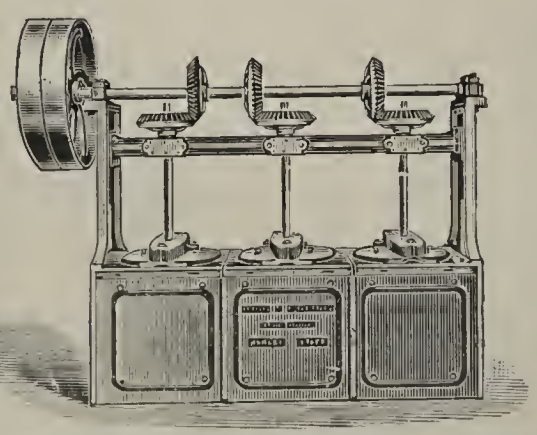


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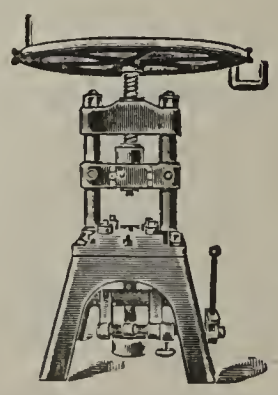
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



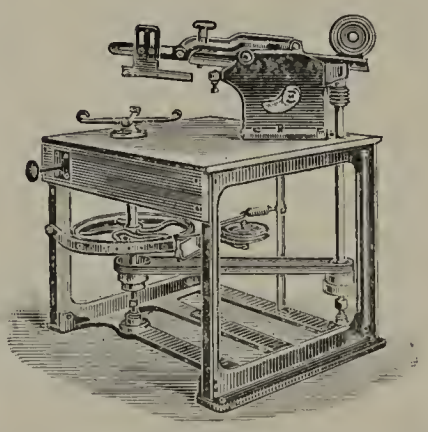
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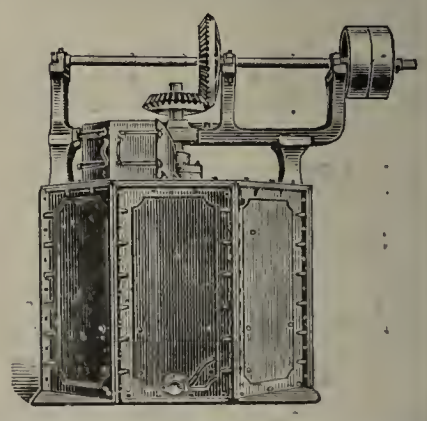
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☛ FOR LITERARY CONTENTS SEE PAGE 1155. INDEX TO ADVERTISERS, PAGES 1122 and 1124.
All alterations for November issue must reach us by October 24th.

All announcements for this Heading for November issue must reach us by October 29th.

Special Trade Announcements

☞ Firms who wish to place Miscellaneous Advertisements in local papers without giving their name and address can have the replies addressed to the "Pottery Gazette" Office, 8, Broadway, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. Intimation must first be sent to us of this being done.

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Continued on page 1108.

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Special Trade Announcements— continued from page 1106.

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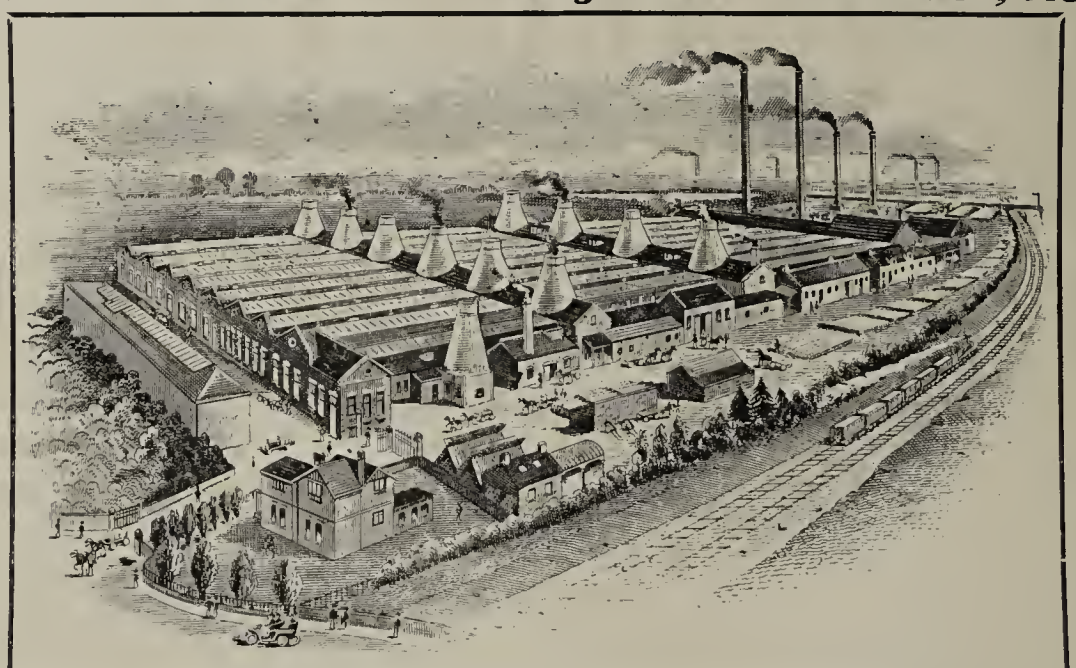
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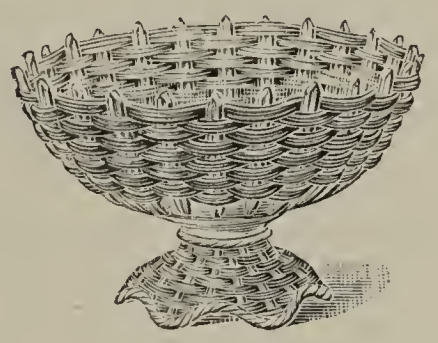
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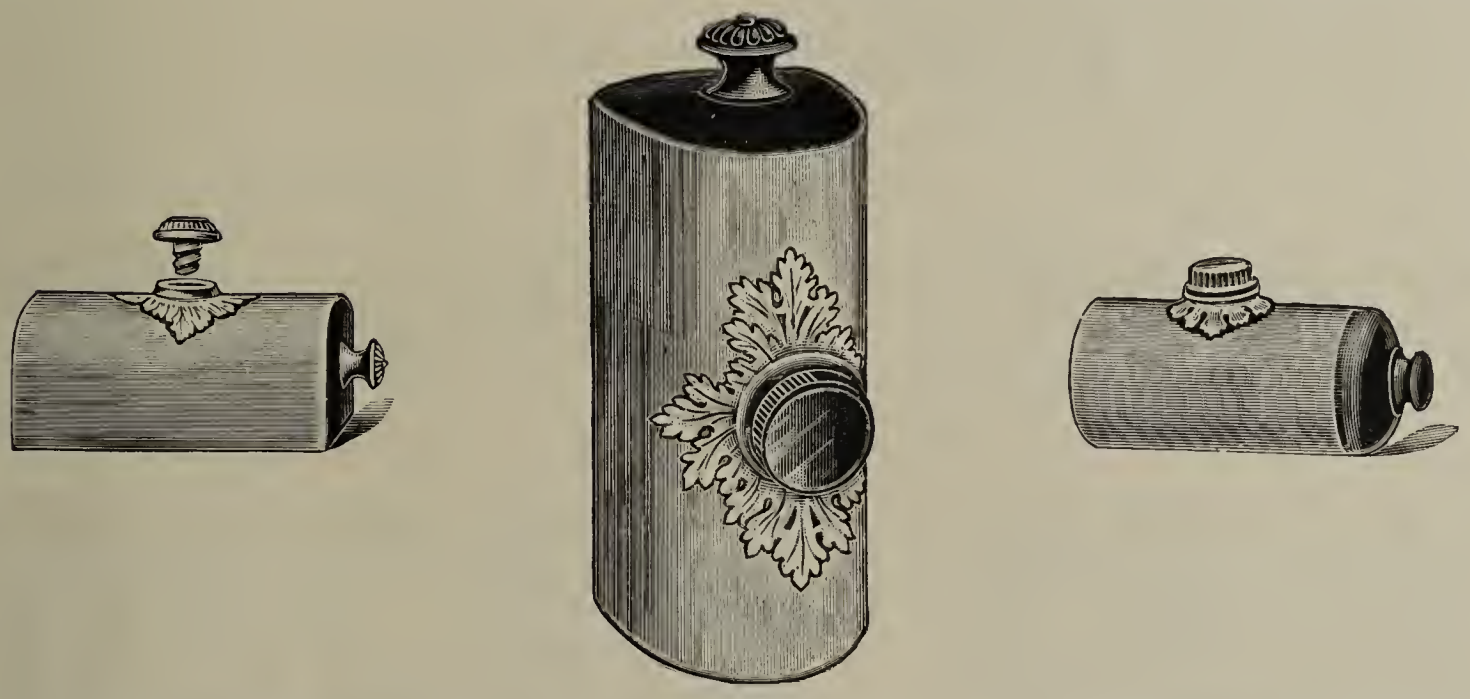
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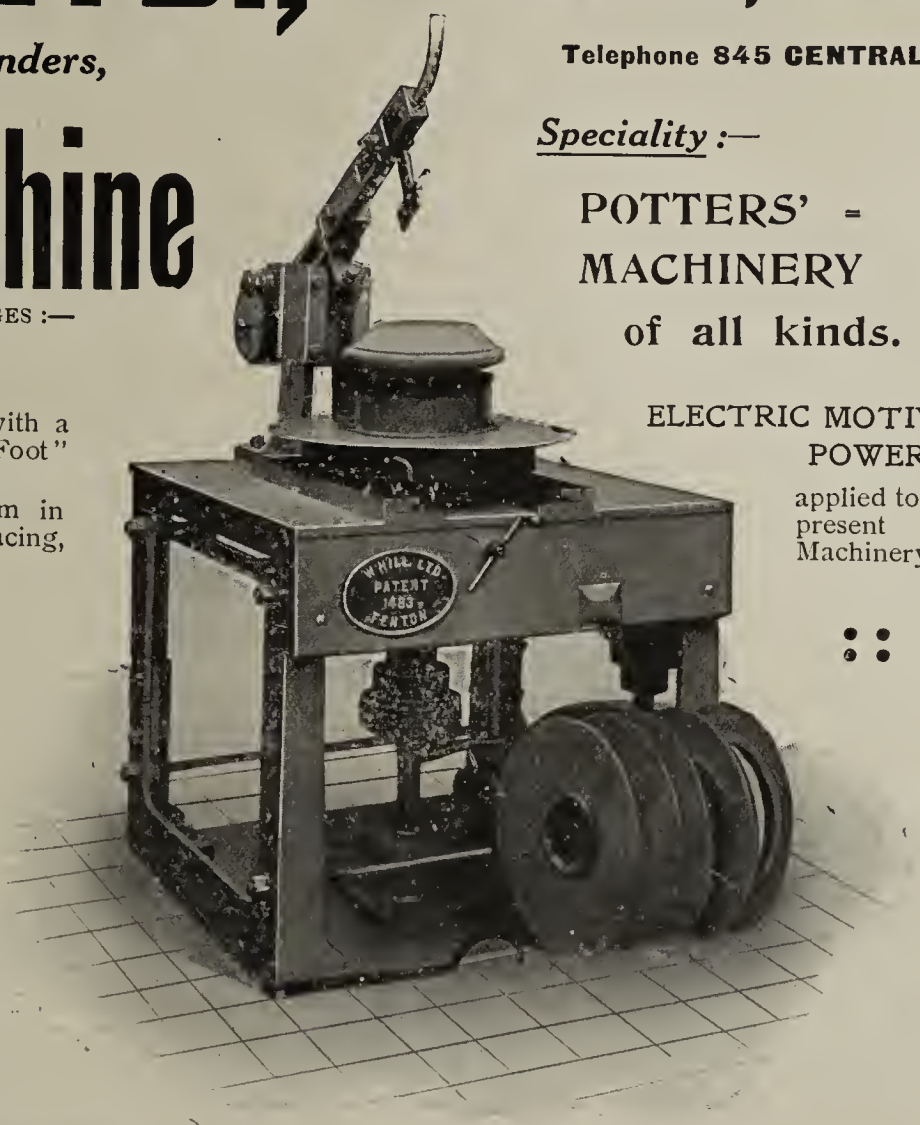
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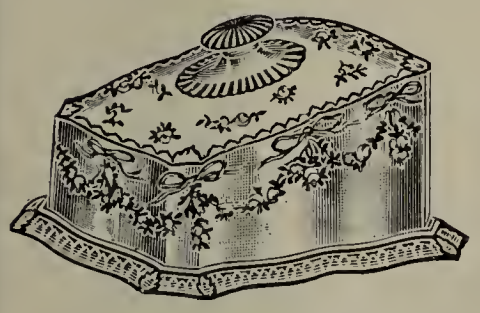


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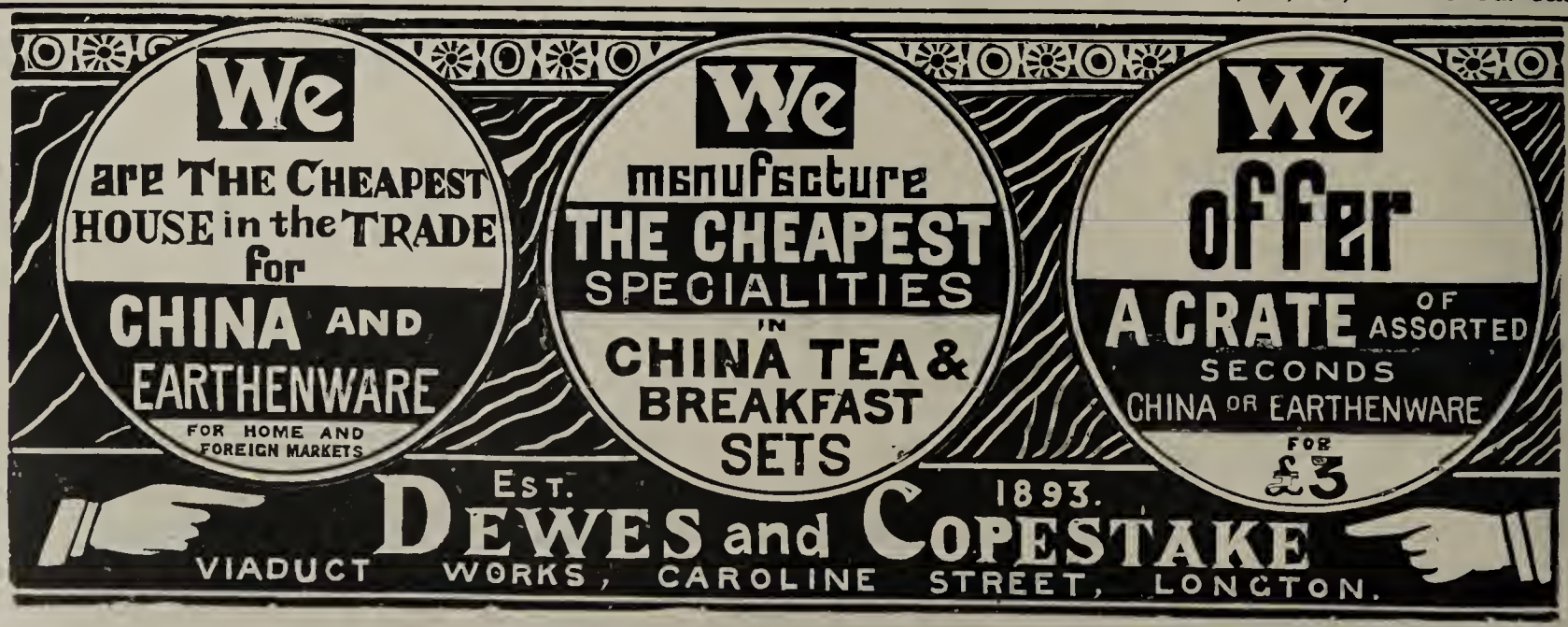
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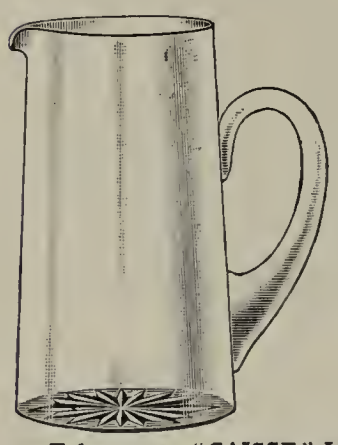
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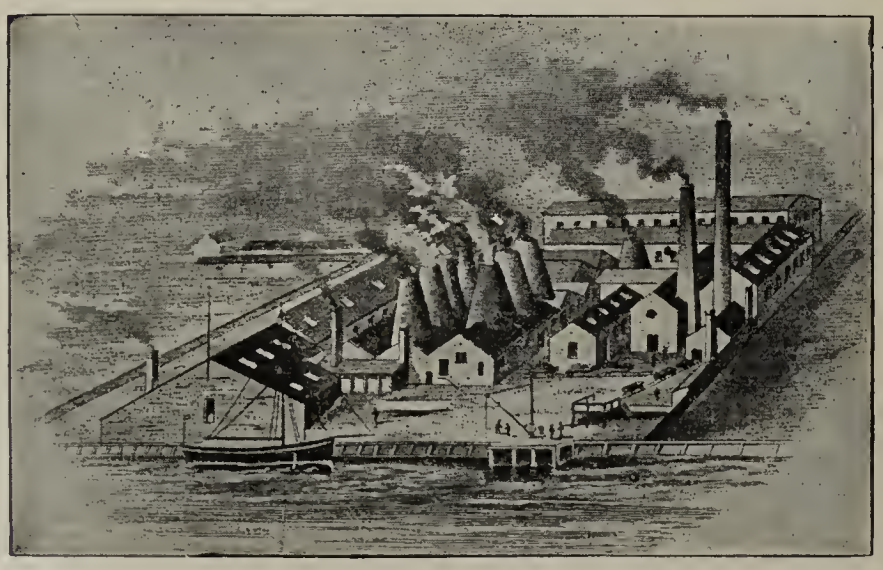
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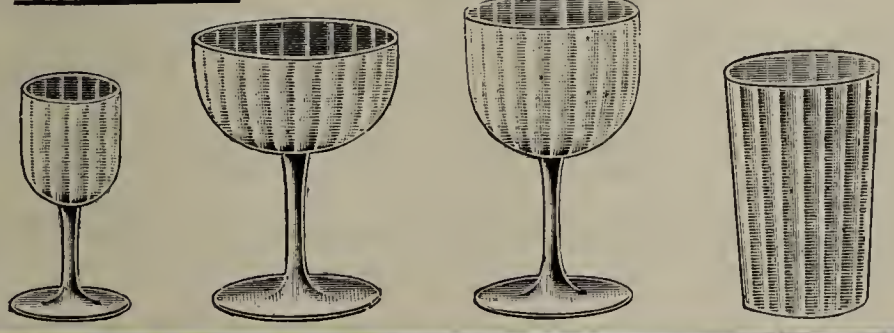
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„	40	„	9/6
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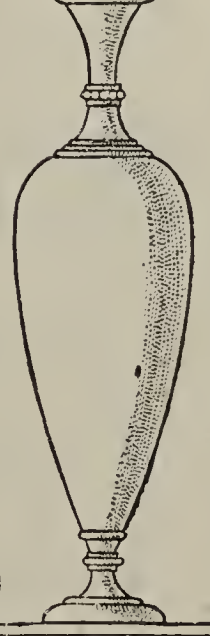
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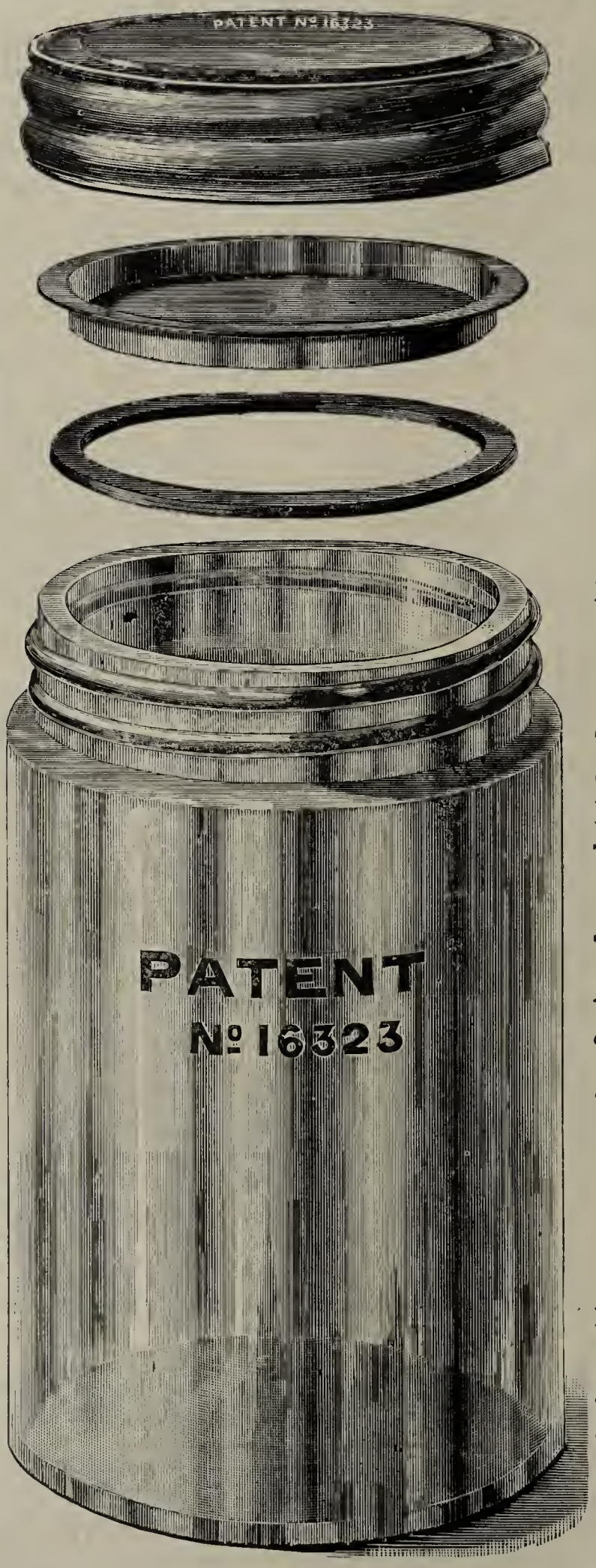
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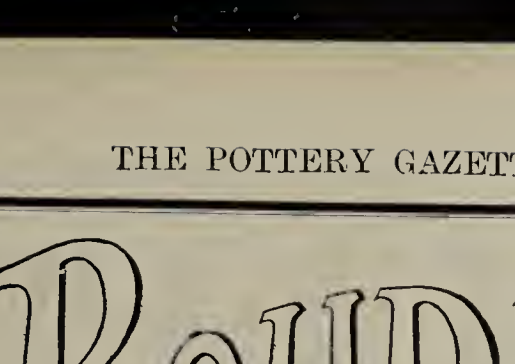
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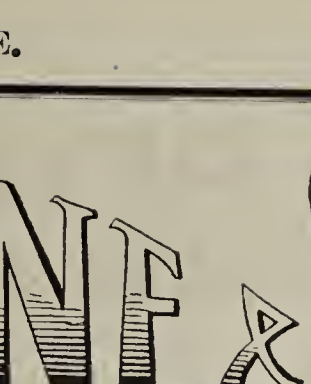
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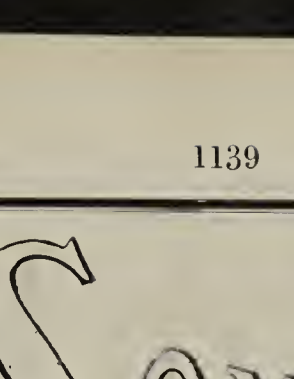
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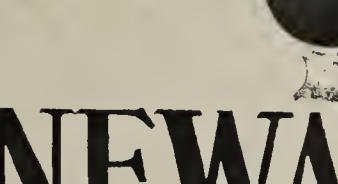


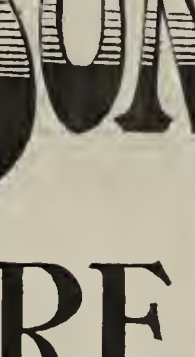
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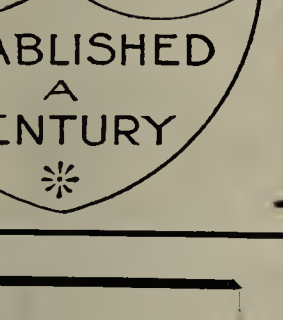


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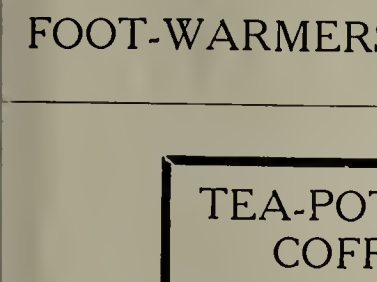






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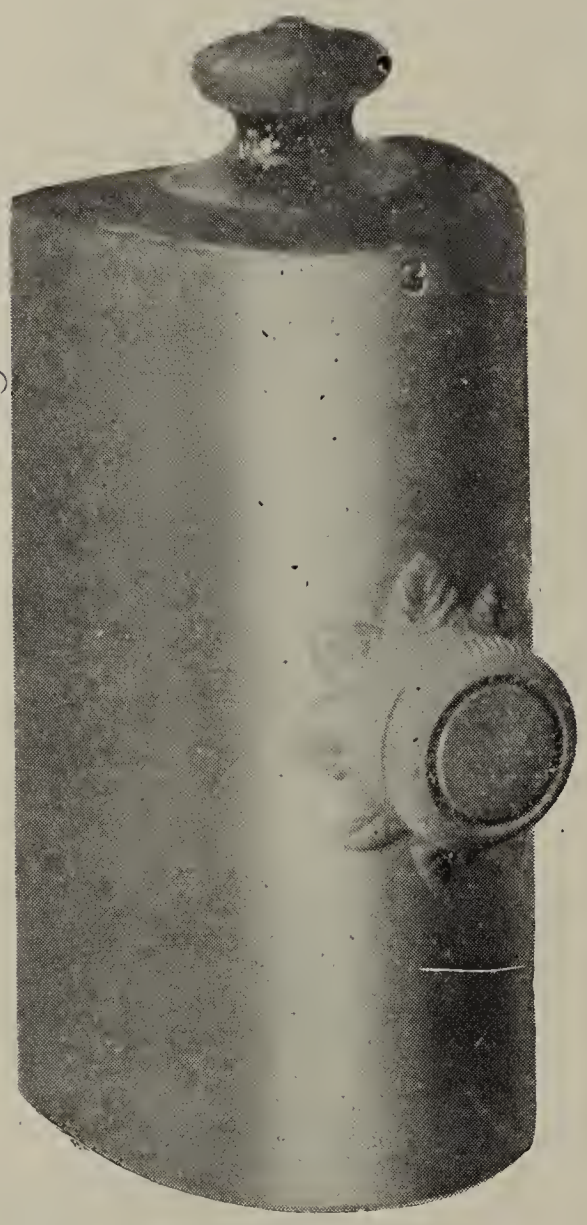
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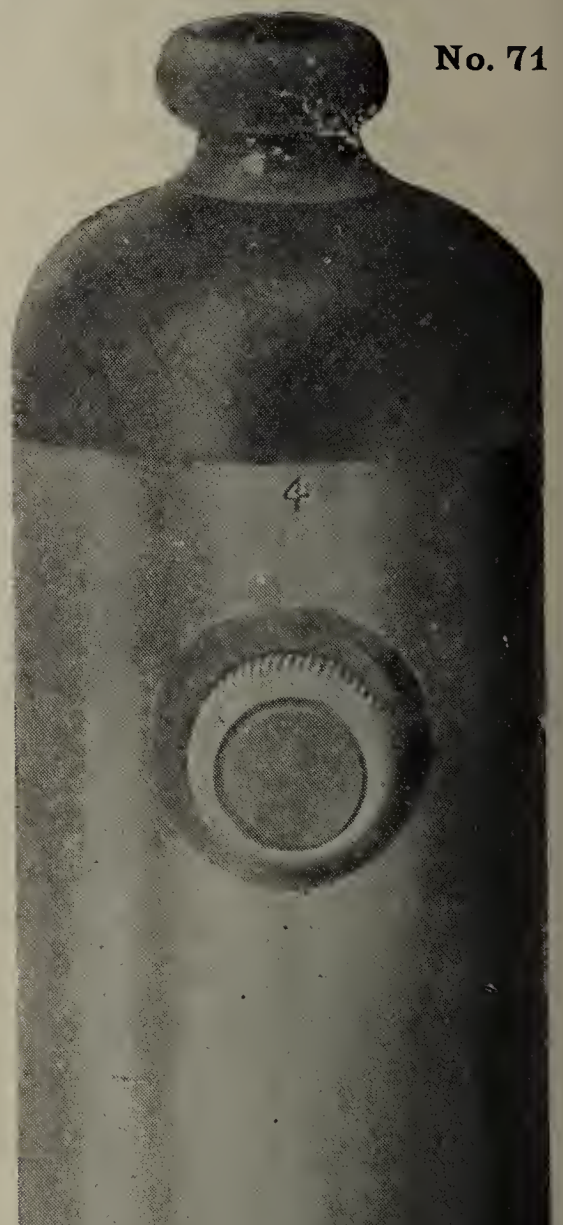
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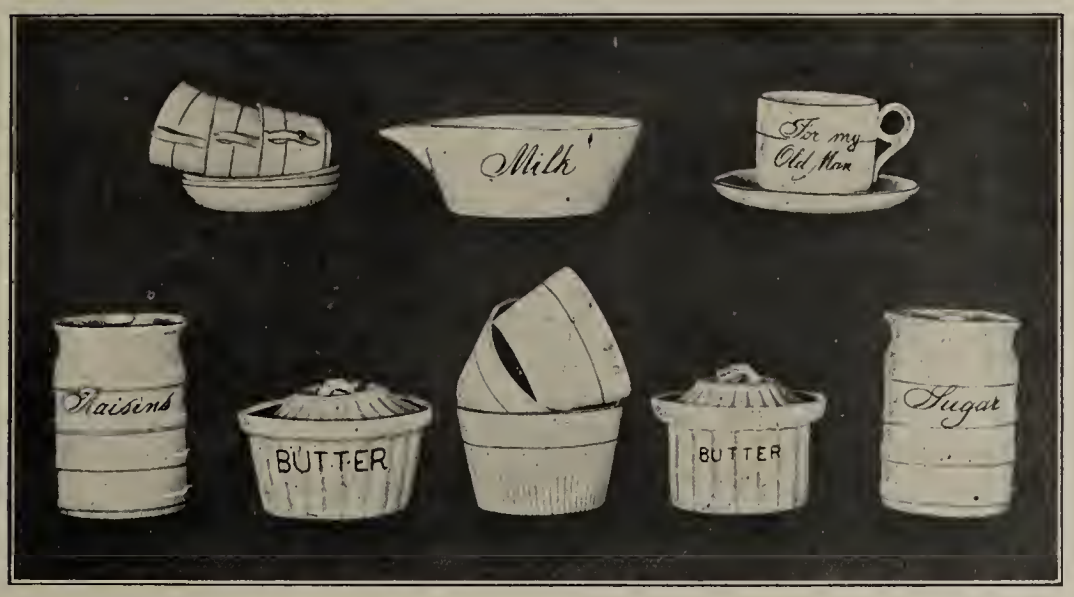
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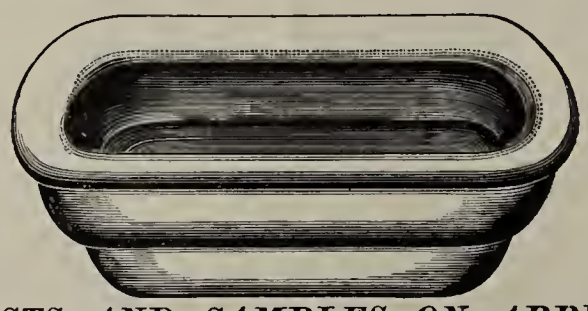
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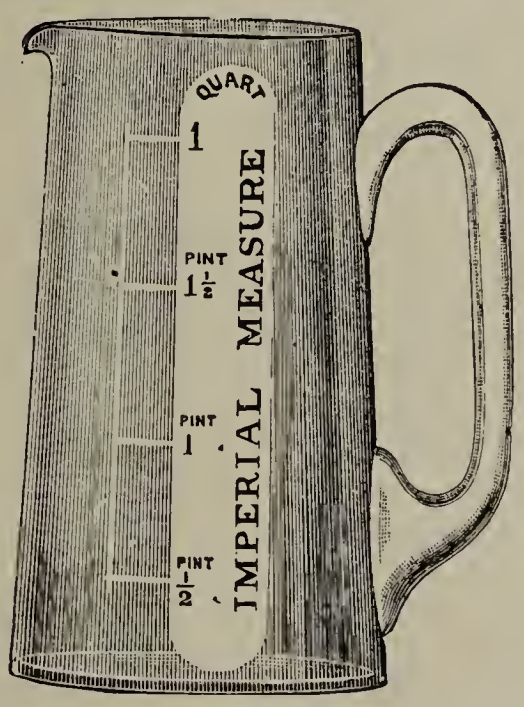
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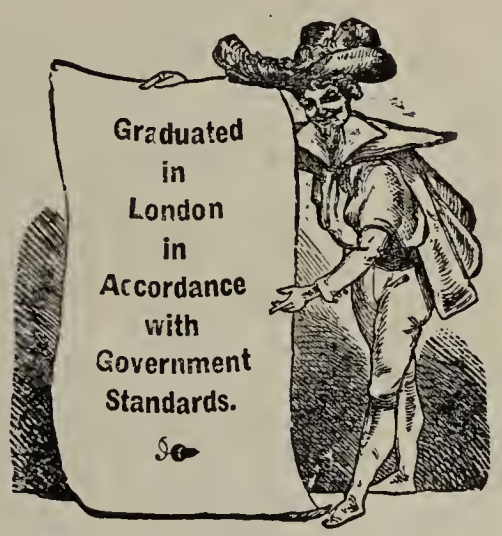
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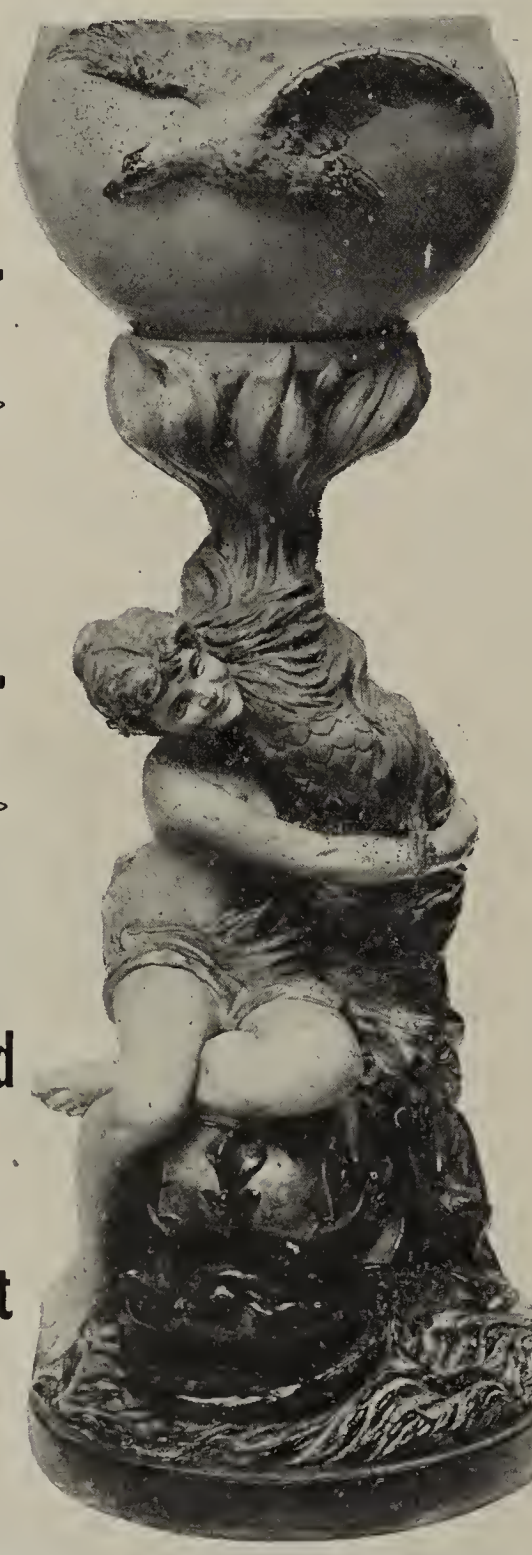
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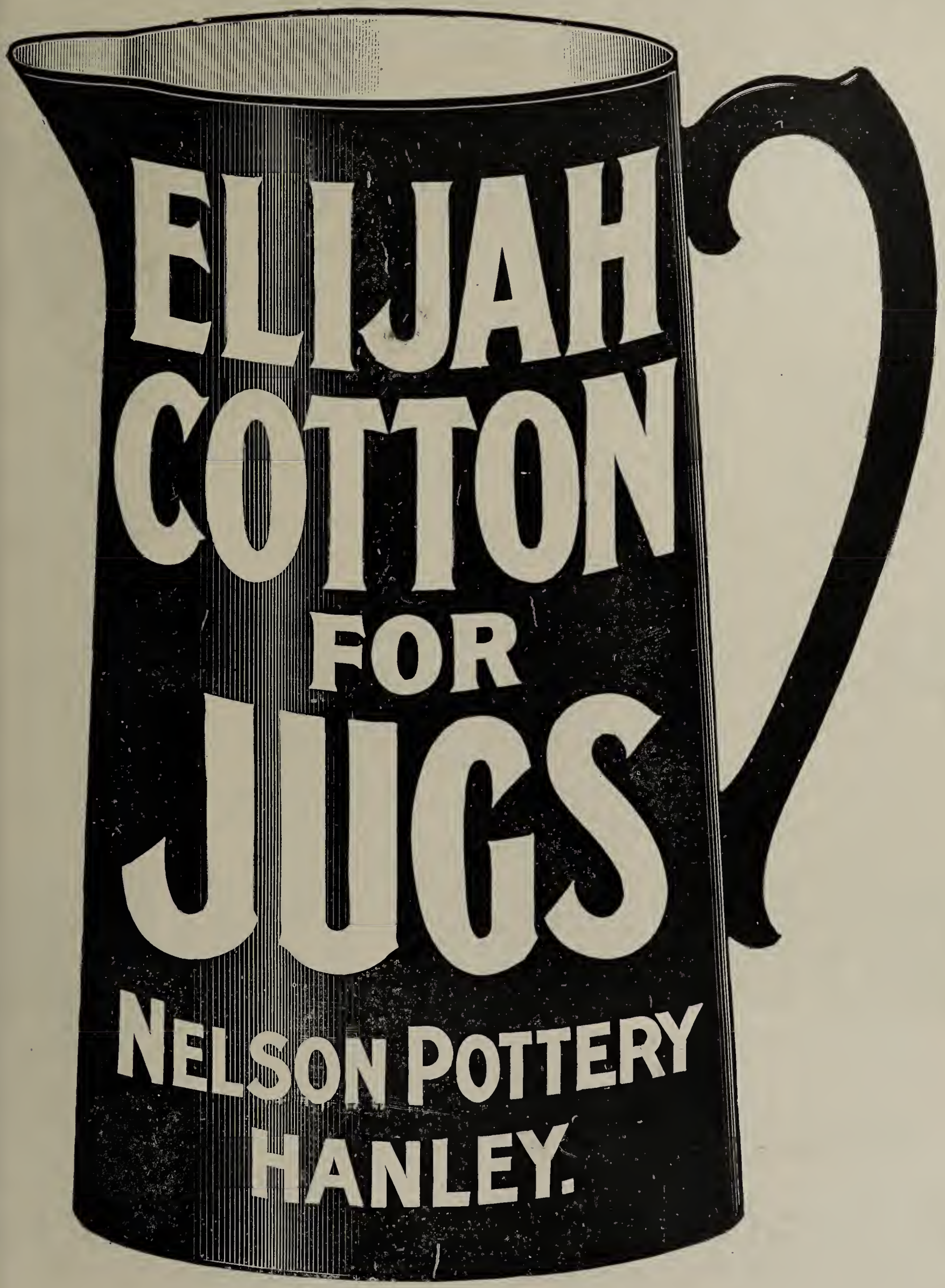
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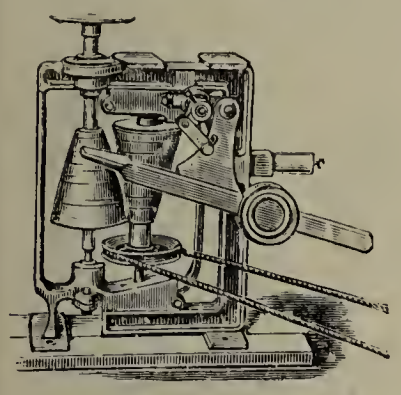
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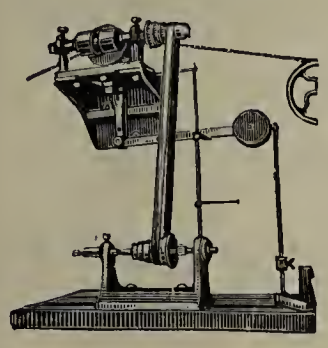
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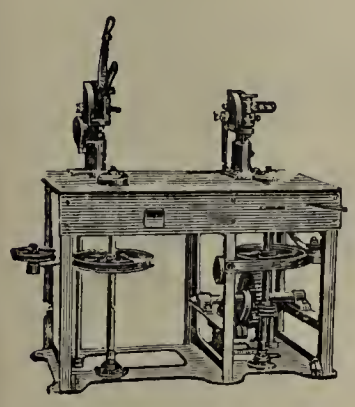
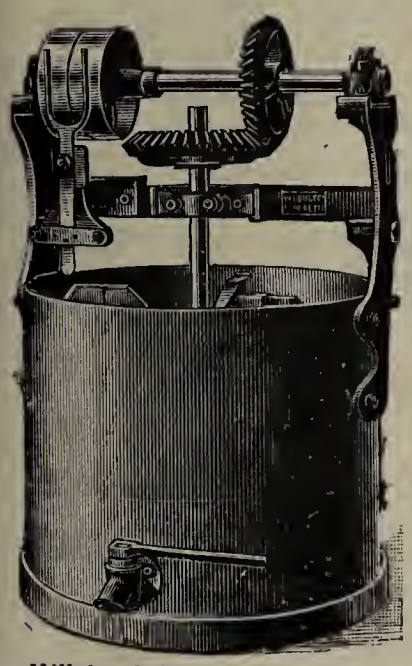
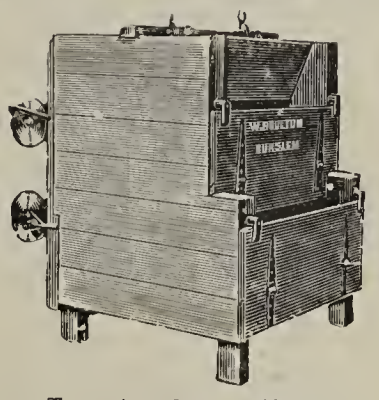


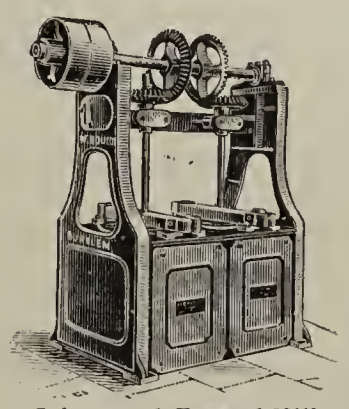
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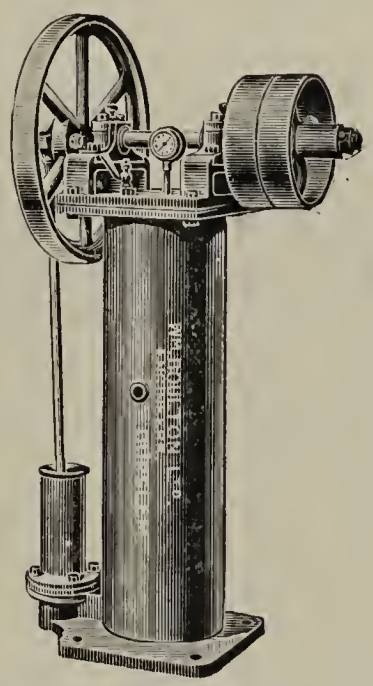
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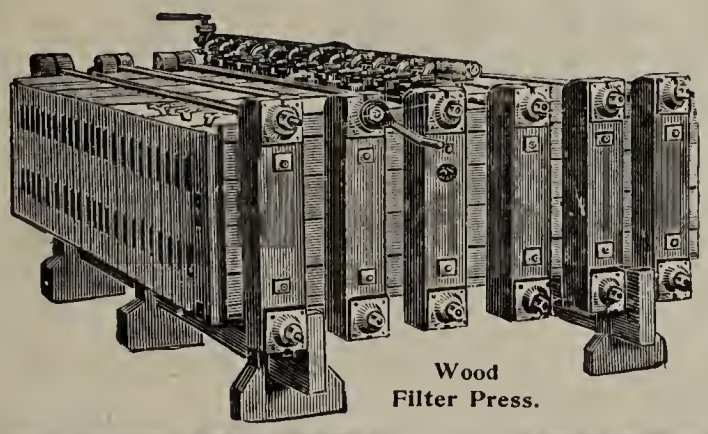


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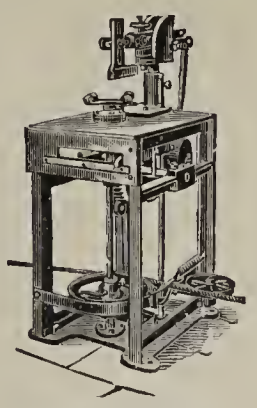


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Editorial Notes.

INSURANCE OF WINDOW CONTENTS.

SOME years ago we drew attention to the fact that no insurance company would undertake to indemnify a trader from loss by breakages of the contents of his window from outside cause alone. From inquiries we made at the time we found that the Plate Glass Insurance Co. had no department that covered this risk. In these days, when almost anything can be insured, it is certainly surprising that no company has looked after this business. The damage would most likely be occasioned by the plate glass (after being broken from an external cause) falling amongst the goods. In writing on this subject, six years ago, we said: "Seeing that we do not remember any serious accident of the kind, it would seem that the risk was not a very hazardous one. This makes it all the more surprising that no company announces its willingness to undertake the risk." The very accident which we suggested should be provided against by insurance, and of which we could not then remember an instance, has just occurred. In our correspondence column will be found a letter from a subscriber, whose window has been smashed by a horse rushing against it, and damage done to his stock to the extent of £113. Our correspondent has evidently tried to protect himself from loss from such accidents by insurance, but without success, and he expresses his surprise that he cannot do so in almost the very words we used six years ago. The contents of windows of glass and china dealers are often costly, and most retailers would willingly pay a premium to be protected against loss by breakage. No insurance company would undertake to pay compensation for damages to goods caused directly or indirectly by the proprietor, his servants, or his customers. But the breakage of a heavy window from the outside, resulting in the destruction of fragile goods, is a contingency that no dealer can provide against, but it appears to us to be one for which an insurance company might undertake responsibility with considerable advantage to itself, as well as to prudent tradesmen. Within the last few days we applied to one of the best insurance societies, and they reply that "the risk is not one of a class undertaken by them." But why not? Some years ago that same society undertook a class of insurance that, up to that time, no insurance company had effected, at reasonable rates. We think the insurance of window contents against the special contingency named could be effected on reasonable terms. We suggest that the Glass and China Dealers' Association should endeavour to make a special arrangement with an insurance company for their members. If a number of them would agree to take out a policy, surely some company would be willing to undertake a business, which, from the fewness of the accidents that have occurred, does not seem to be unusually hazardous.

THE AWARD OF THE UMPIRE.

WE give a special report of the proceedings before the arbitrators, and the award of the Umpire in full. It is gratifying to find that the decision has been loyally accepted by both employers and employed. With good taste Mr. Lovatt, the secretary of the Workers' Union, has contented himself by repeating his appreciation of the patience and care of Mr. Moon. In his discretion, the Umpire has given

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a conditional advance to the oven-men, but has decided that trade conditions do not warrant any advance to the general body of the operatives. We think the men did not act wisely in demanding an advance at the present time, but we commend them for their good sense in leaving the question to arbitration, instead of resorting to coercive measures. They would have gained no more by a strike—most likely they would have gained less, while the substantial funds of their union would have been depleted. We ask those who think the award should have been more favourable to the workers, to bear in mind a circumstance that has long been known privately, but was made public before the arbitrators—namely, that several manufacturers who had but few and small orders have been making for stock, so that they might keep their workpeople employed. This is more frequently done than is generally known. It savoured of irony for the workers to ask for a general advance under such conditions. Members of the Pottery Union, as well as manufacturers, should study the evidence given by Mr. Goddard before the arbitrators and seriously ask themselves "what is the matter with the British Pottery Trades?" The total exports of pottery from the United Kingdom in 1894 were approximately valued at £1,600,000 and in 1906 the total exports reached only £2,300,000. Whereas the total exports of pottery from Germany, which in 1894 were about the same in value as our own (namely, £1,700,000) in 1906 had risen to £5,300,000! The value of British exports of pottery to the United States in 1896 was 4,800,000 dollars, and the value of German pottery exports to the States in the same year was 2,600,000 dollars, but in 1907, the value of United States imports of British pottery had sunk to 3,100,000 dollars, while the value of the pottery imported from Germany had risen to 5,100,000 dollars. Clearly this is not the time for disputes between manufacturers and workers about wages or anything else. Never was the necessity for a permanent Board of Arbitration more apparent than it is to-day. When we remember the advantages our trades derived from the original Board of Arbitration, we not only regret its suspension, but are amazed that it was ever allowed to lapse. It was a useful institution quite independently of the disputes it settled. Its very existence prevented far more disputes than it was called upon to arrange. Now that it has been re-established it is hoped that all connected with the industry will use their best efforts to make the Board of Arbitration for the Potteries permanent.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE Board of Management announces that a grand variety entertainment in aid of the funds of the Institution will be held at the King's Theatre, National Sporting Club, Covent-garden, W.C., on the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 11, when many of the leading London artistes will appear. Apart from the excellence of the cause they are intended to benefit, these entertainments are invariably of a most enjoyable social character, and we trust that the appeal now being made for the support of manufacturers and others as patrons of the entertainment will meet with a generous response. The claims upon the Institution are ever increasing, and, as was pointed out at the general meeting on July 30, at no period in its history has the necessity for a substantial addition to the available funds been more keenly felt than at the present time. The stage management of the entertainment has again been kindly undertaken by Mr. John Porter, and seats at 7s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d. each may be reserved upon application at the offices of the Institution, 6, Thavies-inn, Holborn-circus, where a plan of the theatre can be seen.

Empire Notes.

Pottery Instruction in India.—The Government of Bombay have sanctioned proposals made by Mr. Burns, School of Arts, Bombay, for the initiation of work in the pottery department of the school, the object aimed at being the revival of the art of pottery-making in India. In his recent report, the officiating commissioner of the Presidency Division, discussing the pottery and earthenware industry, states that glazing is now possible in Bengal, thanks to the efforts of Mr. S. Deb, of the Calcutta Pottery Works, who studied in Japan.

Bauxite in India.—It is stated that no companies have hitherto been floated to exploit the Balaghat bauxite deposits, owing to two reasons: (1) Prices have been lowered by the six big firms specially interested in the aluminium trade in order to freeze out competitors. (2) The money market has been unfavourable. It is said, however, that a concession has been obtained in the Rewah State for the use of water-power there in order to manufacture bauxite, which, it is presumed, will be obtained from Jubbulpore.

Potting in Australia.—An interesting lecture was delivered during the month at the Sydney Technical College, on "The Potter's Art in its Relation to the Industrial Development of the Commonwealth of Australia," by Mr. Capper. The lecturer stated that any close approach to perfection in the potter's art took a considerable time to reach. The present perfection of English crockery, he asserted, was reached only after 250 years; the perfection embodied in the vases of ancient Greece had taken that nation 600 years to encompass, whilst the Chinese porcelain was the outcome of 1,000 years' diligent research and labour. Nevertheless, the lecturer thought that a distinctive Australian pottery art would, with the ability of the great world at our very doors be taken advantage of, turned to our own benefit, and occupy a much less time to perfect. England, declared the lecturer, stood in the front rank—as the first of the nations to make a class of pottery which comprised cheapness and utility with no small degree of artistic finish and design. Reverting to the commercial aspect of his important subject, Mr. Capper declared that, in regard to a preferential tariff for British manufactured crockery, much which was put forward as the latter was in reality cheap German make. He showed that we were continually receiving large importations of earthenware from Europe, which he thought could all be readily made in Australia. He held that the potter's industry, which had made a good beginning there, must necessarily flourish and expand, provided the facilities for the educa-tion of the youth were complete and practical.

Unmanufactured clay to the weight of 58,023 tons and valued at £59,632, including 3,172 tons of fire-clay, valued at £2,621, was exported from the United Kingdom during the month of August last. The figures are much below those for the corresponding month of either of the last two years.

The Transbaikal Porcelain Trade.—The general financial uneasiness, says a Transbaikal correspondent of the "Torg. Prom. Gazeta," has produced stagnation in the local industries, which is particularly noticeable in the case of porcelain. The porcelain works of Perevaloff & Co., that used to furnish all Eastern Siberia with its wares, has been obliged to limit greatly its production owing to a large accumulation of stocks which the market has failed to absorb. There is talk of shutting the works up for a time.

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Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

INSURANCE OF CHINA DEALER'S WINDOW.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I send you a newspaper report of damage to the stock in my window. A horse yoked to a cart took fright, and in galloping down the street, crashed into the window of my shop. The plate glass window and the framework were smashed to atoms, and a large quantity of china and earthenware suffered destruction. I have made a claim for £113 15s. 11d. from the owner of the horse and cart, valuing the goods at a little over cost price, to cover cost of carriage, &c. This shows the great risk china dealers run by displaying expensive wares in their windows. Supposing an accident like this occurs from the horse of a person without means, the dealer gets no compensation. Many merchants show more valuable goods than I do, and therefore they run heavier risk. Is it not strange, when all sorts of risks can be insured for, a china dealer cannot insure the stock in his window against damage from outside? I have reported my case to the secretary of the China Dealers' Association at Leeds.—Yours truly,

Arbroath, N.B., Sept. 19. J. B. CRAIG.

THE ANALYSIS OF CLAYS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I am indebted to the courtesy of yourself, and Dr. Mellor, for providing me with an advance copy of his article on the "Rational Analysis of Clays," to appear in your next issue and beg the privilege of your columns to make the following observations in reply thereto.

I am sorry Dr. Mellor does not do me the honour of paying the same attention to the remainder of my paper, as he does to one or two analyses quoted. Had he done so, he would have readily seen that the claims I make for the "Rational Analysis" are by no means as far reaching as he supposes. It may be noted, parenthetically, that Dr. Mellor appears to be at considerable variance with some experts of the ceramic industry, who have made inordinate claims for this method of analysis. Of such differences, I am not aware, neither, except as pointing a warning for the future, are they very appropos of the present discussion.

I think one or two quotations from my paper will make my position clear. I said:—"The whole question of the relation which the refractoriness of clays bears to the chemical analysis is a most intricate one. . . . The general practice has been to consider refractoriness to be in direct ratio to the percentage of silica present, as found by ultimate analysis, and the absence of impurities, . . . &c. A complete analysis . . . assumes clays to be homogeneous chemical compounds, which they most certainly are not, . . . they are, instead, mechanical mixtures of the various processes of weathering. By separating the clay into its mineralogical constituents a far more accurate knowledge will be obtained. . . . And to complete the investigation on these lines a mechanical analysis is also most helpful. . . . To sum up then, it may safely be stated that the ultimate analysis of a clay, as usually employed, is of very little use in arriving at a proper estimate of refractoriness, and that far better knowledge is that based on mechanical and 'rational' methods when ultimate analysis may be employed. . . . If examined in a proper manner, much information can be obtained by an intelligent study of chemical analysis. These should however, be combined with experimental investigations. Practical tests conducted so as to approximate to working conditions are strongly recommended, &c."

This is the position I have taken up with regard to the various methods of testing and analysis.

Dr. Mellor contends that the rational analysis is unreliable, and gives as examples the analyses quoted, to show that the alkalies given by the ultimate analysis do not correspond to the feldspathic constituent given by the rational method. I am not disposed to disagree with him very much, as to the occasional defects of the rational analysis, but does he claim anything more for the calculation method he recommends Of this he says, "The multiplication of the "comparatively large" errors in the determination of small quantities of bases renders it necessary to label the process approximate. Can the rational analysis do more?" Assuredly it can do as much! Dr. Mellor, later on says, "there is no known accurate process for the general determination of the exact mineralogical constituents of clays, and I am not sanguine of its discovery in the immediate future." Had he continued "and there is no chemical method likely to be invented which will treat clays in a really satisfactory manner," I should have agreed with him entirely!

The argument throughout my paper was that the constitution of fireclays is so intricate, and their formation was subjected to so many and various influences, that chemical investigation alone is of limited use. Further, assuming that both methods are approximate, is there very much difference between us? Dr. Mellor favours the resolution of the clay into its mineral constituents, and so do I. If we differ as to the method employed in doing so, and Dr. Mellor admits that the calculation from the ultimate is "approximate," I am quite sure I have made no more definite claim for the "rational analysis."

I am aware that Aron Seger, and others, made very definite claims for the rational analysis, and based their theories on laborious researches extending over many years, and covering large numbers of clays; and although some of these claims may have proved untenable when applied to other clays, no one can gainsay the tremendous beneficial effect which this work has had on the clay products of present-day German manufacturers. It has fixed firmly in their minds, the great value of regarding clay as being composed of three main parts, i.e., clay, quartz, and felspar, and the habitual resolution of clays into these constituents has caused them to attempt the production of mixtures of clays, to obtain theoretically perfect products, and their efforts have met with very great success.

Contrast this with the methods employed by 95 per cent. of the fire-brick manufacturers of this country. Where analysis is used at all the "ultimate" analysis is supreme, and there is practically no regard paid to the mineral constituents. Granting that the ultimate analysis can be conducted with precision, I contend that it is little more use than a chemical exercise as now generally conducted and employed by fire-brick manufacturers. Such analyses as the one of the Stourbridge clay with which Dr. Mellor rightly finds fault, would never be tolerated were there a proper understanding as to the mineral constituents. Such information is continually prominent where rational and mechanical analyses are employed; and although it may be admitted that both have shortcomings, these are unimportant compared with the overwhelming advantages accruing from the information they impart.

Dr. Mellor's communication would allow of the inference that the fire-brick manufacturers of this country were divided into two camps—those who favour ultimate and rational analysis. As a matter of fact, very much the reverse is the fact. My experience is that rational analyses are practically unknown to English fire-brick manufacturers. Where

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CETEM WARE

CETEM WARE REG^D TRADE MARK

A Superior Semi-Porcelain, Brilliant and Durable.

DINNER, TEA AND TOILET SERVICES &c.

In the latest and most effective styles of decoration.

Original Chromo-Litho Designs a Speciality.

SANITARY WARE	DRUGGISTS' WARE	ELECTRICAL FITTINGS	EXTRACT OF MEAT JARS
PHOTOGRAPHIC WARE	DAIRY OUTFITTERS' WARE	MEASUREMUGS & JUGS	WHITE JARS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
HOSPITAL WARE	POROUS CELLS	CONFECTIONERS' JARS	

Careful attention given to Customers' own Specialities.

WATER-GROUND FLINT OF THE FINEST QUALITY

DELIVERED F.O.B. NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE QUAY.

LONDON SAMPLE ROOMS—
20, Bartlett's Buildings, Holborn Circus.
Agent—MR. G. G. MACWILLIAM.

SCOTLAND SAMPLE ROOMS—
51, Buchanan Street, Glasgow.
Agent—MR. J. DUNLOP.

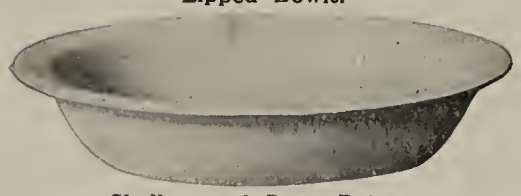
EXCEPTIONALLY FAVOURABLE SHIPPING FACILITIES TO ALL PARTS.



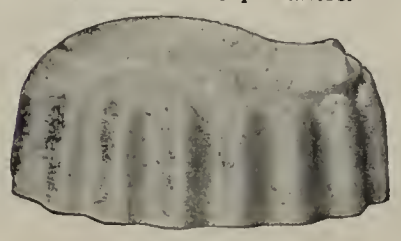
Pudding Bowls.



Lipped Bowls.



Shallow and Deep Bak.rs.



Blanc Moulds.



Jelly Cans



Pudding Cups.

S. W. DEAN, Newport Pottery, Burslem, England

Manufacturer of Earthenware for Home and Export Trade. : : : :

Try My Pudding Bowls this Xmas.

SEMI-PORCELAIN VITRIFIED GRANITE.



Somerset Pattern.

Country Representative
Mr. JAMES TUNSTALL.

TELEPHONE 305.

C C WARE A SPECIALITY.

TELEGRAMS : VITRIFIED, BURSLEM.

Mr. ELTON will be showing new Goods during September at the HOLBORN VIADUCT HOTEL, Holborn Viaduct.

analyses are used the ultimate analysis is invariably employed alone, and it appears to me certain that the reign of "rule of thumb" has been considerably lengthened by the proved futility of the information generally obtained therefrom. I beg to reaffirm my contention that the ultimate analysis, as now generally employed, is of very little use, and that far greater advantages will accrue to fire-brick manufacturers by getting fixed ideas as to the general mineral constituents of the clay. Careful scientific advice and investigation is, however, essential, and it is certain that nothing but good can come to all concerned from very much closer technical investigation than is at present employed.

As to this latter necessity I am glad to learn that Dr. Mellor is in agreement with me, and that there is now a movement on foot, in the Ceramic industry to promote a conference, such as is proposed between gas engineers and fire-brick manufacturers. I trust it may be possible to join forces for the common good. It is one of the first principles of progress that the reasonable demands and requirements of any industry should be clearly and accurately stated, and scientific investigation rarely fails to provide the means for obtaining these desired results. Such conferences as are proposed will enable each industry to formulate its requirements, and by bringing them into touch with those who have to supply those requirements, nothing but good can result.—Yours, &c.,

F. J. Bywater.

Saltley Gas Works, Birmingham,
Aug. 29, 1908.

[The above letter, unfortunately, reached us too late for insertion in our September issue.—Eds. P. G.]

LABOUR IN FRENCH GLASS WORKS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

Dear Sirs,—We beg to take exception to the remarks of the Berlin journal, quoted on page 1062 of your September issue. There are no unhealthy conditions in the French glass works, as an inspector comes in from time to time unannounced and goes straight to the works without asking to be shown over them, so that he may see for himself what is going on. Naturally, furnaces are of a great heat, but of no greater heat than in England or Germany. There are also large open windows round the men, so it cannot be said that they get no air, as the Berlin journal states. Again, the water jug is not passed round at our factory, or, we believe, other factories in France. Each man has his own drinking bottle, and when the men come back from meals they can always be seen bringing in cider in their own bottles. This sight can be seen by anyone who cares to take the trouble to watch the men going into dinner. The longevity of our men is not shorter than many other trades, and the general average of lives is 60 to 70. They certainly do not die any quicker in the glass industry in France. The Truck system has long ago died out, as the masters and men both preferred that the latter be at liberty to go where they liked.

Re child labour, there is an age limit which we are bound to respect, and no one would dare to employ children under age, for as we have before pointed out, the inspector can walk in at any moment.

We feel in justice to ourselves, as well as to our confreres, that we cannot allow these statements to go unchallenged, and any bona-fide person is at liberty to inspect our works at Eu (near Dieppe), France.—We are, Yours, &c.,

p.p. Jules Lang & Son, M. W.

16, Bury-st., St. Mary-axe, E.C.,
Sept. 18, 1908.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. S. (Isle of Wight).—We are unable to put a money value on the set of jugs and mugs.

Enquirer.—The information you ask has been given twice in this column within the last six months.

A Potter.—The award of the Umpire renders the insertion of your letter not only unnecessary, but undesirable.

J. L. D.—We will try to obtain the particulars you require, and send them to you. They are not published officially.

"Practical."—We thank you for your letter, but cannot insert it at present. This need not deter you from writing again on another subject if you wish to do so.

Suburban Dealer.—The complaint is made by dealers in all parts of the country. We frequently find, on investigation, that manufacturers are not to blame. You must give makers reasonable time.

N. (Liverpool).—The ewer is, we think, one that was formerly made by Moore, Old Foley Pottery, Longton, Staffs. Many firms could supply a pattern quite near enough. The manufacturers of teacup may be difficult to trace, but the Longton firms advertising in our columns, should be able to supply something similar.

W. (Stoke).—Our opinion is that the plate you send us is one of the late William Brownfield, of Cobridge. In our 1903 "Diary," page 168, we gave a list of the purchasers of Brownfield's patterns when the firm ceased business, but cannot find any mention of the pattern "Peru," and we are inclined to think it may have been destroyed years before.

L. (London).—We do not know any firm who would make the jars you send in felspar china. We have tried several Continental houses, and do not find any who make this form of pot. They are "special" lines, and it is not easy to trace an article not on the market. Almost any British earthenware or china house could make them in their own way if they would.

L., Surrey.—It is impossible for us to tell whose particular manufacture your toilet set, with sweet-pea decoration, may be, or if the works are still in existence, unless we can see a piece of the ware carrying with it some distinguishing trait that we can recognise. Our best advice is that you examine the pieces of the ware and endeavour to find on same the manufacturers' name or trade-mark. If unsuccessful, make a sketch of the jug and forward with your inquiry to a few of the earthenware manufacturers with whom you may deal, asking if it is theirs; or if not, if they can tell you whose it is.

Hants.—We understand your inquiry to refer to "Badge Ware." Any manufacturer of pottery advertising in our columns could supply badges, monograms, or crests to pattern. Any glass manufacturer would also quote you for tumblers or wines, or other glass goods "badged" to pattern. If you could give an order for a large quantity of ware you would probably not be charged for the *plate* for the badge. Government orders for badged ware would, of course, be on contract. If you are tendering for one of these contracts, you can get the manufacturers' quotations first; but you would require to submit a piece of ware with the badge on, or a correct drawing or print of the original.

The Imports of Flint into the United States during 1907 were valued at $288,371 (unground), as against $272,607 in 1906 and $146,463 in 1905. Many of the smaller and nearly spherical nodules are used in tube mills, but much of the material is fired in kilns and then ground for use in the pottery trade. The flints, which are usually gray to nearly black in their natural condition, become perfectly white on burning and fracture somewhat, so that grinding is facilitated.

BURLEIGH WARE

Is Maintaining its Excellence

. . AND . .

- Increasing in Popularity. -

NEW STYLES, - - - = For =
NEW FORMS, - - - **1908**
NEW DECORATIONS

In all Lines.

BURGESS & LEIGH

Middleport Pottery,

BURSLEM.

Show Rooms always open.

LONDON—44, FARRINGDON STREET, E.C.

NEW ZEALAND—28, FORT STREET, AUCKLAND.

AUSTRALIA—51, PALING'S BUILDINGS, SYDNEY.

Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Doulton & Co., Limited, Burslem, have now on show at their London rooms, 14, St. Andrew-st., Holborn-circus, a large and exceptionally pleasing selection of new patterns for the coming season. I was in their rooms a week or two ago, and it certainly did not appear to me that there was a dearth of anything. The company have always such a fine display in every branch of useful domestic ware, and in their art galleries, that no one, except a hardened trade buyer would have the courage to inquire for anything more. But the trade buyer always wants "something new" and so Doulton and other manufacturers strive to supply it. Messrs. Doulton have been, as usual, fully successful in providing novelties for the season, and I venture to think every dealer who visits their rooms will admit this. They have new shapes and decorations in toilet ware, dinner services, tea and breakfast ware, dessert sets and in fancy goods, vases and flower pots. Toilet sets are prominent among their new samples. An interesting new treatment is applied to their "Pomona" toilet service. This shape affords a fine field for the decorators' art. It has a tall ewer, in a new and graceful form, divided (only externally, of course) into six sections by embossments running from the neck to the foot. There are decorations in which these ribs are made to contribute to the scheme, but in the new treatment I am referring to they do not play a conspicuous part. It consists of landscapes in dark shade, with rich golden-brown and green effects. The combination is quite an artistic one. This sombre, luscious effect on toilet ware will harmonise with much of the old style bed-room furniture now in vogue. Another new toilet decoration is an exact reproduction of a Lowestoft design. It has a pink neck with outline trellis work and painted flowers in panels. Those who know what old Lowestoft decoration was will appreciate this correct reproduction of it. There are many new patterns in toilets. The show of dinner shapes is a large one, and includes many novelties. "The Abbess" is a new ornamentation on the "Leeds" shape. The decoration is on Georgian lines, and quite an artistic conception. There are floral festoons and medallions, shaded in green, yellow and red. Other decorations on the "Leeds" shape dinner ware are the "Countess" and the "Jacobean"—excellent border patterns for dinner ware. The company are showing, in every department, a number of really good shapes and first-class decorations at moderate prices. They have increased their productions in this class very considerably, and have a large assortment that any dealer in medium class goods can handle. In dinner ware the "Audley" pattern on "Delta" shape, is an effective printed and gilt decoration. The "Delta" shape cover dish is without handles. Amongst a number of novelties in miscellaneous pieces may be mentioned the new "Bayeux Tapestry" ware, "Jackdaw of Rheims" ware, and "Landscape" ware, the nature of which is suggested by their titles, are very pretty series. Landscapes are depicted in warm colours, subdued by golden brown glaze. "Ship" ware has pretty sea views with ships in various positions, while the "Pageant" series has representatives of famous historical scenes. All these interesting decorations are applied to teapots, jugs, vases, candlesticks, trays, and many fancy shapes. There are jugs, teapots, and tea ware, well entitled to mention, but my space is exhausted. I must, however, add that Messrs. Doulton have suffered so very much from firms pirating their designs and shapes that they are now protecting them in every possible way they can, as they are determined at any expense to put an end to this most unfair competition.

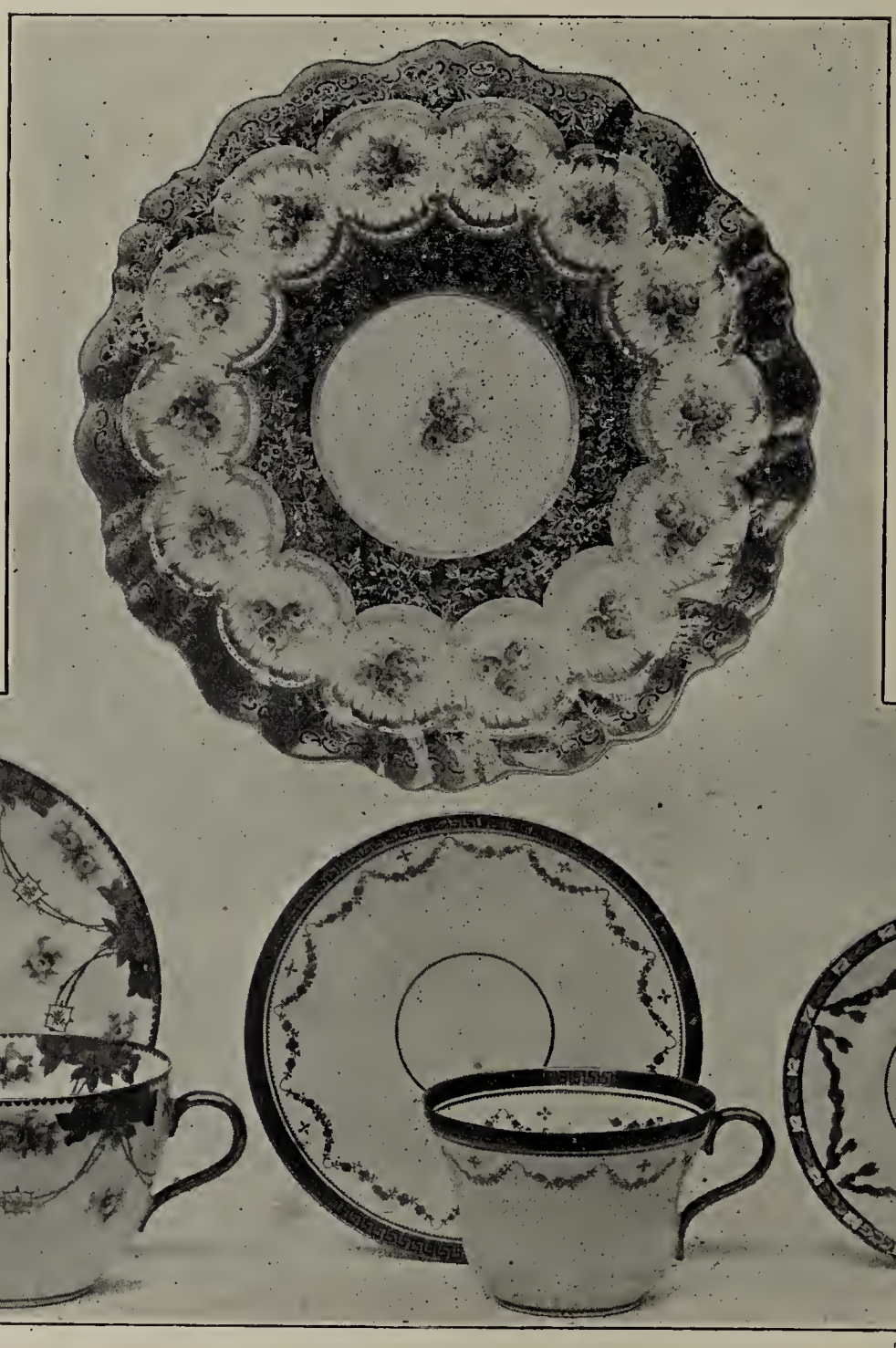


[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

DOULTON & CO., LTD., BURSLEM.

Burgess & Leigh, earthenware manufacturers, Middleport Pottery, Burslem, and 44, Farringdon-st., London, E.C., as usual at this time, have added several shapes and many more new decorations to their already numerous samples of toilet ware and dinner ware in London. The firm's productions are all entitled to consideration by buyers, but if they have any that may be called special

lines, they are dinner ware, toilet ware, and fancy goods. "Burleigh Ware," the distinctive name by which their semi-porcelain body is everywhere known, includes practically everything for the household, but Burgess & Leigh are specialists in toilet ware and dinner ware, and their range of samples always to be seen at Farringdon-st. is extensive, varied, pleasing. We want our dining-rooms and our bedrooms to look pleasant, and the pottery we use there will go a long way to secure that effect—or the opposite. There is no hard and fast line indicating what *is* pleasing, because tastes differ so widely, so the firm present varieties that should meet all demands except eccentric ones. In designing something "quite new" in toilet shapes, symmetry and beauty are frequently sacrificed. That they need not be, is amply proved by the novelties in "Burleigh Ware." I called at the London rooms recently to see what these were for the coming season, and found several that are likely to be popular lines for some time to come. The new "Italia" and "Chatsworth" dinner services are models of beauty. They are best described as neat and attractive. The decorations are tasteful and subdued. There is no straining after effect but the effect is there, all the same. This much may safely be said about the firm's dinner samples generally. The firm are showing all grades of ornamentation from neat inexpensive printed patterns up to richly enamelled and gilt. I have often referred to the great choice in toilet ware offered by the firm, and to the imposing appearance presented by samples filling the whole of one side of their long room. There are recent additions to them of which the firm have reason to be (and probably are) proud. Mr. W. H. Leigh drew my attention to the "Moresque" toilet service as one of the latest, and I can add, without hesitation, one of the best. The tall ewer is a graceful model—as its name implies—after the Arabesque style. There is much originality—without extravagance—in the basin. It is not exactly square, and it certainly is not round, but it has some of the features of both forms. There is a simple embossed outline which, in the ewer, divides the upper part of the bowl from the lower by a graceful sweep. Otherwise the surface of the jug is plain, and is thus free for a great variety of decorative effects. Full advantage is taken of this adaptability, and the "Moresque" shape is shown in plain gold decoration, and in many printed and enamelled patterns. "Burleigh Briar Ware" is still a prominent line, but there are some very pretty new decorations *en suite* in table ware. These fancy ranges are quite a feature in "Burleigh Ware," and each new decoration seems an improvement on its predecessor. There are some very pretty flower pots (another special line) and new shapes in teapots and stands. During my visit Mr. J. Pointing, the firm's late representative happened to call on Mr. Leigh, the new one. I was pleased to see Mr. Pointing looking much better, and to learn that the effects of his severe illness are wearing off.



"Paragon China." The Star China Co. [*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

The Star China Company, Atlas Works, Longton, have their London show rooms at 11, Charterhouse-st., E.C. They have just completed some alterations and improvements in their rooms and are showing an increased number of samples in their now popular "Paragon China." They continue the production of tastefully-decorated inexpensive lines—indeed, they have a larger variety of these than ever—but they have considerably extended their range of better-class goods. They are showing very handsome hand-painted decorations on tea and breakfast sets, and on dessert ware. The special sets for the season are in many cases new and original ornamentations, on familiar pleasing forms. The firm happen to have a series of excellent shapes in tea ware, full of grace and beauty, and they very

wisely continue them, in spite of the buyer's demand for new shapes. That the firm are right is proved by the fact that the pretty shapes referred to are selling well, and that the new decorations are appreciated. The principal samples on show are tea and breakfast ware, dessert sets, sweets and fancy goods. Tea and breakfast ware is their strongest feature, and the numerous samples make an attractive display in the light and well-arranged show rooms. The high-class decorations are seen to advantage. The "Bute" shape is shown with a neat border, a combination of blue and gold, with gilt edge and gold line, with festoons in gold. This is a rich ornamentation. The "Jewel" shape tea has a pleasing black key border on gold band—miniature festoons in gold and gold handles. This, also, is a high-class decoration, in good taste. A new and pretty ornamentation is seen on a medium-size coffee—Minton shape. It consists of a rich blue band, gold edges and line, and green festoons. The firm supply these "Minton" coffees without handles, and in many printed and enamelled decorations, for mounting purposes. Both form and ornament are well suited for mounting in silver. Several new dessert services have been added since I last saw the samples. With hand-painted birds in panels, landscapes, views of castles and country scenery, these make first-class services. The decorations are artistically carried out with pleasing effect. One choice service is a fancy shape with dark blue and gold border. Inside the border is a row of painted roses in groups, gold on blue ground, and a pretty painted rose as a centre. We give illustrations of all the above (except the coffee without handles), and—assuming the rich colours—it will be seen that the ornamentations are of a high order. There are pretty afternoon tea sets with "Daisy" and "Jewel" shaped cups, and in many neat and rich patterns. Nursery mugs are shown with familiar nursery rhymes painted round them, and pretty pictures that cannot fail to please the youngsters. A large assortment of Bijou vases in Paragon china is shown, and pretty little inkstands for what-nots and sideboards. "Paragon China" is supplied in stock lines—white and gold, and many printed and decorated patterns.

Thomas Till & Sons, Sytch Pottery, Burslem, are represented in London by Mr. F. J. Bennett, who is showing samples of their principal productions at his rooms, Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C. There is an excellent assortment of attractive shapes and patterns. The firm have given toilet and dinner ware their particular attention, with the result that they have produced some very popular lines. Of course, they make all kinds of domestic earthenware, but they have made themselves a name for toilet and dinner ware. In the latter the "Don" shape is shown in several new and pleasing ornamentations. The shape is very suitable for various styles of decoration and many are shown, a very rich one, in the Japanese style, is quite new. There are neat printed patterns in conjunction with mazarine blue, marone, light and dark, and turquoise bands. New decorations are applied to toilet ware, the "Italian" and "Queen" shapes especially are the subjects of some very pretty patterns. The panels on the sides of the "Queen" shape are enriched by a variety of neat printed decorations. The firm have some good shapes in cheese-stands, jugs, tea-pots, breakfast and tea ware, and miscellaneous table goods generally. They have just introduced a new and very attractive decoration which they are applying *en suite*, this is the "Holborn," an excellent design as will be seen from our illustration. It is supplied with various coloured edges. They make an extensive show of mazarine blue and other bands on all goods. Dealers who want varicty in decoration good at moderate prices will find much to interest them in these goods.



[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

THOMAS TILL & SONS, BURSLEM.

Furnivals, Limited, Colridge, Staffordshire, have their London show rooms at 32, Ely-place, Holborn, E.C., where their representative, Mr. John Jenkins has always on view samples of their principal lines in all kinds of earthenware. They keep Mr. Jenkins well supplied with their latest productions, and I saw last week a number of novelties that had just arrived. There was a really good assortment of shapes and patterns already, and variety enough to please all tastes, but dealers will have novelties, and so Furnivals, like other makers, take care to supply them. The new decorations for the coming season are quite out of the beaten track. The Company's principle lines are dinner ware and toilet ware, and they show some ornamentations designed especially for these. But they have several other new decorations that are applied all round to domestic pottery. One of these first attracted my notice on a dinner service. The "Royal" shape, with oval vegetable dish is plain white with a large spray and leaves in natural green. It is a simple,but exceedingly pleasing decoration. The spray, with its pretty green leaves, occupies part only of one side of the dinner plates. The same leafy decoration is applied to a new shape in toilet ware. The "Palace" shape has a well modelled ewer upon which (as upon its deep round basin) this large

spray and green leaf is seen to great advantage. It is a complete contrast to the full and florid decorations that are so often met with. Those who like quiet refined ornamentation will be pleased with this one. It is shown on teapots, tea and breakfast cups and saucers, sugar bowls and covers, milk jugs, butter dishes and covers, cheese stands and covers, broth sets, many other table requisites, and also upon bulb bowls. These are shown in several sizes, and the bright green leaf on spray stand out effectively on the white ground of the bowls. Messrs. Furnivals are making a good show of bulb bowls just now, and they present many very pleasing decorations. There is a demand for these bowls, and the company are meeting it with spirit. Samples are shown in various decorations—some of them designed expressly to harmonise with the developed contents of the bowls. The "London" shaped dinner ware is shown in many patterns. The "Ashbourne" is one of the new ones, consisting of key border intertwined with flowers, in enamelled colours.



[*Photo by "The Pottery Gazette."*

THOMAS MORRIS, LTD., LONGTON.

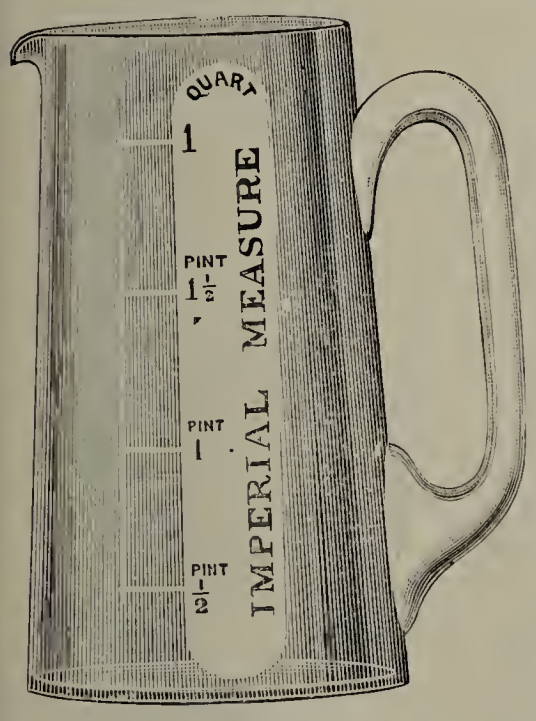
The "Fleur-de-lis" is one of the new patterns. It is applied to all table ware, but is especially effective in dinner ware in green and several other colours. The design is peculiarly appropriate to the cover of the vegetable dish. The "Florence" pattern in pink is a neat key border with flowers. The number of toilet decorations has been considerably increased, the new ones including a pretty blossom spray with rustic handles. Several atttactive enamelled patterns at moderate prices are light and cheerful. The popular Mazarine blue bands are shown, some with gold patterns on the bands. There is an interesting variety of patterns of dinner ware, including tasteful borders of conventional design.

Thomas Morris, Ltd., of Longton, have appointed Mr. F. J. Bennett their London representative. They are manufacturers of "Regent China" in tea, breakfast, and dinner ware and fancy goods. Mr. Bennett has a set of their samples at his rooms, 62-64, Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C. They make a number of special shapes in tea ware, and have plenty of variety in decoration. The company cannot be charged with sameness, for they are showing a number of shapes and patterns with original features. A well-modelled tea and breakfast cup, the "Palace" shape, is decorated with little buds outside the cup, while the inside is solid art colours. As a variation, the plain art colour is applied outside. The "Devon" cup is a pretty form nicely decorated. The company make good banded ware with borders, and serviceable stock patterns in white and gold and printed. They have an attractive "Indian Tree" decoration for tea and breakfast ware. A pleasing design in several colours. Our illustration shows this pattern on a teapot, sugar, and cream, and on the "Cylinder" shape tea cup. When seen in a complete service, this "Indian Tree" pattern is very pretty. Another new cup and saucer is the "Palace" shape, with neat floral decorations.

R. Floyd & Sons, Lovatt and Hall-st. Potterics, Stoke-on-Trent, have just supplied their London agents, J. Murray & Co., 24, Bartlett's-buildings, E.C., with a number of novelties in useful and ornamental earthenware. Messrs. Floyd & Sons evidently aim at "giving the people what they want," and the success of their efforts is proved by the way in which their sales are maintained, even in a time of general slackness in the pottery trade. Their latest samples are an excellent exemplification of the motto, "Popular goods at popular prices." The wares are of good substantial body throughout; the decorations, often very striking, are applied with a lavish hand. Some of the designs are repeated through a whole range of ornamental table and toilet ware; others are applied only to special goods for which they are particularly suited. With these general remarks as a preface, we will proceed to mention a few of the articles noticed during a recent visit to the London show-room. Among the many teapots, the "Princess" is a pretty shape, with scalloped rim, gilt spout, and lock cover, and Mr. Murray finds that it has taken the public fancy very well indeed. It is supplied in various decorations, including a notably artistic Dutch scene, which is also found on several other articles. There is a good selection of toilet ware, from which the "Italian" new art design may be selected for commendation with its oval basin and pretty wild rose spray, supplemented by a lavish gilding. A fine range of vases is shown, some being very conspicuous, on account of their large proportions and bright colours. A frequent decoration is a handsome medallion representing a classical scene in which Eros is an important though unseen participator. There is also much showy gilding on the handles and other parts of these vases. The firm are prolific producers of jugs, which

appear in great variety, some being bazaar lines and others distinctly superior styles. Some were shaded in two colours and others had a tasteful green ivy leaf on a light ground ; majolica jugs are a specially popular line, as are quaintly humorous jugs representing typical heads. Mephistopheles, John Bull, &c. Thi idea is also applied to shaving mugs and tobacco jars—the "Jolly Friar" suits the latter purpose very well. Want of space forbids a more than passing allusion to the many patterns of fruit dishes, cre s dishes, cake plates, bread trays, marmalade jars and cheese dishes—there are six shapes of these last with a handsome blue and gold decoration. But we think we have said enough to assure our readers that the new lines of Messrs. Floyd & Sons are well worth their attention when they wish to place orders for this class of goods.

F. H. Taylor & Sons, glass manufacturers and merchants, New Wharf-rd., King's Cross, N., have decided to mark every one of their Tell-Tale Jugs sent out from their factory with a guarantee of accuracy stamped upon it. They have been led to do this, they inform us, by the fact that several manufacturers are putting tell-tale milk-jugs on the market which are not accurately graduated. As the trade in tell-tale jugs is now firmly established, it would be a pity if the public should lose confidence in graduated jugs, as they would if the milkmen can dispute their accuracy. F. H. Taylor & Sons believe that dealers who have established a trade in these tell-tale jugs will readily appreciate this guarantee, and this should largely increase sales. They are open to offer special advantages to firms who are willing to take large contract quantities and push these milk-jugs. Enterprising dealers will be helped with advertising schemes (particulars upon application), and window displays paid for according to merit.



Kilner Bros., Ltd., manufacturers of glass bottles, van boxes, and cases, G.N. Goods Station, King's Cross, London, N., have just published a new illustrated catalogue of their numerous productions. Many of the bottles are machine-made, being produced by means of the most up-to-date apparatus. A wide variety of bottles of nearly all conceivable kinds is described in the catalogue. In commending it to the study of our large and varied circle of readers, it is difficult to select any particular items for comment, as probably all kinds are bought at one time or another by our readers. Kilner Bros., Ltd., cater for a wide range of bottle users, both home and foreign, and for every illustration in this book there are often a number of sizes, and then, again, many of these bottles can be made in several colours, so that the kinds are almost numberless. Whilst the firm take care that their prices are reasonable, they pay especial attention to quality, believing that, as buyers appreciate excellence in that most important respect, it is undoubtedly cheapest in the long run. They invite inquiries, and will send a copy of the catalogue to any reader of THE POTTERY GAZETTE on application.

Ch. Pillivuyt & Co. (J. Chomette & Son, succrs.), manufacturers of French fireproof china, have their London showrooms at 15, Hatton-garden, E.C. The company's porcelain works, at Mehun and Nevers, in the centre of France, find employment for something like 800 workers. The principal productions are in fireproof porcelain for culinary purposes, and samples of them can be seen at the showrooms in Hatton-garden. Fireproof china has obtained a good hold on the British public, and Messrs. Pillivuyt's ware has not only been highly appreciated by users, but has obtained the highest awards at great exhibitions. The fireproof china manufactured by the firm is a hard French porcelain made with the best china clay obtainable, of a special and secret composition, fired at the highest temperature of which porcelain is capable, so that it will withstand far higher temperatures than cooking apparatus is ever subjected to. The porcelain glaze is highly vitrified and of the same nature as the body. The whole substance—body and glaze—is guaranteed absolutely free from lead, and the ware is non-porous, so that it never retains the flavour of any particular food. It is easily cleaned, and no greasy matter can penetrate it. The samples shown at Hatton-garden are well worth inspection by dealers who have not seen them. Almost everything required for domestic use is made in this ware, in tasteful shapes, and when required, neatly decorated. Tea and coffee pots, sugars and creams, coffee sets on tray, morning sets, cups and saucers (many shapes), plates and dishes, fancy cake plates, bowls, broth cups and stands, butter dishes, milk jugs, round trays, kettle jugs, milk boilers, entrée dishes, casseroles, pie dishes, saucepans, frying pans and stewpans, are all on show in brown and green. This enumeration does not include all the articles supplied in fireproof china, as the miscellaneous goods are too numerous to mention in detail. The company show samples of hotel china and plain table ware in great variety, and have a number of decorations suitable for hotels at the disposal of customers. They are also supplying French fireproof cooking earthenware, though not of their own manufacture. They are, of course, lower in price than china, and have great heat-resisting capacity. They are recommended for ordinary cooking purposes and have many advantages over metal utensils.

Belgian Glass Workers' Wages.—All the workmen employed at the Charleroi glass works are to receive an increase of 5 per cent. in their wages from Oct. 1. Five furnaces, which had been extinguished, are to be re-started, thus giving work to 2,000 hands. It is expected that the end of the crisis in the glass trade will send up the price of coal.

A Glass Superstition.—A lady writes in a provincial paper : "On my mother's side of the family for generations, whenever any member of the family dies, a tumbler or glass of some sort breaks, without any apparent reason, before one or other of the family's eyes. Of my own experience I have seen this happen five times. It happened last back in the spring. One night in my room I was sitting sewing, and at times speaking to the maid. We were both very quiet, when an ordinary tumbler—clean, dry, and standing quite by itself—gave out a queer sound. I fixed my eyes on it, knowing well what would follow, when it broke like a clean cut with a knife from the top to the bottom, and the two halves fell very slowly apart from each other. Not the tiniest splinter or fragment of broken glass ! There never is." We have heard of a different form of this superstition from a friend who saw the glass of an acquaintance who had been drinking with him shortly before fly into fragments at the very time when that gentleman was expiring in a railway waiting-room through having hurried to catch a train at a pace which proved too much for a weakened heart. Can any of our readers supply other instances ?

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

V

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

(*Continued from page* 1052.)

THE ANDRÉ DÉLIEUX PAVILION.

FACING the "Avenue of Progress," and between the French and British Machinery Halls, there are the two most ornate pavilions in the whole grounds, with the beautiful "Garden of Progress" between them. These are the "City of Paris Pavilion" and the "Pavilion of M. André Délieux." They are both well worth attention, but I can only speak of the latter here. There is something so exceptional about the contents of this truly artistic palace, that I feel justified in commenting upon them, although pottery and glass form but a small minority of them. It is the smallest, but the most beautiful, of all the pavilions. The recessed entrances with ornamental headings to the doorways, surmounted by designs of fruit &c., in natural colours, are fitting complements to the cream-tinted pavilion. Such a building and such an exterior are most appropriate to the contents, which consist of examples of the highest and most recent developments of French art in every branch of industry. I was for some time unable to understand the particular object of the collection. It is not a trade exhibit —neither is it a scientific or an artistic one. It is not a French Government contribution to the *entente cordiale*. Information accorded rather late explains the matter.

The collection owes its conception, and the pavilion owes its existence, to M. André Délieux, a former deputy and councillor-general of Gers. M. Délieux is a lover of art, a patriot, and a philanthropist. As an artist he had observed that the creators of artistic models and designs applicable to industries were themselves rarely heard of. Their creations were appreciated by the public, but the authors of them were too frequently known only to the manufacturer. This effacement of interesting personalities fostered the impression that French genius had become sterile, and that the ability to produce masterpieces in furniture, jewellery, the goldsmiths' art, the ceramic art, the art of glass ornamentation, in enamelling, tapestry, and lace—which were the glories of the centuries called classic—had been lost. M. Délieux knew it had not, and as a patriot he was anxious that French artists should be recognised. Their work was in evidence, but he found that the opportunities of associating the creators and producers with it were very few. Great exhibitions present those opportunities, but M. Délieux knew that as a rule the creative artists were not able to bear the expense of exhibiting the productions of their brains and hands at these international manifestations. As a philanthropist he determined to help them to show their work, with their names attached, at the Franco-British Exhibition. In February, 1907, he announced his intention, and soon found, as he expected, that there were capable artists in Paris and in the Provinces, striving to respond by original conceptions to modern artistic tendencies and to new necessities. Towards the end of 1907 he arranged meetings of artists, decorators, and inventors, explained his intentions as to the Exhibition, and entered into engagements, the success of which was by many considered doubtful. However, five professional associations nominated delegates to assist in the project, and a friendly dinner was given in December to the originator of the scheme. In the course of an address, M. Délieux remarked that science and art had not said their last word in the traditional ages. He invited them not to be mere copyists, but to aim at original work, assuring them that the near future was to the laborious and bold innovators in art. He said it was a pleasure to associate his efforts with theirs, in enabling brave artists to display their originality. He added that if 150,000 francs were necessary to the completion of the scheme, he should go on to the end.

This is briefly the history of the André Délieux collection —a collection of the work of modern and origi. al artists and craftsmen who, though possessing abundant ability, were either non-professionals (we cannot call the producers of such work "amateurs") or were not able to take space for themselves in the larger pavilions. Thus we have this charming miniature exhibition, under one roof, of paintings, sculpture, furniture, tapestry, jewellery, bronzes, interior decorations, enamels, porcelains and glass ornamentations, with the name of the creator and producer appended to each piece. Every exhibit is interesting, but I can notice a few only, and they must be limited to porcelain and glass.

The fine porcelain includes many examples of *pâte-tendre* by various artists scattered over the building in cases containing also jewellery, paintings, fans, enamels, bronzes, carved ivory, and decorated glassware. Here we have originality in modern art, in specimens of work being done to-day by some of the best French artist-craftsmen, with the name of the worker attached to his work. For the greater part porcelain is shown in single pieces, but M. ALEXANDER BIGOT exhibits fifteen vases in fine stoneware and porcelain, displaying free departure from conventional lines both in form and ornamentation. There are eleven vases in Limoges enamel by P. Bonnand, full of exquisite detail. MADAME COUFFIGNAL-DOAT, 47, Rue Brancas à Sèvres, submits four superb examples of artistic ornamentation. A large plate, porcelain body polychrome figure in relief, rouge flambé glaze. The subject is "Bellum." There is another large piece, earthenware body with a figure representing "Spring" in porcelain slip decoration. In quite a different category another piece of porcelain has a painted subject, "The Grasshopper," with olive branches, clouded rouge glaze. The fourth is a large porcelain dish with a beautiful soft iridescent glaze. All these pieces are remarkable for the beauty of their colour and their general effect. Each piece is unique. JOSEPH GUILLEMIN, Paris, A. LABOURET, of Paris, and T. LAUMONERIE, also of Paris, submit three stained glass windows, beautiful in design and execution. Miss E. Pechine, 12, Boulevard Edgar Quinet, Paris, has contributed a pretty little collection of enamelled pottery treated with great delicacy. Many ladies have sent small specimens of enamel, mostly in the form of miniatures. There are individual pieces of fine rock crystal, glass panels, and ornamented glass-ware of great beauty. The largest contribution of artistic pottery is the collection of 59 pieces sent by M. TAXILE DOAT, of Sèvres, and his work is unquestionably of a very high order. The pieces are in both stoneware and porcelain, and the variety of ornamentation shows him to be a very resourceful and original artist. For instance, there is a large porcelain vase with polychrome decoration with mat glaze. The subject is a "Rustic Poem," depicted in porcelain in four scenes—the Fields, the Grotto, the Spring, and the Woods. It is a fine conception, carried out with great ability. M. Doat sends also a very dainty small porcelain vase with pearl decoration on brown aventurine ground. By way of contrast to this he sends a large plaque in semi-porcelain. The subject, "The Kisses," is depicted in china slip, with coppery green on brown ground. A novelty is seen in a porcelain plateau-céladon, varied with blue, with crystalline lustre. The subject is "The Attributes of Thalia." The addition of lustre to a crystalline glaze is an interesting experiment, but in M. Doat's hands it has been successful. Many other pieces shown by M. Taxile Doat and other artists are deserving of special mention, but I have not space

for them. The few examples I have quoted are sufficient to show that M. André Delieux was right in his opinion that art is not dead, that there is no necessity to rely on copies of the masterpieces of the past, but that if artists will boldly give rein to their own impressions, and if industrial artists are associated with the works they produce, and are given ample opportunities for making their individual talents known, there is no reason why the industrial art of the twentieth century should not equal that of any preceding period.

THE BRITISH COLONIES.

Whatever may be the shortcomings of the present Exhibition—and it would not be a human organisation if it had none—there cannot be the least doubt that it has fulfilled the mission claimed for it, and has drawn the peoples of the two countries closer together than they ever have been. For the last four months, in our streets, in our places of public resort, and in our newspapers and more serious publications, we have had nothing but expressions of goodwill to our nearest neighbours. So thoroughly has this feeling taken root amongst us that the majority of every-day Englishmen—and women too—now speak of the *entente cordiale* with a correct pronunciation that would have been rare in London even a decade ago. But the Exhibition has already had a more far-reaching influence than this. It has not only drawn France and England closer together, but has drawn their colonies and dependencies nearer to their mother countries. From an educational point of view the present Exhibition should prove of immense value to us as a nation. Thousands of visitors to it will henceforth have a much more intelligent idea of the importance of our great Colonies than any they have had. The resources of our oversea possessions are represented on a scale, and with a lavish expenditure, that has never been attempted before, and demonstrate in the most forcible manner—that is to say, to the eye—that all the necessaries and luxuries demanded by modern civilisation can be obtained, without stint, within the boundaries of the British Empire. Our youths read this, and doubtless have the fact emphasised by their teachers, but at the Exhibition they can see it for themselves.

The French Government realised that the Exhibition was going to be something more than the medium for the exchange of compliments on a grand scale. Having regard to its immense commercial possibilities, it not only gave to the enterprise its countenance and support, but voted large sums of money from the national exchequer in order to enable the various departments of the State to be worthily represented. Unfortunately, the Government of the United Kingdom contented itself by patronising the Exhibition, and according its moral support, thus throwing the burden entirely upon private enterprise. With a quick perception of the importance of the occasion, the Governments of nearly all the Self-governing colonies and several of the Crown colonies followed the example of France in preference to that of the mother country, with the result that Australia, Canada, and New Zealand have pavilions that are amongst the most magnificent in the grounds, and display their natural and industrial products with a liberality that should fill our niggardly Home Government with shame.

Canada.

The Government of the Dominion has set a very praiseworthy example to our Home Government in their efforts to assist manufacturers and to invite and encourage trade. Canada has an especial interest in the Franco-British Exhibition, seeing that the first practical manifestation of what we now familiarly call the *entente cordiale* was the union some seventy years ago between the French Province of Lower Canada and the English Province of Upper Canada. The good feeling cemented by that union continues between the two Canadian races to-day, and the hope and expectation is that the present Exhibition will extend it between the people of the two great nations in all parts of the world. It would have given a much-needed impetus to British trade if our Government had interested itself on behalf of British manufacturers and producers exhibiting at great exhibitions. This it has never done properly, while Canada has never missed an opportunity of doing it thoroughly. Her present effort is, without doubt, the biggest and best she has ever made in that direction. She has only herself to surpass, since no other country has ever represented its productions outside its own limits on the scale reached by Canada this year. It must be remembered that the Government has undertaken responsibility for the entire collection. As becomes the greatest colony in the British Empire she has provide



The Canadian Pavilion.

a large and elegant building in the modern renaissance style. By the courtesy of Mr. Ernest Girardot, a member of the "Canadian Government Commission to Industrial Exhibitions," we are able to give an illustration of it. It has a spacious central dome one hundred and thirty feet high, and eight smaller domes. The building itself is 350 ft. long by 150 ft. wide. The exhibits illustrate fully and eloquently the vast resources of Canada in grain, fruit, and minerals. But at this Exhibition an important and new departure has been made by Canada—one to which manufacturers and producers in this country should give their serious consideration. Previous exhibitions away from home have been limited to agricultural and horticutural products, but the present display includes samples of goods manufactured in Canadian factories. In addition to nearly a hundred others there are samples of stoves and ranges, enamelled ware, brushes and brooms, cordage, perfumes, soaps, candles, and wall-papers, collected from the different provinces. There are no pottery or glass exhibits so far as I have seen, but with such an enterprising young country it cannot be long before the manufacture of these is entered upon on a commercial scale. The policy of our manufacture s and their workpeople clearly should be to supply the wants of the dominion in pottery and glass so fully and so exactly as to leave no necessity for their manufacture locally. There are exhibits of (in addition to the precious metals) galena, mica, gypsum, soapstone, felspar, manganese, barita, asbestos, graphite, porcelainite, talc, infusorial earth, lime, cements, and samples of bricks and terra cotta. The manufacture of these is extensively carried on in the vicinity of the cities of Ontario and Quebec. The Beamsville Terra Cotta Company, Beamsville, Ontario, exhibits buff and red shale clay and buff clay, together with buff, red, and brown bricks of very good quality. In Manitoba, the clay deposits produce cream-coloured bricks, and in the North-West territories a great variety of clays and silts are found, applicable not only to ordinary fire-brick making, but to the production of tiles of superior quality and to ordinary earthenware. The whole pavilion is worth inspection. The samples and specimens have been selected with the view of showing the resources and advantages of Canada as a whole, local and provincial features having been to a great extent eliminated. It has been the desire of the Canadian Government that every part of the Dominion should share equally in the honours and benefits which will be the outcome of the Exhibition.

Australia.

One handsome and enormous pavilion contains all the exhibits of the Commonwealth of Australia. The Commonwealth comprises the States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Each of these States is represented by a most extensive variety of produce, natural and industrial. The great central hall represents an Australian garden displaying hundreds of types of Australian flora to the best advantage. In this hall there is a magnificent trophy, comprising specimens of every description of Australian mineral. The building, exceedingly handsome within and without, covers 60,000 square ft., it cost £40,000 to erect, and the Commonwealth has spent £100,000 altogether on the display. Each State has a large and magnificent court of its own, and I propose to deal briefly with each one separately, but before doing so I may give a few particulars of Australia as a whole. Some idea of the extent of the Commonwealth may be gathered from the fact that it contains 2,972,906 square miles, which is twenty-five times as large as the whole of the British Isles together—or neary twice the area of Great Britain and the Continent of Europe—except Russia. Yet in all this vast territory there are only 4,053,000 inhabitants, being about one person to the square mile, while in England there are 606, in Scotland 150, and in Ireland 140 to the square mile.

New South Wales.

This is a gorgeous Court. No expense has been spared in displaying the products of the State in the most elaborate manner. Not only the exhibits themselves, but the accessories, are on the most lavish scale. Gold, fruit, wine, minerals and wood are all shown in profusion. There is a massive arch which, though not the solid gold it appears to be, represents in gilded wood the actual value of the gold raised from the commencement of mining operations to the present time. There is another arch, artistically formed of wool with an inscription reminding us of the enormous value of the wool production of the Colony last year. The manner in which the immense trade is done with great Britain in meat and fruit is shown by cold storage cases in which meat, butter, apples, pears, grapes and peaches are seen in a temperature much below freezing point. The fine grain and beautiful polish of native timber are illustrated by several rooms constructed entirely of wood from this State, and by furniture made from the same, placed in them. And by way of showing the natural grandeur of the State, there is a miniature waterfall—a stream flowing over rocks from a great height down a ravine, with a lake at the bottom. Much more could be said about the beauties of this "Court of New South Wales," but a trade paper can only refer in detail to those exhibits in which its readers are interested from a business point of view.

There are not many that directly concern the production of pottery and glass. This applies to the whole of the Australian exhibits, and not only to the New South Wales State, with which I am dealing. There are several manufactories of useful earthenware, but the Commonwealth have not included any of their products in their pavilion.

Mr. William A. Oakley, Penkivil-st., Bondi, has a large glass case in which he exhibits nearly two dozen assorted specimens of clays and ochres suitable for pottery, pocelain, earthenware, tile and cement manufacture. This fine selection of natural pigments includes purple brown, Vandyke brown, raw and burnt Turkey umbers, blue black, Indian red, yellow ochre, red ochre, raw and burnt sienna, Venetian red, &c. Mr. Thomas Henley, Drumnoyne, Sydney, exhibits samples of kaolin obtained from Ulladulla, in the South Coast District. Mr. Thos. Pendlebury, Woonona, Bulli, South Coast District, shows numerous specimens of fireclay and firebrick. They are of good quality. The seam from which the exhibit is taken occurs just below the coal seam, and varies in thickness from 8 to 11 feet. These are very different conditions from those prevailing in this country. Lyon, Cottier & Co., Liverpool-st., Sydney, are exhibiting specimens of their ornamental stained glass windows. There is an excellent portrait of His Majesty King Edward VII. after Longstaff's picture in the National Gallery of New South Wales. The exhibit is placed in the centre of the wall above the main entrance to the Court. There is a fine show of the boundless resources of the State in coal, minerals, ores, eucalyptus specialities, shale and its many useful and interesting products.

Queensland.

Queensland is one of the youngest of the Australian States, but its splendid contribution to the present Exhibition shows it to have had an industrial development that has not been excelled by that of any other country in the world. Its great industries have been farming, dairying, fruit production, and mining. The enormous extent of its industrial activities is well illustrated in its

beautiful court. The display is similar in character to that of New South Wales, the mineral exhibits being large and important, the Queensland Mines Department having arranged a comprehensive collection of ores and minerals, which includes mercury, bismuth, antimony, asbestos, fluorspar, manganese, talc, tin ore, fireclay. Amongst the exhibits is a block of marble, beautifully veined and weighing two tons and a half. Some bricks, from Darra, South Queensland, were the only "pottery" I noticed, but I was the victim of a little deception as to glass. A number of emu eggs have been converted into ornaments, the decorations on which have much the appearance of cameo glass—white figures in relief on pale blue ground—quite in the Woodall style—as to appearance at any rate.

Victoria.

Though Victoria is one of the smallest of the States, and her exhibits are therefore fewer in number, yet they are as varied as any of those from sister States. They have been furnished partly by the Department of Agriculture and partly by private firms. They include minerals, timber, grain, and wools. Meat, butter and fruit in cold stores. Flax in sheaves, brown fibre, eucalyptus oils, honey and starch. There are collections of preserved fruits and vegetables, and many exhibits of wines, spirits and cordials. The specimens of ores and minerals are numerous and they are well arranged in glass cases. They include china clay, yellow clay for tiles, white clays for stoneware and Rockingham, red terra-cotta for tiles, red clay for stoneware, pipeclay and fireclay; lead ore, tin ore, manganese ore, corundum, yellow jasper, red jasper, infusorial earth, sienna, silica and gypsum; copper ore, coal and granite models. As an indication of industrial progress, the State sends to this country for the first time agricultural implements of home manufacture, compressed fodder, and cloth flannel and tweeds made from Victorian wool. A well-guarded object of great interest to visitors is the famous Poseidon gold nugget weighing 953 oz., and valued at £2,878.

South Australia.

The exhibits of South Australia occupy a considerable space of the Commonwealth Pavilion, and properly so, as, with the exception of Western Australia, it is the largest of the States. The varied and extensive collection of the exhibits will impress the visitor with the fact that they are the produce of an immense country. The colony is not yet a hundred years old, but I cannot go into the history of it now. Those who are not well acquainted with the areas of the various States should acquire information on the subject before going to the Exhibition. I may say briefly that what is called South Australia really extends across the whole island continent from the Southern Ocean to the Indian Ocean; that it contains 578,361,600 acres of land, and that it is four times the size of France. (Yet this is but *one*, and not the largest one, of the seven States included in the Australian Commonwealth.) We who live in the comparatively small "Mother" country are apt to forget how big her children are. Manufacturers who have been sending out manufactures and produce to Australia for the past forty years should take notice of what the country is now producing for itself. They can see it at the Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush, and the South Australian Court is worth visiting for this purpose alone. Other industries will perhaps appreciate the lesson more than those we represent, but, nationally, we should all be interested in it. (Besides, though everything in the Commonwealth Pavilion is the production of Australia, it does not follow that the exhibit, great as it is, includes everything that Australia is producing. We happen to know that it does not.) The progress of South Australia has not been due to the possession of rich goldfields, but to individual patience, industry, and enterprise. As these factors are still operating, we may look for greater progress in the near future. This is a point for British manufacturers who are now supplying the South Australian market to bear in mind. The exhibits from this State that directly concern the industries we represent are very few.

The Department of Mines, Adelaide, exhibits a collection of ores and minerals from various sources, and there is another collection of mineral specimens from the Northern Territory. The Mount Sienna Oxide and Ochre Co., Ltd., Adelaide, send a case of assorted colours. The Kangaroo Island China Stone and Clay Company, Currie-st., Adelaide, exhibit raw, calcined, dry ground and wet ground silica, China stone, raw dry ground, wet ground, and fluxed. Raw and wet ground china clay. Raw, dry ground, wet ground, and fluxed felspar. Raw and ground fireclay. There are also several specimens of ball clay, firebrick, and silica fire-brick. Many large and interesting photographs are exhibited.

Western Australia

is one of the richest States in the Commonwealth, and is also the largest. It comprises one-third of the whole continent of Australia, and has the great advantage of being nearer the mother country by several days than the other States. The mining industry is the most important one, and a fine display is made of gold, the enormous production of which has attracted the attention of the whole world. The total amount of gold already produced in the State is valued at eighty millions sterling, and this fact is impressed on the minds of visitors by a striking trophy, while many other minerals abound, specimens of which are exhibited. But the Government of the State has shown by the present display that her forests and her agricultural resources are not inferior to her agricultural wealth. There is a large entrance arch constructed of West Australian Jarrah timber with carved panels, surmounted by black swans. There is an interesting exhibit in a large Jarrah table, the top of which is one piece of timber 7 feet 4 inches by 3 feet 3 inches, and by way of contrast there is another marvellous table constructed of over a hundred varieties of polished wood of Western Australian growth. The Pearl Shell Fisheries constitute an important industry, and there is a fine exhibit of pearls and coral. The "Southern Cross" pearl, now shown in the court is valued at £10,000.

Tasmania.

the last of the States, has a representative, but not very large, collection of specimens of its products, augmented by a number of excellent photographs and views. The Government shows a large and handsome trophy of fruit and fruit trees. The well-arranged exhibits by private firms include eucalyptus oil, wool fleeces, rugs, flour, cereals, and jams, but since much of the prosperity of Tasmania is due to its mineral wealth, minerals are prominent among its exhibits. As an interesting curiosity the Government exhibits Professor Smith's nugget of tin, which led to the finding of the Mount Bischoff tin mine.

New Zealand.

The newly-created Dominion of New Zealand has a handsome pavilion and an array of exhibits of its products which is certainly remarkable when we remember that they are the results of the industry of a population of little over a million. The exhibits include animal and vegetable food products, fruit trees and fruits, preserved and canned meats and fruits, woollen goods, lace work, leather, &c. There are specimens of antimony, chalk, crude sulphur, phosphate rock, glass-making sands, crystals, portland cement, and calcined pumice. Kauri

gum is exhibited in many forms, and there is a large and special collection of commercial grades. This is a very remarkable and interesting collection, nicely arranged in a large glass case. Every variety is shown, from the finest quality pale kauri at £360 per ton, down to the poor quality, found in live kauri trees at £35 per ton, and samples of kauri from swampy grounds. Kauri gum (resin) is an exudation from the kauri pine, a large New Zealand tree. It is partly obtained in a fresh condition from living trees, but the bulk is found buried in the ground in a fossilised state, on tracts of land from which the tree has disappeared. Samples are exhibited of the gums used for oil varnishes, for which purpose they are exported chiefly to England and the United States. Other qualities are also exhibited.

The Crown Colonies.

Only five of these are represented at the Exhibition—namely (to follow the order of the catalogue), Fiji, Gambia, Gold Coast, Mauritius, and Southern Nigeria. Their exhibits, which are not so numerous as might have been expected from such important territories, are all in one pavilion, and that not a large one.

Fiji.—The large group of small islands of which this Colony consists, sends a representative collection of native productions. These include vegetable food products such as castor oil, beans, peanuts, Mauritius beans, cocoanuts, macon oil, and bay oil. The Department of Agriculture exhibit peanuts, arrowroot, cassava, hemp, papain bay oil. Private firms exhibit pearl shells, arrowroot, starch, sugar, cocoa, coffee, gum, ramie, and timber.

Gambia.—The exhibits not only include natural products, such as beans, cocoanuts, calabash gourd, rice, maize, pumpkin, watermelons, &c., but a large number of specimens of native work. Samples of wax, rough and clarified, are exhibited, together with rubber and gum arabic, cassava, and starch made from cassava, goat skins, and a collection of native curiosities.

Gold Coast Colony has a miscellaneous collection of its products. There are cocoanuts, palm-kernels, palm oil, kola, gold, ivory, copal, cotton, ginger, &c. What is said to be the finest specimen of copal in existence is exhibited—protected by a glass case. There is an interesting trophy in the centre of the court. Fine examples of African kola are shown, and kola biscuits. Seed oil, croton oil, ginger, ground nuts, lemon grass oil and millet are among the exhibits. There is a large case filled with specimens of rubber, of which the annual export is very extensive. There is a gold trophy in this court also.

Mauritius.—The exhibits include oil paintings, water-colour drawings, and sketches. Terra-cotta busts and statuary, fibres from various factories, samples of cotton, honey and beeswax, maize, sago, tapioca, and starch, are shown with tea, manilla, curry powder, mango, marmalade, and tomato sauce. The exhibits are varied, and the produce is extensive for the size of the island.

Southern Nigeria supplies a very interesting collection of exhibits, including palm oil, cocoa, coffee, rice, and a number of specimens of cotton. The staple product of the colony is palm oil, and the principal occupation of the inhabitants of the interior is in gathering the fruit and preparing the oil and kernels for trading purposes. There are many exhibits of white palm kernel oil, extensively used in soap manufacture. Rubber is also an important product, and there are numerous exhibits of it. There is a collection of rough pottern, several clay-pipe bowls, some earthenware waterpots, and an extensive assortment of native art products, manufactures, curios, and photographs. Taken altogether, this is a useful industrial exhibition.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN AUGUST.

The Pottery Trades.—Employment in the pottery trade continued bad in August, and was considerably worse than a year ago. Employment in Staffordshire was bad, most factories being on short time. It was also bad at Bristol and in Scotland. It was fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne, at Swadlincote, and in Devonshire. With earthenware makers in South Yorkshire employment was bad, and worse than a month ago, a good deal of short time being worked during the month. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment was dull, but showed some improvement on the previous month. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was fair at Manchester, dull at Gateshead, and bad at Glasgow.

The Glass Trade.—Employment in the glass trades was moderate on the whole, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 7,855 workpeople in the week ended Aug. 22, and paying £9,481 in wages, showed a decrease of 5·0 per cent. in number employed, and of 4·9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was principally in the glass bottle branch. As compared with a year ago, there were decreases of 9·5 per cent. in number employed, and of 8·0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being general, and most marked in Lancashire.

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol, and fairly good at Castleford; fair at Leeds, Barnsley and Dublin; moderate in the North of England and Scotland; bad in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers at Leeds employment was fair. With flint glass makers employment was fairly good on the whole. At Stourbridge and Wordsley, however, it was quiet. With flint glass cutters it was bad, much short time being worked. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was bad. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was moderate, and slightly better than in the previous month. Employment with London glass blowers showed a decline. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate, and showed some improvement as compared with a month ago; a considerable amount of short time, however, was worked during the month. Employment with decorative glass workers was good at Liverpool and moderate at Manchester.

Table showing the number of persons employed in the glass trade, and the amount of wages paid them, on pay day in week ending Aug. 22, 1908:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	5,201	£6,488
Plate Glass	704	867
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,594	1,706
Other Branches	356	420
Total	7,855	£9,481

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid them for week ending Aug. 22, 1908:

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	793	£902
Yorkshire	4,236	5,320
Lancashire	684	761
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,064	1,275
Scotland	754	906
Other parts of United Kingdom	324	317
Total	7,855	£9,481

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EGYPT.—II.

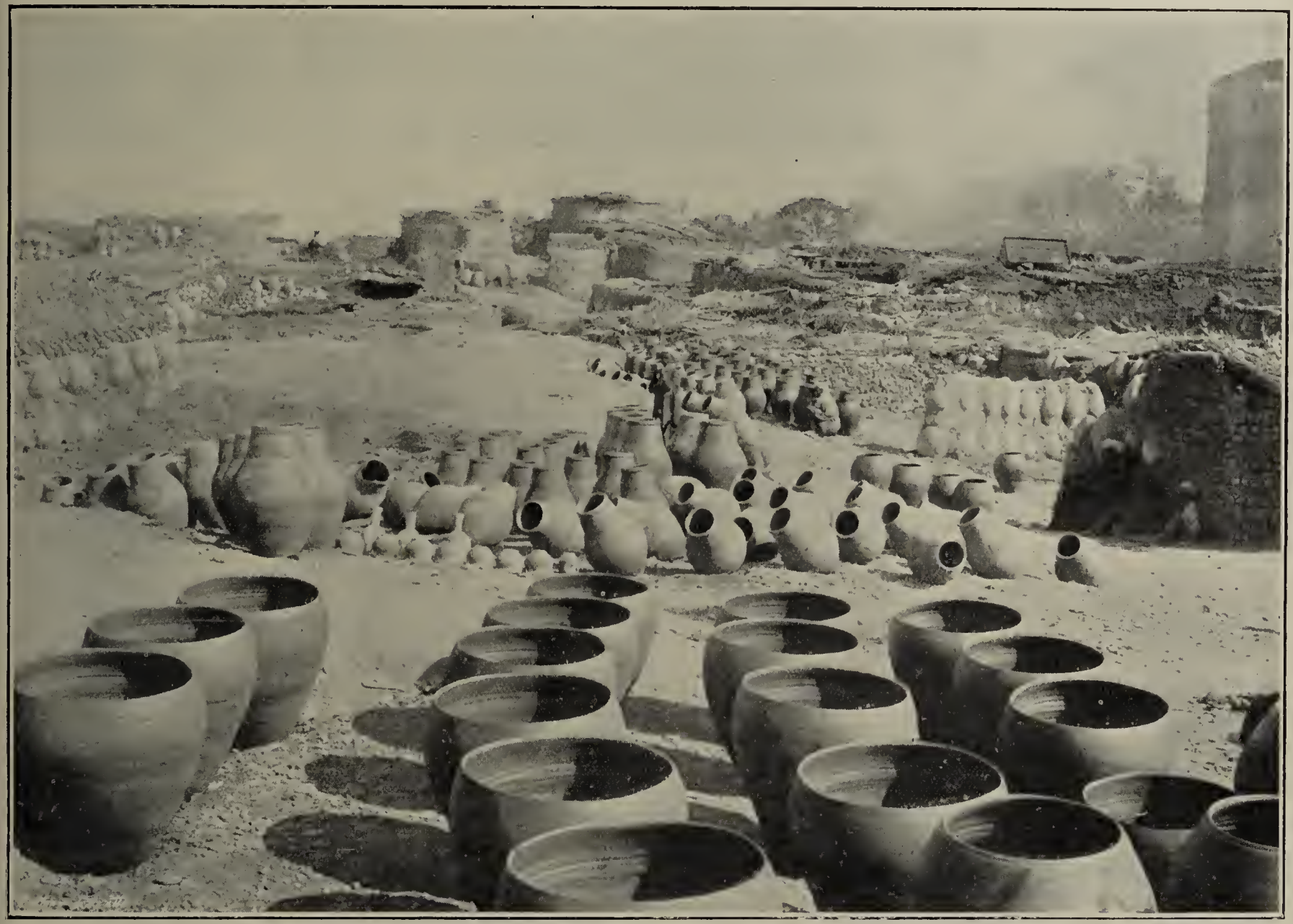
SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.

(*Continued from page* 184.)

MODERN EGYPTIAN POTTERY.—The potters of the predynastic period were past-masters in their craft, and in the eleventh century the potters of Cairo were famous for the delicateness of their vessels, the gracefulness of their shapes and forms, and the beauty of the iridescent glaze with which they were sometimes covered. Glazed porcelain tiles were largely used for mosques and other buildings in the Middle Ages in Cairo. The art of making pottery of a high class has died out in Egypt and is now represented only by the porous earthenware made at Kena, and by the red glazed cups, jugs &c., made at Assuit.

Kena is situated on the Nile about 400 miles above Cairo and is celebrated for its "Kulal," or cool, porous water-bottles, and for other clay vessels. They are made of light-grey clay, and the porosity of the vessels is produced by mixing the clay with ashes. The accompanying photograph will give a fair idea of one of the principal potteries at Kena with its rough ovens for firing the ware. In the foreground are large vessels used for storing grain or maize. The large vessels behind these are the "family jars," which are filled each evening at the Nile in the villages all over Egypt. In a well-ordered household one jar is apportioned for each adult. The jars are filled with thick, rich Nile water, which falls drop by drop, and perfectly clean, during the night into metal vessels placed beneath the jars. A few of the smaller water-bottles with necks are also seen in the illustration. These are carried about by the people when going on a journey or out to work, and were described in a former series of articles on Egypt.

The Kena district may be described as the Potteries of Egypt, and large quantities of these rough claywares are sent down the river to Cairo and Alexandria. The accompanying snap-shot shows a boat heavily laden with the large water-bottles. In this instance the number of jars carried was greatly increased by hanging mats like immense panniers on each side of the boat, which bulged out with their load of earthenware.



A POTTERY AT KENA, UPPER EGYPT.

Earthenware vessels for storing grain were apparently used by the ancient Egyptians. A year or two ago some of the brick-built granaries built by Joseph for storing up grain as a reserve for the seven years of famine were excavated near Luxor. These store-houses have much the appearance of a series of railway arches, and in one of them was found an earthenware jar containing corn. The Biblical story of the seven years of famine has just received fresh corroboration from the discovery by Professor Brugsch of some hieroglyphic records.

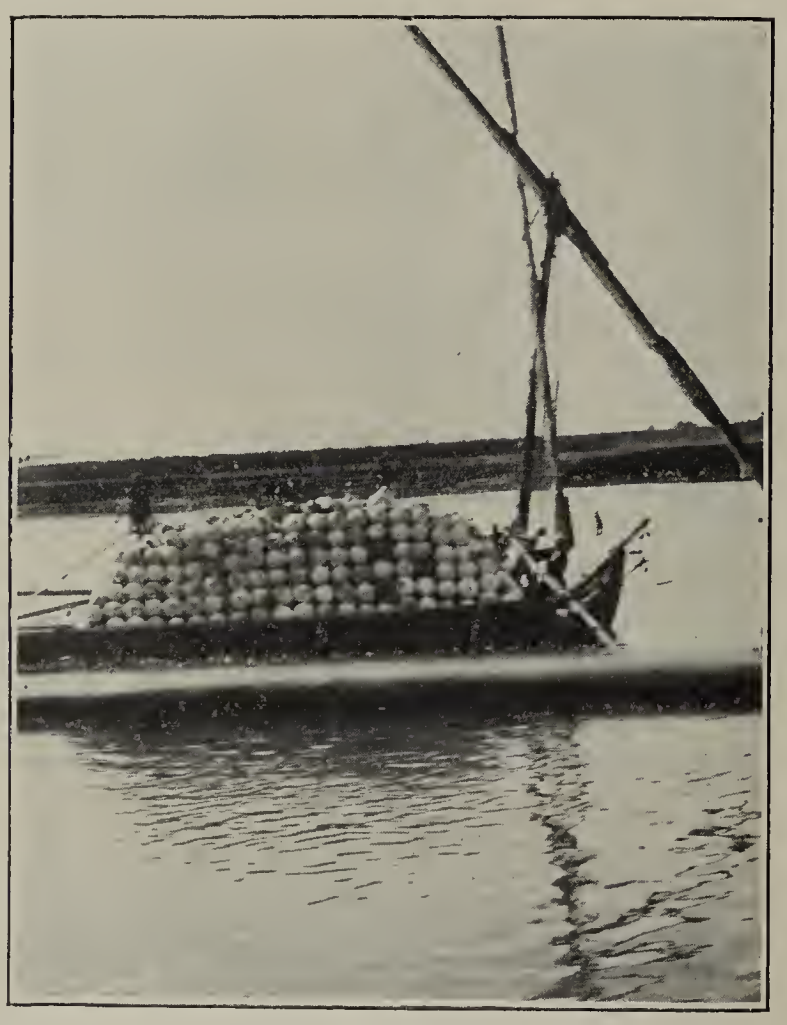
CAIRO DRAINAGE SCHEME.—Up to the present Cairo has done without a drainage system. The city is, however, growing so rapidly that this deficiency must be remedied if a great epidemic is to be avoided. After long negociations the various interested Powers have at length given their

assent to a capital outlay of two millions sterling. It is expected that the specifications and contracts to tender will be issued before the end of this year. Details are not yet available as to the extent to which pottery and stoneware will be used in this drainage scheme.

THE NEW NILE BRIDGE.—The Rodah Bridge at Cairo, formally opened by the Khedive last spring, will enable electric trams to run through from the city to the Pyramids, and will relieve the heavy market produce traffic which has hitherto all had to cross the only other bridge to Cairo — the Kasr-el-Nil. The accompanying photo was taken from the deck of a steamer waiting its turn with cotton-laden boats to pass through the swing portion of the bridge. The bridge is opened by electric power and takes only four minutes to operate, compared with twenty minutes required to open the Kasr-el-Nil Bridge by hand power. The Rodah Bridge is 1,740 ft. long, and has been erected by British contractors.



THE NEW RODAH BRIDGE, CAIRO.



A BOAT-LOAD OF EARTHENWARE WATER BOTTLES.

Imports at Bahia during 1907 included 781 metric tons of earthenware and china, valued at £28,774, and 83 tons of glassware, valued at £9,633. Both totals show a steady increase. In the matter of crockeryware—plates, cups and saucers, toilet articles, &c.—the Bahia market is supplied almost entirely by Germany and by France. As regards glassware, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, Germany and France between them supply most of the local requirements.

Legal.

A Claim for Rent.—Mr. Charles Taylor, sanitary ware manufacturer, of Longton, residing at Blythe Bridge, was sued at the Longton County Court, recently, by Mr. Wm. Hines, manufacturer, of Fenton, for the recovery of £20, being six months' rent of factory premises in Park Hall-st., Longton. The defendant, it appeared, had been desirous of removing from the Park Hall-st. factory, and gave three months' notice in December last. The notice, nowever, was bad, and, on this being pointed out, defendant, it was aileged, remained in occupation until June, without paying any rent. An adjournment was asked for in order that the defendant might file a counter-claim for about £50, which, it was stated, had been expended by him on the factory, but the judge said that the counter-claim did not affect the claim for rent, and gave judgment for the amount claimed.

Father's or Son's Account?—His Honour Judge Ruegg, K.C., at the Longton County Court, recently, heard a case in which Wildblood, Heath & Sons, manufacturers, Longton, claimed £31 17s. from Bolsom's Stores, Chapel-st., Islington, N., for goods sold and delivered. The evidence showed that, after a preliminary visit from the plaintiff's London representative, Mr. S. Bolsom, of Bolsom's Stores, called at the firm's show-room and gave an order for certain ware. At the time he was accompanied by his son, Mr. Morris Bolsom. The goods were dispatched to Bolsom's Stores, and duly paid for. Other orders, which purported to come from Bolsom's Stores, were afterwards received, and the goods were consigned to the same place, including those in respect of which the present claim was made. The defence was that the goods were not ordered by Mr. S. Bolsom, but by the son, Mr. Morris Bolsom, who carries on a separate business in City-rd. The defendant denied that the firm's representatives were ever led to understand that the business done was with him. All goods subsequent to the first consignment were not accepted, but were sent on to the son's business. He did not write to plaintiffs pointing out that they were sending goods to the wrong address because he was not able to write. Certain of the goods which plaintiffs' traveller said he had seen displayed at the Chapel st. shop had been purchased by him (defendant) from his son. Witnesses were called on behalf of the plaintiffs to prove that the son had never been dealt with, independently. It was denied that the defendant had ever told the firm that he could not do with the goods himself, but that his son, who was about to start in business, would perhaps be a customer. The son, Mr. Morris Bolsom, declared in evidence that all the dealings with plaintiffs had been absolutely on his own account, and he was ready to pay the amount now in dispute. He admitted that, unknown to his father, he had appropriated some of the latter's printed memorandums, on which he had written to the plaintiffs, but this had been done simply for convenience, and with no intent to defraud. The judge said that the defendant must have known that the plaintiffs were sending him goods and debiting him with the amount; yet he did not send the ware back or write to the plaintiffs. all he did was to send the goods on to the City-rd. premises. What had happened was sufficient to make the father liable to pay, apart from any question of collusion between the father and son. Judgment was entered for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed.

Reviews.

Cup and Saucer Land. By the Rev. Malcolm Graham, M.A., sometime vicar of St. Paul's, Burslem. London : Madgwick, Houlston & Co., Ltd. 5s. net.

On reading the title and before opening the volume we thought—"another book about 'The Potteries'—and by a clergyman, too." Recent books dealing with the pottery towns have taken rather a one-sided view of them—and that not the most favourable view. Our fears that this might be another of them were allayed immediately we read the title-page—and we were glad. It seems rather ungracious to make a complaint almost in the first sentence of a review, but we do not hesitate to do so in this case, because it is not in the least likely we shall have an opportunity to make another. We venture to suggest that a more accurate title would have been "Cups and Saucers." It was the wording "Cup and Saucer Land" that led us momentarily to fear another diatribe against the much misrepresented and greatly maligned pottery towns.

The author, however, says very little about them. On the title-page he says his book is "a simple, descriptive account of the present-day methods of earthenware production, with sixty illustrations from photographs taken by the author when vicar of a 'pottery' parish." He dedicates his book "to his old friends the potters of North Staffordshire." He makes no claim to be an authority on a subject so complicated, so intricate, and so varied as that of earthenware manufacture—"a subject which can only be fully grasped by those who spend their lives in the study of it." He only professes to tell those who know nothing about it the story of earthenware production as he "learnt it in the course of nineteen happy years spent in the centre of the Staffordshire Potteries." There is not much in the volume about the manufacture of earthenware that workers in the Potteries do not know more about than the writer. But we are sure they will read what the Rev. Malcolm Graham has written with considerable interest. He expresses the hope that the book will fall into the hands of some of his old pottery friends, and he trusts they will take it "as a message from himself of lasting friendship and of an interest in them and their work which neither time nor distance can destroy."

The author aims at telling the story of earthenware production to those who know nothing about it, and he tells it in a most attractive manner. Indeed, so pleasantly does he treat the subject, that those who know all about it will not be able to resist reading the book from beginning to end if they get the opportunity. The work is beautifully illustrated by sixty "reproductions of photographs taken by the author himself when vicar of a pottery parish in North Staffordshire." These excellent reproductions of capital photographs constitute in themselves a pictorial history of earthenware manufacture. The reverend author, of course, has had no practical experience in pottery manufacture, and he acknowledges his indebtedness to several persons for the details he describes. He divides the whole system of earthenware production into seven sections: (1) The preparation of the clay; (2) The shaping of the clay; (3) The baking of the clay in the biscuit oven; (4) The coating of the ware with fluid glaze; (5) A second baking for fixing the glaze; (6) The decoration of the ware; and (7) A third baking for the fixing of the colours. The several processes are described in language free from technicalities. The work is not intended to enlighten either manufacturers or workers, but "those who know nothing about the story of earthenware production" will find it pleasantly related here. At the same time, manufacturers, workers, and indeed all engaged in the industry, will read that story as related by the reverend author with fresh interest, and will appreciate, as we do, the simple charm in such expressions as "baking the clay"—the equivalent used for "firing



FIG. 1.—SOME WOMEN WORKERS.



FIG. 2.—DIPPERS' ASSISTANTS.

the ware.'' The author does not pose as an authority on pottery production, but of necessity touches upon some of the difficulties and troubles met with in the course of it, and, amongst others, upon what he terms the burning question of ''plumbism'' or lead poisoning. He says it is ''not possible to enter into this deeply important subject at length in a short treatise like this, but something must be said about it.'' He then proceeds to say that '' something '' with a discretion and a deference to the opinions of scientists and skilled practical experts which some recent writers have in their ignorance flouted. He does not exaggerate the dangers in the use of lead, and he does not minimise them. '' The potter's great enemy is dust, in two forms. The ordinary clay dust or flint dust, which, taken into the lungs, causes the terrible disease called ' potter's asthma '—locally known as ' potter's rot '—or dust mixed with particles of lead, which, taken into the system in various ways, causes lead poisoning with all its attendant evils. By means of improved ventilation, fans and other methods, the evils of dust have been much reduced. The evil effects of lead poisoning have also been much lessened by stricter rules, the introduction of washing conveniences, a monthly medical examination of all who come in contact with lead, and by ' fritting ' the lead instead of using it raw. This dangerous ingredient is only used in connection with the glaze. Could the glaze be made without lead, the danger would cease. It has been said that this is not only possible, but that it ought to be made compulsory. Leadless glazes, undoubtedly, can be used, but to pass a law to compel the use of leadless glaze would mean, at present at all events, complete ruin to the potting trade of this country.'' . . . '' While we all most earnestly desire that means may be devised to do away entirely with the evils of lead poisoning, it seems certain we could not compete with foreigners if they were allowed to use lead glaze while we were forbidden it, for there can be no question of the superior finish of articles treated with lead glaze.'' But this does not mean that our potters are to continue to be exposed to the horrors of lead poisoning. '' By strict regulations loyally carried out by masters and workpeople alike, by personal cleanliness and sobriety and by ceasing to use raw lead in the glaze, the numbers of cases of ' plumbism ' have been immensely reduced already, and will, we believe, continue to decrease.''

The author has qualified himself to speak about the production of earthenware by an intimate acquaintance with the best writers on the subject, from Josiah Wedgwood and Simeon Shaw down to Professor A. H. Church and Mr. William Burton. He has evidently been so painstaking in the selection of his materials and has presented them in such an easily intelligible form that he is entitled to be heard on the subject. He has something to say about the potters themselves, and his nineteen years' residence and labours among them surely qualify him to speak about them also. He refutes absolutely the false statements about Staffordshire potters made by sensational journalists who admittedly spent only a couple of days and a couple of nights amongst them. Mr. Malcolm Graham, after his nineteen years' experience, says: ''It has been the fashion of late years to speak hardly of the potters of North Staffordshire. Honest attempts to combat evils common to all large centres of industry have been misinterpreted as implying that the scale of morality in the pottery district is far below that of other manufacturing centres. As one who has known the district intimately for 25 years I have no hesitation in contradicting, without any reserve, such misrepresentation of facts, and I distinctly assert that, taking into consideration the conditions under which the work in the manufactories of North Staffordshire is carried out, that the morality of the district will compare most favourably either with other centres of labour or with the country districts. It may take some time to gain the potter's confidence, but when once one has established a friendship with the men and women who work on the pot banks, he will find them true as steel, and anyone who has worked long enough among them to gain their confidence will bear witness to the truth of my statement.'' The sixty excellent plates with which the work is illustrated are as instructive as the text, and in some instances are altogether supplementary to it. For example, the two illustrations we are able to reproduce (from blocks kindly lent by the publishers) show the physique of the workers. They certainly do not confirm the reports so persistently circulated for sensational purposes of the anæmic condition of the women and the decrepit appearance of the men who work in pottery manufacture. The women shown in Fig. 1 are women workers in various departments, including some who come in contact with '' dust.'' The '' dippers' assistants '' seen in Fig. 2 come in contact with lead more than any other pottery workers.

The book is well printed on good paper and is strongly bound in art green cloth and gilt.

Stourbridge, Old and New. By Mr. G. H. Goodyear. Stourbridge: Mark & Moody. Paper cover, 1s.; cloth, 2s., both net.

Mr. G. H. Goodyear has written a very interesting little book of one hundred pages dealing with the history, ancient and modern, of the area governed by the Stourbridge Urban District Council. The book is published in order to assist a bazaar in aid of St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge. The work is, therefore, not to be subjected to criticism as books usually are, though Mr. Goodyear need not fear even that. It is really a book of great interest, although the author describes it as a frugal meal of literary pickings from many shelves. The writer reviews the numerous speculations as to the derivation of the name '' Stourbridge ''; he talks pleasantly about Dud Dudley, describes the part Stourbridge took in the Civil Wars, and the passage of King Charles through the town after his disastrous battle at Worcester. In dealing with '' Old time trades '' he refers to the associations of the district with Glass Manufacture. '' In 1621 there was buried at Oldswinford ' Edward Henzey, of Amblecoat, glassmaker.' There is no doubt that ' Glasshouse-hill ' in the village of Oldswinford, is the site of an early glassworks, for the Oldswinford registers record, ' James, a stranger at the glasse-house, was buried March 29, 1679.' Thos. Bradley, who died in 1677, is described in the letters of administration granted to Frances, his widow, as a glassmaker at Oldswinford; and another, Thomas Bradley, mentions in his will, dated 1705, his glasswork ' in Oldswinford.'

'' Mills, it is asserted, formerly existed at the place known as ' Clatterbatch,' but whether they were ironworks or glassworks cannot be entirely proved. Certainly a cloth manufactory appears to have existed there, and the building in later years is said to have degenerated into works for the making of tobacco pipes! Dr. Richard Pococke, in his ' Travels through England,' 1750-1751, writing ' from Oswestre, in Shropshire,' says :—' They had a manufacture of green glass (at Oswestry), but the house has been taken by one of Stourbridge, in Worcestershire, in order to shut it up,' and he speaks of ' Going on to Stourbridge (from Dudley), famous for its glass manufactures, especially for its coloured glass, with which they make painted windows, which is here coloured in the liquid, of all the capital colours in their several shades, and, if I mistake not, is a secret which they have here. They had also a manufacture of china, but on inquiry I found it is not carried on.' And in visiting Hagley Church he describes the east window in Flemish glass, made at Stourbridge.''

The Sèvres Porcelain of Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. By Guy Francis Laking, M.V.O., F.S.A., Keeper of the King's Armoury. Published by Command of His Majesty King Edward VII. London: Bradbury, Agnew & Co. £10 10s. net.

THIS is the third of the series of volumes published by Messrs. Bradbury, Agnew & Co. at the King's command, describing the Royal collection of artistic treasures. In the former sumptuous volumes Mr. Laking has described the armour and the furniture at Windsor Castle with rare ability, but the present volume, dealing with the masterpieces of Sèvres, displays even greater skill. We venture to think that it will be more widely appreciated, for the subject is a more popular one. Artistic porcelain is certainly more interesting to the majority than old swords and lances, or the most beautifully carved old sideboards. It was characteristic of King Edward to give the public an opportunity of realising the variety and value of the Royal collection by publishing these elaborate volumes describing and illustrating selections from his priceless possession of paintings, furniture, armour and Sèvres porcelain.

The Sèvres collection is "Royal" not only because it is the property of our King, but because it was commenced by his kingly ancestor George III., to whose patronage of art the nation is greatly indebted. He purchased a number of valuable paintings, founded the Royal Academy, and acquired a number of choice specimens which formed the nucleus of what is now the Royal collection of Sèvres porcelain owned by King Edward, and described in the present work. The collection of Sèvres was continued by his son when Prince Regent, his extravagance in this direction adding considerably to his huge debts. At this time collecting china in England was a craze. The French nobility were ruined by the Revolution, and their works of art were sold in the market places of Paris. The majority were bought by English connoisseurs, many of the best pieces of Sèvres becoming the property of the English Prince, whose collection of works of art, overflowing Carlton House, soon filled that masterpiece of folly—Brighton Pavilion. When George IV. came to the throne, Windsor Castle was renovated, Buckingham Palace was rebuilt, and the King's works of art were removed to them. The collections of works of art in these Royal residences now compare favourably with the finest in the world. At the time of the Revolution in France, the then Marquis of Hertford took advantage of the occasion, and he also formed a collection of Sèvres porcelain, which has been greatly augmented, till at the present time there are 223 examples of old Sèvres at Hertford House, some of them almost surpassing any individual piece in the Royal collection. Frequent reference is made in this catalogue to examples at Hertford House, always by their case-number, and room. Mr. Laking says that these two combined, excel all the Sèvres porcelain in French collections.

In this work the collections at Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace "are considered as a whole, irrespective of location of individual pieces, which are changed from Windsor to London, and *vice versa*, according to the requirements of the moment." In the early part of the book we are told about the production of porcelain at Vincennes (1748-1755), from which the factory at Sèvres emanated. Then the pieces from Sèvres proper are divided into five periods of about ten years each, ranging from 1756 to 1795.

Before entertaining us with his scholarly, yet intelligible, description of the principal pieces forming the collection, the author gives a brief account of the origin of the famous factory. At St. Sever, near Rouen, certain faience makers named Poterat & Son, possessed the secret of making porcelain. The privilege of a thirty years' "monopoly of the manufacture of pots, vases and dishes like those of India," was granted them by the King. The Royal edict of 1753 constituted Vincennes a Royal manufactory, and M. Eloi Brichard its supreme head. It was styled "The Manufacture Royal de Porcelain." The edict restricted any form of rivalry in decoration at other factories, and claimed for the King, Louis XV., one-fourth of all profits! All legitimate competition was thus effectually stopped, and the manufacture made rapid progress. The factory was removed to Sèvres in 1756. (An illustration is given of the original building in the town of Sèvres. It is now a seminary for young ladies.)

From 1756 to 1759 the most successful work was achieved. In those three years the most artistic vases, the most beautiful services, in fact, the best examples of Sèvres porcelain, were produced. The works of that period are the most valued to-day. Connoisseurs would "rather possess a small and dainty vase or cabaret, made in the first years of the factory, than a vase or pair of vases, of greater magnitude and later style of decoration. The Royal collection is particularly rich in specimens of the earlier types." They were acquired by George IV. Mr. Laking says: "To say that King George IV. appreciated them would be to overestimate his discernment; it was probably rather from opportunity of purchase, than from preference, that he acquired so many pieces of early date."

The greater portion of the book consists of beautiful illustrations in colour, of pieces in the Royal collection, with interesting descriptions of them which indicate the profound knowledge of his subject by the author. These descriptions are accompanied by valuable and instructive notes, constituting the work one of the most useful books of reference on Sèvres porcelain that we have. Artistic illustration has never been more perfect than it is in this superb volume. Not without interest are the author's remarks about what we may term "spurious" old Sèvres: "Plain specimens of undecorated soft paste Sevres sold in England early in the nineteenth century. Unprincipled dealers had them redecorated, regilded and refired in the form of decoration most in demand at the time. Elaborate vases and services were turned out, gaudy in their new gilding and painting, and were sold as genuine productions of old Sèvres, reaping for the dishonest vendors a rich harvest of profit. A few of these examples are even to be seen in the Royal collection."

After the illustrations and descriptions of the best and of course, genuine pieces, the author gives a list of examples (but no illustrations) of Sèvres porcelain that have been subjected to redecoration by the painter Soiron in 1814, working in the outskirts of Paris. Examples of Sèvres porcelain that have been subjected to redecoration in France during the end of the eighteenth and the commencement of the nineteenth century—the work of various redecorators. And examples of Sèvres porcelain that have been subjected to redecoration in England during the first half of the nineteenth century.

A list is given of the painters whose work is represented in the Royal collection of Sèvres porcelain. It is scarcely possible to speak too highly of the valuable information contained in this work, of the perfection of the printing, or of the exquisite beauty of the illustrations. The 63 plates produced by the Hentschel Colourtype process are the finest specimens of process colour printing we have seen. The book, bound in white buckram and fawn-coloured leather, is a production of which the publishers may well be proud.



EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR AUGUST, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended August 31.		Eight Months ended August 31.		Month ended August 31.		Eight Months ended August 31.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany	cwts.	8,702	11,576	67,495	59,660	£7,640	£5,235	£56,300	£41,046
,, France	,,	3,128	2,583	40,275	27,455	4,999	4,086	42,046	47,930
,, United States of America	,,	45,489	27,950	350,513	268,506	57,387	37,591	418,144	344,275
,, Brazil	,,	15,899	28,805	139,926	166,766	13,741	9,981	107,410	84,728
,, Argentine Republic	,,	24,279	26,335	239,099	197,139	13,640	15,018	117,853	131,391
,, British South Africa	,,	5,200	8,721	85,277	57,554	5,694	7,342	58,997	49,799
,, British East Indies	,,	17,346	17,716	212,069	221,284	12,124	13,057	108,353	122,894
,, Australia	,,	21,140	15,269	139,752	125,298	26,283	18,031	161,168	144,676
,, New Zealand	,,	10,675	7,256	55,707	61,981	15,520	10,575	78,460	74,241
,, Canada	,,	29,396	29,255	214,420	275,457	26,574	24,109	196,116	190,399
,, Other Countries	,,	92,964	87,775	676,289	671,280	59,582	46,292	406,592	397,044
Made up as follows :									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	,,	2,268	2,137	13,704	13,059	20,199	14,669	118,064	89,012
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		7,022		54,651		6,241		49,204
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	143,498	7,163	1046889	66,271	184,301	4,143	1,307,190	47,633
Sanitary Ware	,,		18,004		122,473		21,426		180,282
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		84,882		800,289		112,440		1,012,887
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	152	308	345	5,805	282	487	638	8,990
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	116,196	133,105	1,060,031	1,013,537	21,401	22,671	202,627	170,336
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	12,104	10,620	99,853	56,275	17,001	9,240	122,920	70,029
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	5,282	4,815	40,891	36,808
,, Other Countries	,,	—	—	—	—	106,101	97,650	882,447	831,850
Made up as follows									
Plate Glass	cwts.	9,577	13,159	102,766	102,225	15,353	22,063	169,050	167,988
Flint Glass	,,	6,233	4,635	47,530	37,976	18,745	14,614	141,011	117,427
Glass Bottles	gross	72,220	55,905	569,746	495,819	48,465	39,979	367,525	336,607
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	35,087	30,942	310,966	301,705	28,820	25,809	245,752	246,636

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR AUGUST.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	5,390	4,709	35,244	39,287	25,218	21,842	170,098	178,791
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		463		2,679		242		908
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	28,387	799	222,811	18,435	55,867	920	437,701	11,946
Sanitary Ware	,,		43		444		91		980
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		20,653		184,119		40,328		375,555
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	—	27	151	158	—	63	538	543
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	11,581	3,267	48,003	60,631	1,860	1,244	9,949	21,696
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	2,092	1,940	17,082	15,159	2,789	2,767	22,360	23,515
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	102,950	87,137	852,420	773,042	57,743	53,531	474,301	441,024
Plate Glass	,,	25,991	27,835	288,731	220,102	30,780	35,192	354,192	275,154
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	67,469	60,418	519,593	455,571	103,410	89,898	765,754	678,081
Glass Bottles	gross	108,077	100,193	990,556	1,008,910	46,646	41,363	413,080	417,708
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	849	125	9,498	4,492	1,105	236	11,964	6,195

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR AUGUST.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	2,167	2,881	11,180	14,156	10,399	14,251	51,337	68,519
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,		—		32		—		55
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,	1,387	—	9,596	211	3,238	—	20,005	223
Sanitary Ware	,,		—		52		—		196
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		609		4,324		1,156		10,509
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	—	—	15	2	—	—	42	5
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	462	40	561	1,438	125	126	149	1,398
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	—	49	118	129	—	98	228	319
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	886	532	5,258	4,960	324	189	2,420	2,595
Plate Glass	,,	169	101	3,684	949	210	130	4,094	1,096
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	469	304	4,909	3,223	978	841	10,922	11,298
Glass Bottles	gross	3,687	4,170	32,632	37,955	2,057	2,199	18,757	19,738
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	597	294	5,089	3,185	1,444	807	12,486	7,835

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

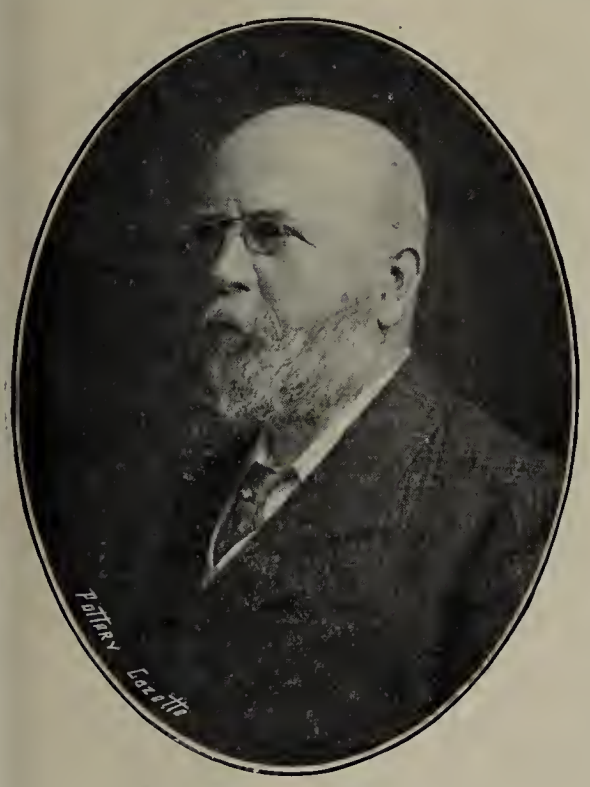
Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, July 26 to Aug. 26, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to July 26, 1908. Paekages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	480	1,318	3,846	4,693
,, New York	614	763	4,048	5,037
,, Baltimore	1,481	1,811	12,475	13,668
,, Philadelphia	402	121	3,533	1,727
,, New Orleans	420	403	3,404	4,847
,, Newport News	115	852	485	1,659
,, San Franciseo	—	149	39	485
,, Portland, Me.	—	154	3,771	4,476
,, Galveston	115	156	667	1,220
,, Portland, Or.	—	—	—	109
,, Inland Points	178	154	570	797
Total	3,605	5,881	32,838	38,718

Obituary.

FREDERICK WINKLE.—Aged 64.

IT is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Frederick Winkle, the senior partner in the firm of F. Winkle & Co., Colonial Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent, and the founder of the business. The deceased had for some time suffered from a bronchial affection, whieh reeently intensified a heart trouble. He was, however, at the works only a week before he died from heart failure early in the morning of Sept. 10, at his residence, Greenfield House, Mount Pleasant, Fenton. Although his affliction was well known, the news of his eomparatively sudden death eame as a great shoek to many of his intimate friends and acquaintances. He was the head of one of the best-known firms of earthenware manufacturers in the Potteries, and his death will be heard of with sorrow throughout the trade—both manufaeturing and distributing. The late Mr. Winkle was one of that sturdy band of really self-made men (several of whom have passed away within the last few years) who have done so mueh to improve and to extend the industry. He eommeneed as a boy on the lowest rung of the ladder, and by his indomitable perseverance he worked his way through every stage until he achieved his ambition and became a manufaeturer himself. The Colonial Pottery owes its present high position in the trade almost entirely to the energy, determination, and praetieal knowledge of its founder.



MR. FRED. WINKLE.

Photo. by T. Bennett & Sons, Malvern.

The suecess of Mr. Winkle, like that of the others referred to, proves most foreibly the value of a practical training in the work of produetion to all who aspire to control a pottery. We appreeiate to the full the importance of theoretieal and scientifie instruction, but all experience shows that the student who is thoroughly trained on these lines alone, with no actual praetical knowledge, is handieapped in eompetition with the youth who has "gone through the mill." Mr. Winkle may be said to have been born to the trade. His father was employed at an earthenware manufactory at Fenton, and apprentieed him to the same firm. On the conclusion of his apprentieeship, he worked as a journeyman cup-maker at various factories.

While he was learning his trade he took advantage of the night sehools opened at the Fenton Athenæum, and there acquired that taste for sound literature whieh he displayed and improved to the end of his life. Having, as a workman, obtained a practical knowledge of the industry, he became a diligent student of the theoretieal and scientific phases of pottery manufacture, and attained considerable profieiency in them. In the suceessful production and ornamentation of pottery, theoretical and praetieal knowledge are both essential. Mr. Winkle has demonstrated that the youth with a practieal training may become profieient in the theory and seienee of potting as he grows older. It might not be impossible, but it would not be so easy, for one whose early tuition had been confined to theory to obtain any useful praetical experience afterwards. The deeeased was always bent on improving his position and after other engagements, he obtained employment at the famous faetory of Minton's, Stoke-on-Trent. When he had been there a year or two he was appointed potters' manager at Cauldon-place works. Desirous of becoming a manufacturer himself, he entered into partnership with Mr. T. Hines and Mr. W. Wood, and took a lease of some property in Brook-st., Hanley, where they eommenced business in a quiet way. Mr. Hines retired from the firm, and the business was continued by Mr. Winkle and Mr. Wood. Mr. Winkle's practical ability proved af great value to the firm, and the business steadily inereased, outgrowing the capaeity of the original premises. The partners realised that with improved facilities and more extended accommodation they could inerease their trade, and they looked about them for larger works. None being at the time available, they obtained possession of some land at Fenton, and exactly twenty years ago they built and at onee oeeupied what is now known as the Colonial Pottery, in the Whieldon-road. The works, which include an eight-oven factory, occupy upwards of two acres of ground, and are considered to be amongst the best-equipped potteries in the distriet. They are designed in the most

convenient manner, and are fitted with the most up-to-date labour-saving and time-saving machinery and appliances. In the general arrangement of the works, and particularly in some of the methods adopted, the practical experience of the late Mr. Winkle is plainly indicated. He was one of the first to make extensive use of certain automatic machines which are now so largely employed in the industry. It is not too much to say that the Colonial Pottery has now working resources that are second to none, as no expense has been spared in keeping everything well up to date. The North Staffordshire Canal (Trent and Mersey Navigation) and the North Staffordshire Railway afford facilities for the transit of raw materials and manufactured goods.

When Mr. W. Wood withdrew from the firm about nineteen years ago, Mr. Winkle was joined by a gentleman who was a sleeping partner only, the whole management of the business devolving upon the deceased. He was, however, fully equal to the task, although, with upwards of five hundred employees to deal with, it could not be considered a light one. Happily his relations with his workpeople were always of the most cordial nature. He was ever ready to listen to any complaints, and if there was a real grievance he was quick to rectify it. Another advantage of his early business training was this. His employees all knew he was well versed in every detail of the trade, and there is no doubt they worked all the better and with more satisfaction, under a principal who was himself a craftsman and for whose practical knowledge and skill they could not but entertain great respect. In recent years Mr. Winkle's two sons have assisted him in the conduct of the works.

The firm have a wide reputation for their toilet sets, dinner services, and suite ware for the home and colonial markets, and it was the constant study of the late principal to keep these well up to date in form and ornamentation. He knew that the taste of the public, both at home and in the Colonies, is always subject to change, and it was his constant aim to meet it. About fourteen years ago he commenced to make sanitary earthenware, and eight years later included the manufacture of Diamond Enamelled Fire-clay Sanitary Goods. In these goods a large trade has grown up. Quite recently the late Mr. Winkle showed his enterprise, and the resources of his works, by adding another new branch to his already many-sided business. He introduced an Art Section, in which, with other novelties, the new "Whieldon" ware is produced. This was the last and perhaps the most ambitious of the many developments carried out by the deceased.

The late Mr. Winkle was absorbed in his business. He took no active part either in political or local government affairs, though he had often been asked to sit on the Board of Guardians for Stoke and the Fenton Council. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Manufacturers' Association, a director of the Staffordshire Potteries Waterworks Company, and was interested in Hill's Foundry, Fenton. His recreation was bowling, and he was president of the Fenton Bowling Club, and for many years he supported the Fenton Cricket Club, of which he was vice-president. He was a man of fine physique, and of an exceedingly affable and courteous disposition. The funeral took place at the public cemetery, Fenton, on Sept. 12, in the presence of a large number of relatives, friends, and business associates. The employees of the Colonial Pottery headed the funeral procession, and in the long line of coaches which formed it, was one containing London and Provincial representatives of the firm, while the officials of the works were joined by a crowd of intimate friends in the rear.

GEORGE WOOLLISCROFT RHEAD.—Aged 76.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. George Woolliscroft Rhead, one of the prominent figures in the artistic and industrial life of the Potteries. Mr. Rhead died at his residence at Clayton Newcastle, Staffordshire, on the night of Sept. 23. We go to press so soon after the sad event that we shall reserve our notice of Mr. Rhead's interesting life and work until our next issue. Meanwhile, we offer our sympathies to his bereaved family.

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Price Bros. (Burslem), Ltd., have removed to the Top Bridge Pottery, Longport.

Eade & Co., glass merchants, have occupied the premises 64, Red Lion-st., Holborn, W.C.

Darby & Leech, china and glass dealers, have opened premises at 55, High-rd., Ilford, E.

Mr. Clark, china and glass dealer, has acquired the premises 743, High-rd., Leystonstone, E.

Mr. A. P. Stokes, china and glass dealer, has relinquished the business at 350, Bethnal Green-rd., E.

The Westminster Guardians invite tenders for the supply of earthenware for six months from Oct. 4.

Mr. M. Friedlander, glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 55, Holywell-lane, Shoreditch, E.

Howard & Co., glass merchants, have opened premises at 8, St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

F. & E. Haslip, china and glass merchants, have relinquished the business at 79, High-rd., Willesden, N.W.

Mr. Walter Horn, J.P., Sunderland, partner in the Ayres Quay Bottle Works, left estate to the value of £39,356.

Mr. F. W. Simmonds, china and glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 739, High-rd., Tottenham, N.

Mr. A. Scott, china and glass dealer, has reopened the premises 75, Chalk Farm-rd., N.W., where a fire recently took place.

The Hackney Guardians have accepted the tender of J. Harverson & Son, 10, Well-st., Hackney, N.E., for the supply of window glass.

Mr. W. G. Carradine is opening premises at 82, Soho-hill, corner of Naden-rd., Birmingham, as a glass, china, and general pottery dealer.

The Farnham (Surrey) Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Lintern & Peters, 14, The Borough, Farnham, for the supply of crockeryware.

Mr. F. Shaw, china, glass and earthenware merchant, 140, Essex-rd., Islington, N., has opened additional premises at 133, in the same thoroughfare.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—No china, glass or earthenware dealer was gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales in the months of August, 1907, and August, 1908.

The mortality of glass workers exceeds the standard for occupied and retired males at all the ages of life by proportions ranging from 12 to 32 per cent., according to a report recently published.

The late Mr. A. J. Meakin, of Horton, Wolstanton, Staffordshire, head of the firm of Alfred Meakin, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, of Tunstall, Staffordshire, left estate to the value of £14,748.

Else & Co., Ltd., 46, Cranes-buildings, Church-st., Liverpool, have been appointed country agents in the United Kingdom for Réné Frugier & Co., of Limoges, makers of "Aluminite" fireproof china.

Great Halviggan China Clay Co., Ltd.—Registered capital,

£10,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business lately carried on by the Lower Halviggan China Clay Co., Ltd., at Trewoon Common, St. Newan, Cornwall.

Mr. Godfrey Walker, of Rotherham, Yorkshire, and of Northbrook Park, Exeter, a member of the firm of Walker & Crawshaw, Ashfield Fire Clay Works, J.P. for the West Riding of Yorkshire, left estate valued at £108,821.

E. Artur & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £1,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to take over the business of a fireproof porcelain and earthenware manufacturer and merchant and manufacturers' agent carried on by E. Artur at 90, Hatton-garden, E.C., as E. Artur & Co. Private company.

Electricity in Factories.—The Committee of the Pottery Manufacturers' Association has accorded a vote of thanks to Mr. Yeaman, the electrical engineer of the Borough of Hanley, for his assistance to the trade in connection with the Home Office regulations as to the use of electricity in factories.

Caulfield & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital £4,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to purchase the business of china, crystal and stoneware merchants and manufacturers carried on at 16, Adams-court-lane, and 31, Trongate, Glasgow. Private company. Registered office, 16, Adams-court-lane, Glasgow.

T. H. Izzard & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £1,000 in £1 shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a dealer in hardware, china and glass, &c., carried on by T. H. Izzard at 81 and 35, New Church-rd., Camberwell, S.E., and to carry on the same. Private company. Registered office, 81, New Church-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

Gover Clay Co., Ltd.—Registered capital, £5,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire a lease of certain china clay and mica deposits at Biscovillack; to adopt an agreement with T. C. Ellis, and to carry on the business of workers of and dealers in china clay, brick earth, and other minerals, &c. Private company. Registered office, Gover Works, Biscovillack, St. Austell, Cornwall.

The British Association and Stained Glass.—During the recent visit of the British Association to Dublin there was a fine display of stained-glass on view at the works in 24, Upper Pembroke-st., which was visited by a considerable number of the members, who were much interested in the process of the manufacture and greatly impressed by the high artistic level of the achievements of the artists.

Glass Works on Fire.—An outbreak of fire occurred on Sept. 15 in the vaults under the polishing room of Pilkington's Plate Glass Works, Cowley-hill, St. Helens, an extensive part of the works, which adjoins the warehouse where millions of feet of valuable plate glass are stored. It is full of large revolving benches for the purpose of polishing glass. The fire was speedily got under, with little or no damage to the engines and machinery.

The Glass Bottle trade at St. Helens is in a very depressed condition. Virtually the whole of the men employed in the trade are working short time, in some cases working a week and "playing" a week, but in others working a week and "playing" a fortnight. It is hoped that the Christmas orders will make the trade a little livelier, but the prospect for the winter is gloomy. Experiments are being made in the making of indented ring bottles by machinery.

The Census of Production.—Mr. A. Wilson Fox, comptroller of the department, writing to the secretary of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, says: "At the present time we have no reason to complain of the way in which manufacturers throughout the country have co-operated with the Board of Trade, and I hope if there are any districts where there is irritation or misunderstanding we shall be approached directly, and, if so, we will do anything in our power to meet any difficulties which stand in the way."

A Fire broke out recently at the Coatbridge Pipe Clay Works, Stobeross-st., owned and occupied by Mr. J. Graven, tobacco pipe manufacturer. When the works were closed at six o'clock everything appeared to be all right. While the family were at tea flames were observed piercing the roof above the ovens and drying kilns. The flames spread with great rapidity, and were fed by a supply of oil used for an engine. Mr. Graven's dwelling-house, situated close by, was also involved, and in a short time the entire buildings were gutted.

"Usher's Agencies."—Under this title, Messrs. T. J. Usher and F. T. Simmons have established themselves at Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C., as manufacturers' agents for china, glass and earthenware. They are representing Mr. James Kent, earthenware manufacturer, Longton, for his export trade; Messrs. George Procter & Co., china manufacturers, Longton; Mr. John Sadler, jet and Rockingham manufacturer, Burslem; and Messrs. M. & J. Guggenheim, glass manufacturer, 70 and 71, Fore-st., London, E.C.

Army Contracts Notice.—Notice has been given that tenders for specified quantities of chinaware, earthenware, glass ware, are invited from time to time as required. Manufacturers who may wish to be invited to tender for army requirements should state the particular articles which they manufacture, and the names of at least two well-known firms or public bodies who have purchased from them, and are in a position to certify as to the quality of their productions. The services of an intermediary are unnecessary in approaching the department for this purpose. No application is necessary from firms whose names are already on the War Office list. All applications should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, War Office, London, S.W.

Company Liens Recently Registered.—Burslem and Tunstall Fireclay Co., Ltd.—Issue of £350 debentures, part of a series of which particulars have already been filed.—— E. Coaney & Co., Ltd. (glass merchants, Birmingham)—Particulars of £4,000 debentures have been filed, the whole amount being issued on same date. Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. —— Carpalla United China Clay Co., Ltd., Cornwall. — Memorandum of deposit of deeds, Sept. 4, for securing all moneys now due, or hereafter to become due, or from time to time accruing due from the company on any account whatsoever (certain setts to work for china clay and the lease of a dwelling-house and land at Penbrough, St. Stephen's-in-Branwell, Cornwall).

Collapse of a Glassworks Furnace.—At the Tutbury Glassworks, on Sept. 5, the wall of one of the blast furnaces collapsed, and over thirty tons of red-hot liquid glass flowed slowly out. It was headed off from one part of the building by the hasty throwing up of a brick wall. It crossed the threshold of the room in which the chemicals are stored and swamped the barrels of arsenic, &c. Soon it set fire to these and to some packing cases, and the flames were soon communicated to the wood of the building itself. The hose from the adjoining engineering works was hastily rigged and connected with the large overhead tank. A plentiful supply of water was obtained, and soon an impression was made on the flames. In about an hour the whole incident was, however, at an end. The damage, owing to the prompt measures taken, was limited to about £50. It is covered by insurance.

Glass Bottle-makers' Wages.—The Labour Department of the Board of Trade has just issued a report on changes made in rates of wages and hours of labour in the United Kingdom during 1907. These include the following in connection with glass bottle-making:—England: advance of 2s. per week on weekly wages and 5 per cent. on "over-

work" rates as follows:—Bristol: half hole men (wage per week at end of 1907), 36s. 6d.; blowers, 33s. Lancashire: finishers, 34s.; blowers, 32s.; gatherers, 27s. Sunderland and Seaham Harbour: finishers, pale metal 34s., dark metal 31s.; blowers, pale metal 32s., dark metal 27s.; gatherers, pale metal 27s., dark metal 24s. Yorkshire: finishers, 34s.; blowers, 32s.; gatherers, 27s.; flint glass bottle-makers, 5 per cent. advance. Mexborough, Rotherham, and District: founders, teasers, &c., 3d. per shift advance. Scotland: advance of 2s. per week on weekly wages, and 7½ per cent. on "overwork" rates for makers (wage per week at end of 1907), 35s. 6d.; blowers, 33s. 6d.; gatherers, 25s. 6d.

Tenders Accepted.—The Kingston-on-Thames Guardians have accepted the following tender for half-yearly supplies:—Crockery ware, Defries & Sons., Ltd., 146–147, Houndsditch, E.C.; officers' ware, crockery and glass, William Huntsman, 42, Upper-st., Islington, N.—For supply of stoneware ducts for the L.C.C. Tramways, Stanley Bros., Ltd., Nuneaton, £2,250. —— Eton Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Atkinson for the half-yearly supply of china and crockery ware. —— Bermondsey Borough Council received the following tenders for the supply of 18¾ gross plain and opal glasses, various sizes, for repairing street lamps:—Pilkington Bros. (accepted), £15 1s. 3d.; Chater & Sons, £16 10s. 3d.; Farmiloe & Sons, £18 11s. 6d.; Clark & Son, £18 12s. 4d.

New Trade Marks in Class 16, advertised for registration up to Sept. 23 were as follows:—ASTRAL. 304,201.



Porcelain and earthenware. E. J. Shaw & Co., Astral Works, Hatherton-st., Walsall, Staffs.—Design as illustrated. 301,901. Porcelain and earthenware. F. G. Price, 53, Waterloo-street, Glasgow, and W. Jacks & Co., 5, East India-avenue, E.C. By consent. —— The following marks in Class 15 have also been advertised: — ASTRAL. 304,323. Glass, except glass globes and chimneys. E. J. Shaw & Co., Walsall. — CONDOR. 304,008. All goods included in Class 15. B. Cars, 124-130, Tabernacle-st., E.C.—Mark as illustrated.



305,013. Glassware included in Class 15. W. A. Bailey & Co., Ltd., 148, 149, 150, Audrey House, Ely-place, E.C.—EUPHOS. 304,492. Glass. K. Stockhausen, 49, Nürnbergerstrasse, Dresden A, Germany. Address for service within the United Kingdom is, care of Boult, Wade & Tennant, 111 and 112, Hatton-garden, E.C.—A device consisting of a glass tube marked "TOMAX," passing through a glass ring. 304,462. Glass tubes included in Class 15. F. Tomey & Co., Victoria-rd., Aston Manor, near Birmingham.—A device representing two linked hearts. 304,935. Glass bottles. Gale & Co., 145, Cannon-st., London, E.C

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during August, was 58, including 2 deaths, as compared with 48 cases in August last year. In addition to these, there were 23 cases and 5 deaths among house painters and plumbers during the month. In August last, there were 9 cases reported from the china and earthenware trades and one death, as compared with 3 cases and no death in August, 1907. In the 8 months ending August, 1908, there were 448 cases and 20 deaths reported under the Acts, compared with 320 cases and 18 deaths in the same period last year. Among house painters and plumbers there were 136 cases and 22 deaths in the first eight months of this year, compared with 104 cases and 26 deaths during the same period last year. There were 85 reported cases and 8 deaths in connection with china and earthenware in the first eight months of this year, as against 53 cases and 7 deaths in the same months of 1907, and with 76 cases and 2 deaths in the same period of 1906.

Tombstones of Pottery.—A contemporary quotes a proposal by a German artist, who suggests "that clay-workers would do themselves a good turn, as well as add more interest to many burial grounds, if they pushed the sale of tombstones made of clay instead of marble or other natural stone. We have ourselves on more than one occasion fired slabs, which are similar in many respects to tombstones, with perfect satisfaction in an ordinary brick kiln, and, providing that care is taken to prevent them from being 'flashed,' no difficulty need be experienced. The chief disadvantage is the length of time required for the slabs to dry, as they cannot be hurried, and usually take nearly six weeks, though this is not nearly so important in the case of tombstones as in matters of a more business-like nature." But there is nothing new in this suggestion. The author of the interesting book "Cup and Saucerland" (reviewed on another page) says: "Earthenware was occasionally put to a strange use—the making of headstones, examples of which may be seen in the churchyards of the Parish Churches of Burslem and Wolstanton, dated 1718 and 1767. They seem to have been made as recently as 1828." A few years ago, the Urban Council of The Lye, near Stourbridge, caused the removal of some small pottery headstones from the local cemetery — not because they were pottery, but because they had been placed there without authority. Professor Flinders Petrie has discovered pottery slabs in Egypt which date back to 1,000 B.C., and "soul-houses" of "baked clay" that go back to about 4,000 B.C.

Old Mortgages and Charges Registered.—The following statements of the total amounts outstanding on July 1 in respect of mortgages and charges created prior to that date and not required to be registered under Section 14 of the Companies Act, 1900, have been filed, pursuant to Section 12 of the Companies Act, 1907:—Barrett & Elers, Ltd. (glass manufacturers, London); charge, dated Nov. 17, 1902, securing £12,000.—— Booths, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, Tunstall; debentures, dated 1898, securing £6,000, and mortgages, dated 1899 to 1907, securing £12,350.——Park China Clay Co., Ltd. (Liskeard); particulars—Deposit of title deed, dated May 13, 1908, securing £400 (paid off July 22).——Twyford's, Ltd. (Hanley); first mortgage debentures, dated Jan. 4, 1897, securing £50,000.——Wedgwood & Co., Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers, Tunstall); debentures, dated Sept. 24, 1900, securing £7,000 and indenture of mortgage, dated May 2, 1906, securing £12,000. —— Cauldon, Brown-Westhead, Moore & Co., Ltd., porcelain manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent. — Mortgage, dated 1865, securing £9,897. —— Soho Mills Co., Ltd., flint grinders, &c., Tunstall.—Mortgage, dated 1897, securing £2,700. ——John Maddock & Sons, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, Burslem.—Debentures, dated 1896 and 1897, securing £20,000.——R. J. Parvin, Ltd., glass merchants, London.—Mortgage and second charge, dated 1903 and 1904, securing together, £800.——New Hall Pottery Co., Ltd., Hanley.—Debentures dated 1900, securing £2,500. —— Harrop, Hammond & Co., Ltd., glass manufacturers, Hartshill.—Mortgage on land and buildings in Vine-st., Hartshill, Worcs., dated Aug. 1, 1904, securing £1,500.—— Mintons, Ltd., china manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent.—"A" mortgage debentures, dated Aug. 11, securing 12,000, and "B" debentures, dated Aug. 12, 1892. securing £28,000.——T. G. Green & Co., Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, Church Gresley, Burton-on-Trent. Debentures dated 1900 securing £17,000.—— J. & G. Meakin, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, Hanley. Debentures dated 1890, securing £60,000.

Works Outings.—On Sept. 12, the employees in the cutting shop of Stevens & Williams' glass works, Brierley

Hill, went for an outing to Kinver. They enjoyed a pleasant ride by road to the historic resort, where they partook of an excellent dinner. Most of the company then repaired to the bowling green, where the several "champions" aired their ability, and an interesting competition was concluded. An adjournment to the music room followed, when a capital pianist was found in Mr. Ernie Homer, who delighted the company with his comic songs. Others added enjoyment to the programme. Before breaking up votes of thanks were unanimously passed to all those taking active parts in the outing.——On Sept. 12 the employees of the Blyth Porcelain Co., Ltd., Longton, had their annual outing, when they took a pleasant trip to Chester. Messrs. V. A. Forester, Wm. Platt Moreton, and George P. Platt, directors of the company, accompanied the party, and all went to the Cathedral for service. They afterwards dined together at the Hop Pole Hotel, when the toasts of "The Directors," "The Manager," and "The Workpeople" (proposed by one of the directors), were duly honoured and responded to. The company then visited various places of interest in the city; had a delightful trip on the Dee to Eaton Hall; and returned to the Hop Pole for tea, where an enjoyable musical evening was spent, in which a number of the visitors took part. ——On Sept. 19 the employees of Thomas Forester & Son, Ltd., Longton, to the number of about 370, and accompanied by upwards of 100 friends, visited the Franco-British Exhibition. They had a long day, having to leave about one o'clock in the morning. The arrangements, however, were most satisfactory, and the party enjoyed a hearty breakfast immediately on arrival at St. Pancras. They were then taken in a number of conveyances on a tour round London, visiting, among other places of interest, St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament, and the Tower. They were also driven through some of the principal West End streets to the Exhibition. A substantial dinner was ready for them in the refreshment room at the Machinery Hall, after partaking of which the company separated into groups and enjoyed the sights at the "Great White City." They assembled again for tea in the room at the Machinery Hall, and after that the remainder of the day and evening was spent in further visits to the pavilions and the amusements, and in admiring the illuminations. Conveyances took them to St. Pancras Station, whence they commenced the return journey at 11.15, and reached The Potteries safely and comfortably about 4.30 the following morning. The firm made a liberal donation towards the expenses, and the excursion altogether was a most enjoyable one.——The Franco-British Exhibition in London has been visited by many excursion parties from the Potteries, one of the largest being that composed of the employees of Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke, Winton, Upper Hanley, &c., Potteries.

The New Half-pint Glass.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Council of the Licensed Victuallers' Defence League of England and Wales, at Torquay, on Thursday, Mr. Isaac Turner, the president, occupying the chair, correspondence was considered with the Dover Association concerning a new half-pint glass (10 per cent. over measure) submitted to the Standards Department of the Board of Trade by the secretary and manager of the League. It was explained that in December last the inspector of weights and measures addressed a letter to the Dover and District Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society in reference to a certain popular drink known as "two of ale"—sold in a glass holding about one-third of a quart. It was decided to approach the inspector with a view to his holding his hand until after the new year, the society hoping that it had heard the last of the matter. In February, however, the inspector cautioned various licensed victuallers concerning the "two of ale." The society, wishing to keep within the law, issued a circular to their members, cautioning them that after March 8 they could not be held responsible for defending any member who might be proceeded against for serving drink in the alleged illegal measure. The new directions of the Board of Trade provided that a liquid measure in its capacity as clearly defined might have added to it a quantity not to exceed 10 per cent. of the marked capacity of the measure; also that on a glass measure in which the capacity was defined by a line the denomination of the measure should be plainly marked at the line. A glass manufacturer, taking advantage of these new regulations, had manufactured a glass which was stamped with an imperial measure, but contained 10 per cent. addition. This glass was taken exception to by the Dover inspector of weights and measures, and the secretary consequently placed himself in communication with the Deputy Warden of the Standards Department of the Board of Trade (Major MacMahon), from whom he had received the following reply:—Adverting to your letters with respect to a glass half-pint measure forwarded for inspection, I have to state that the measure referred to is in accordance with regulation 35 of the Board of Trade regulations, 1907, and could be lawfully used in the sale of quantities of a half-pint, but the Board can express no authoritative opinion as to whether a person using such a glass to sell "two of ale" would not be liable to conviction under the Licensing Act, 1872. The secretary explained that after submitting the measure to the Board of Trade department, he consulted counsel, and as a result came to the conclusion that the glass was perfectly legal, and the Board of Trade now declared that it was a legal measure. A long discussion followed. Mr. Gillard (Cardiff) said licensed victuallers in Wales had sold "sleevers" and "threes to the quart," and they had been prosecuted, except at Cardiff, where they had not been molested. The President said he should be sorry to see over-measures made legal. Competition should not be in quantity, but in quality. Although their friends in Wales and other parts had used this measure, it would be better if they returned to the use of the legal standard. Mr. Leeder (Leicester) said his experience of the public was that the more they gave them the more they wanted. Captain Boghurst (Portsmouth) urged that the League ought not to support such a measure as that in question, but that licensed victuallers should stick to the standard measure. If one town was allowed to do this, it would be cropping up all over the country. Mr. Morrall (Bridgnorth) moved that members of the Dover Society should be informed that it would be illegal to use the measure if they filled it. Mr. Clifton (Peterborough) seconded. The Secretary appealed to the council not to go before the country and make themselves ridiculous It had been distinctly stated by the highest authority in the land, that the measure was in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Trade, and that it could be lawfully used for quantities of half-a-pint. According to the letter read, wherever this glass was used the Board of Trade supported it, but it was not desirable that a more than legitimate quantity should be supplied. The President urged that the use of these indiscriminate measures was dangerous and calculated to do the publican an injury in the matter of his trade. Mr. Jackson (Stoke-on-Trent) said they would do all they could to discourage the "long pull." The motion was carried unanimously.

In these most strenuous times few good things come
To those who ask, and fewer to the dumb;
The hawker, who his wares so loudly cries,
Gives you the hint that you should advertise.

THE POTTING TRADE WAGES ARBITRATION.

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

THE long-delayed arbitration between the pottery manufacturers of North Staffordshire, and their oganised workpeople, on the question of the increase in wages demanded by the operatives in March, has at last been held. It is not the fault of the employers that it did not take place earlier; most of the delay which has taken place has been due to the temporising of the representatives of the workpeople, who seemed anxious, perhaps not unnaturally, to put off the inevitable inquiry as long as possible, in the vain hope that things would pick up a little. The arbitration opened on Monday, Sept. 14, at the North Stafford Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C., Counsel to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who was nominated by the Speaker as the independent chairman and umpire to the newly-formed "Board of Conciliation and Reference for the Staffordshire China and Earthenware Manufacturers and Operatives." Mr. J. C. Bailey, of Doulton & Co., Ltd., of Burslem, is the President of the Board, Ald. Thomas Edwards of the Ovenmen's Society being the Vice-Chairman. The Board has met on several occasions, and endeavoured to effect a settlement of the various questions which arose in the spring, but, failing agreement, Mr. Moon was called upon to arbitrate, in accordance with the rules, his decision being final and binding upon both parties.

The questions at issue were (1) a claim for an advance of 15 per cent. in wages to hollow-ware pressers, flat pressers, jolliers, jiggerers, turners, handlers, slip makers, dish makers, baker makers, printers, and transferrers engaged in the earthenware trade. (2) A claim for an advance of 10 per cent. in wages to oven men, saggar makers, dippers, kilnmen, and female lead workers associated with the oven department. (3) A demand that maximum sizes of flat ware should be fixed; (4) a demand that the sizes and counts of ware should be fixed; and (5) 61 separate matters affecting the operatives engaged in the jet and rockingham trade. The new Board has only existed for a few months, and it is rather an odd coincidence that its first arbitration should have opened exactly forty years, to the day, after the first meeting of the original Potteries Board of Arbitration, which took place on Sept. 14, 1868.

The proceedings were conducted at the North Stafford Hotel, very few persons being present, except those who were immediately concerned. The Rector of Stoke (the Rev. H. V. Stuart), who did so much towards settling the sanitary trade strike last year, and towards preventing a general stoppage this year, was one of the few members of the general public who attended, and he spent as much time in the arbitration room as he could conveniently spare. The manufacturers sat together at a table almost facing him, and the general operatives' representatives clustered about Mr. J. Lovatt, their secretary, on the umpire's right. Mr. Thomas Edwards, the Ovenmen's secretary, conducted his case separately from that of the general body of the work-people. The members of the Board present at the opening of the proceedings were:—Mr. J. C. Bailey, Mr. H. J. Johnson, Mr. W. H. Grindley, Mr. W. Bloore, Mr. G. Blair, Mr. Cecil Wedgwood, Mr. John Ridgway, Mr. C. S. Jones, Mr. J. F. Maddock, Mr. J. S. Goddard, Mr. G. Elliot Meakin, representing the manufacturers, with their secretary, Mr. A. P. Llewellyn, and his assistant, Mr. G. H. Beetenson. The operatives' representatives were:—Messrs. T. Edwards (vice-chairman), Mr. J. Lovatt (secretary), Mr. J. Booth, Mr. S. Clowes, Mr. Noah Parkes, Mr. W. Capper, Mr. A. Hollins, Mr. J. Wilcox, Mr. C. Gale, Mr. W. Woodfield, and Mr. R. Bennett.

At the commencement there was a long discussion as to whether the manufacturers were entitled to employ Counsel to conduct their case. Mr. B. C. Brough, barrister, had been instructed on their behalf, but the work-people objected, and though the manufacturers very properly claimed that they were within their rights, they eventually gave way on the umpire pointing out the inconvenience which would arise if he were to have to watch the proceedings from the other side in order to equalise the case for the operatives. He did suggest, however, that, in future cases, it would be helpful if he were to have the assistance of learned Counsel on both sides. The upshot of the discussion was that Mr. Llewellyn was left to conduct the case for the manufacturers, and Mr. Lovatt for the general operatives.

At first the various questions were presented together, in a somewhat mixed manner, but the Chairman, in a very business-like way, disentangled them, leaving in the end only the main question of the advance in wages for the immediate consideration of the Board. The question of counts, for instance, was on the suggestion of the Umpire, referred to a Committee of the Board, under Article 15 of the Rules. Similarly, it was agreed that the jet and rockingham questions should be referred to another committee, or, if preferred, to the full Board, which, at some future date, would sit under the presidency of Mr. Moon, or of a Chairman appointed by him. With respect to the fixing of maximum sizes of flat ware, an objection was taken by the masters to the Umpire entertaining this claim unless the question of minimum prices was also dealt with. The Umpire, after some debate, held that as no agreement had been arrived at to refer the question of maximum sizes to him, and that, as the question had not been dealt with at the earlier conferences of the Board in accordance with the rules, he had no jurisdiction to entertain it. Thus three of the five questions were removed from the scope of the arbitration, but this was not done until a certain amount of evidence had been taken of sizes and counts, the nature of which may be briefly indicated. It was contended by the operatives that flat ware was not properly designated, and that what was termed, for example, an 8 inch plate was frequently, in point of fact, a 10-inch plate, though the flat presser was only paid the price of making the 8-inch plate. As there was an average difference in price between an 8-inch plate and a 10-inch-plate of 6d. per score, this practice, they maintained, meant a considerable reduction to the wages of the worker. It was also contended that the "dozen" was constantly getting larger, and that, in some articles, it meant as many as 72. Printers and transferrers who get paid a given price "per dozen," it was urged, were placed at a great disadvantage by such lengthening of the "count" and the Umpire was asked to give such an award as would fix a definite limit to both counts and sizes. Mr. Llewellyn, however, was able to produce evidence that the operatives had themselves suggested that a margin not exceeding $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches beyond the nominal size of the ware, should be allowed for all plates of 5 inches and over, and that the manufacturers had refused to agree to any margin of less than two inches. He quoted this as showing that the workpeople had at first been willing that there should be, at any rate, some substantial margin, and he further pointed out that the manufacturers did not pay their workpeople for one size and charge their customers for another, at any rate; if this were done at all, it was only in isolated cases in the home market, and he exhorted the Umpire not to ask all the manufacturers to dislocate their businesses because of the faults of a few. For 25 years the Americans' size of plates had been some two inches beyond the nominal size, and if the North Staffordshire manufacturers were compelled to alter the existing custom, it would, he said, be most disastrous and enable their competitors in other parts of the world to reap an advantage. As already mentioned, the Umpire ruled this question out of his jurisdiction, while the matter of counts was referred to a Committee.

The clearing of these questions, and the jet and Rockingham dispute out of the way, left the main issue, that of the proposed advance of wages, unobscured, and the whole matter was thrashed out in a most thorough manner. Mr. Lovatt, who had marshalled his facts well, and laid them before the Umpire with vigour and point, said that it would perhaps appear at first that the operatives were in a very weak position, in view of the fact that the country was now passing through a period of bad trade, but it had to be remembered that last year there was a trade boom, and manufacturers in the potting trade obtained an advance of 5 per cent., and, a little later, another of $3\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. The POTTERY GAZETTE was quoted in support of this statement; in fact, the "Gazette" was referred to frequently by both sides, and here we may be permitted to say—and it is a circumstance that the operatives quite neglected to bring out, for obvious reasons—that we have several times distinctly stated that the advance was not obtained in the American market, and only to a very limited extent in the home market. We have also been at pains to make it plain from time to time, that, even where the advance was secured, it did not recoup the manufacturers for the extra burden placed upon them by the higher price of coal, and potters' materials. This by the way. Mr. Lovatt went on to argue that the operatives were entitled to share in the higher prices which were being obtained by the employers. Potters' settling day, he remarked, came only once a year, and, when it did come, the operatives, he thought, were entitled to have both halves of the previous year taken into account, and to share in any prosperity there might have been during the first half of the year. Other arguments he advanced in support of his claim for higher wages were the increased cost of living, the higher price of fuel, and the necessaries of life, the great pressure at which the potter has to work, the skilled character of his craft, and the dangers to which the work sometimes exposes him. A number of witnesses afterwards gave evidence in support of Mr. Lovatt's opening statement, including Mr. Jabez Booth, Mr. John Foster, Mr. W. Capper, Mr. Noah Parkes, and Mr. S. Clowes.

When the case for the general operatives had been closed, Ald. Thomas Edwards presented the case for the oven-men, saggar makers, female lead workers, connected with the oven departments and other operatives whom his union represents. Ald. Edward, is one of the shrewdest leaders the men have ever possessed. He handled his case with conspicuous ability, dwelling particularly upon the heavy character of the work of the oven-man, and the difficulty he had in making both ends meet on a wage of only 5s. per day. Supposing a man had a wife and three children, and he spent 4s. 6d. weekly on rent, 9d. on rates, 2s. on coal, 1s. on sick and insurance clubs, 7d. on light, 1s. on boots, 1s. 6d. on clothing, and

9d. on sundries, he would only be left with 12s. 11d. to provide for the meals of five persons, seven days a week. Taking three meals a day as necessary, this would mean 105 meals a week, and if each meal cost only 1¾d. per individual, the cost would be 15s. 3d., or 2s. 4d. more than the man's wages provided. He contended that 5s. per day was an insufficient wage to enable an oven-man to properly perform his work, maintain himself in a suitable state of health, and give adequate support to his wife and family. Referring to dipping house women, he spoke of some who worked a whole week for a wage of 8s. 6d., whereas other employers were paying 12s. or 14s. for similar work.

Mr. Llewellyn, on this, suggested that it would be much fairer to the manufacturers who were paying a fair wage, if attempts were made to compel the delinquent manufacturers to pay higher prices, rather than to demand an advance from both sets of manufacturers alike, thus handicapping those who paid the higher wages. The Umpire observed that this was a point which had been impressing itself upon his mind very much, and Mr. Llewellyn assured the operatives that the Manufacturers' Association would be only too pleased to co-operate with the operatives in bringing about the object which had been indicated.

Evidence was then called by Mr. Edwards, and some of the witnesses admitted, in cross-examination, that many oven-men received a bonus over and above their day wage, this being calculated upon the amount of ware they succeeded in making each oven deal with, beyond a certain quantity.

The second day of the arbitration was drawing to a close when Mr. Llewellyn rose to submit the case for the manufacturers. Though forced, at the last moment, to fall back upon his own resources, after the case had been placed in the hands of counsel, he conducted the case for the manufacturers with conspicuous ability, showing a thorough grasp of the facts. His opening speech was a powerful one, and presented a solid phalanx of fact and argument in opposition to the general advance demanded by the workpeople. Trade, he said, was deplorably depressed, and the award of the Umpire must be based upon the present state of the industry, and not, as Mr. Lovatt had implied, upon its state some time ago. What would be said of manufacturers if they were to ask for a reduction when trade was good, because it happened to be bad two or three years ago? He quoted many authorities in support of his statement as to trade depression, and asserted that any advance in wages, or alteration in trade usages, would be fatal both to manufacturers and to operatives. The expenses of manufacturers had increased largely during recent years; foreign competition necessitated the bringing out of new shapes and designs of the highest artistic quality every year; the Factory Acts and the Workmen's Compensation Act imposed heavy burdens on the employers; the insurance of workpeople against lead poisoning, and the medical examination necessitated a heavy outlay; fire insurance premiums had doubled since the last arbitration; district rates had increased to a large extent, and the cost of fuel and materials had also gone up considerably. All these, and other facts, he put forward as showing how the manufacturers' margin of profit had been reduced, and, as to the advance in selling prices of which certain manufacturers gave notice last year, it only referred to the home trade, and in the present state of trade, it would be difficult in many cases to obtain orders at the advanced price. Respecting the oven men, he submitted, that the hardships of their work had been exaggerated, and he reminded the Umpire that any award he might make would not be binding upon the manufacturers of other pottery producing districts in England, and would place North Staffordshire manufacturers at a disadvantage as compared with them.

Mr. J. C. Bailey, general manager of the Doulton Potteries at Burslem, chairman of the Manufacturers' Association, president of the Board of Conciliation and Reference, and an ex-president of the North Stafford Chamber of Commerce, then gave evidence. In his opinion, he said, the workpeople could not have chosen a more inopportune time to ask for any advance, as, during the last 28 years, he had never known a time when orders were so difficult to obtain, or of so scrappy a character. At his works they had done their utmost to help the workers by making for stock, and their stocks had increased so much that they had had to considerably increase the amount of their insurance. The orders received by his firm for the twelve months ended Aug. 31, showed a reduction of 20·2 per cent. as against the previous year, and the depression was increasing rather than otherwise; yet manufacturers were under the same "dead expenses" as when trade was brisk. As showing the keen competition British pottery had had to face in recent years, he stated that while German exports of ware to the United States were less than £300 in value in 1880, in 1890 they had increased to £100,000, while now they were £1,040,000. Meanwhile the English figures had been decreasing. The Japanese exports of pottery to the United States were also now equal in amount to the English. Referring to the difficulties of manufacturers to-day, he complained that the productions of his firm were copied by the Americans, and he produced a catalogue issued by an American firm, which, he said, contained nothing but copies of his firm's goods, made by an American firm, who even called the goods by the Doulton name. This meant that his firm had either to drop that trade entirely, or to be continually getting out new designs in shapes and decoration.

An important piece of evidence put in by Mr. Bailey was a table designed to show that the wages of the workers, generally speaking, were higher than the operatives represented them to be. The table, it was explained, was compiled from returns sent in by 30 of the largest firms in the Potteries, and the earnings set out, were averaged over a period of 13 weeks between May 2 and Aug. 1, during which time most of the works were not running full time, so that the employees did not get full wages. The table stated that the plate makers of the whole of the 30 firms received, on an average during the 13 weeks under review, £1 8s. 9d. per week; the jiggerers and jolliers, £1 15s. 1d.; the dish makers, £1 10s. Id.; the cup makers (men), £1 11s. 2d.; ditto (women), £1 0s. 7d.; the saucer makers (men), £1 13s. 9d.; ditto (women), 16s. 11d.; the hand basin makers, £1 15s. 10d.; the hollow-ware pressers, £1 4s. 9d.; the printers, £1 4s. 3d.; the transferrers, 10s. 10d.; the dippers, £2 1s. 6d.; the saggar makers, £1 12s. 1d.; the mouldmakers, £1 18s.; the throwers, £1 7s. 10d.; the turners, £1 6s. 10d.; the handlers (men), £1 8s. 2d.; ditto (women), 14s. 7d. The witness invited the chairman to have these figures verified by a sworn accountant. In cross-examination, Mr. Lovatt quoted a paragraph from the POTTERY GAZETTE of July, 1907, with a view to showing that Messrs. Doulton's had not had so bad a year for trade as had been represented. The paragraph stated that the accounts of Doulton's, Limited, for the year 1906, showed that, after writing off £7,133 for depreciation, and £500 for goodwill and paying the preference dividend, there remained a balance of £12,726, which it was proposed to carry forward. Mr. Bailey at once pointed out that the paragraph showed that the ordinary dividend was passed, and asked to be allowed to make the paragraph part of his evidence.

Mr. J. S. Goddard, of G. L. Ashworth & Bros., Hanley, gave statistical information, showing the course of the British export trade in pottery, and put in two carefully drawn charts which showed that in 1891 (the year of the last arbitration) the total exports of ware from the United Kingdom were £1,900,000, while in 1907 they rose to £2,600,000, the highest figure yet touched. On the other hand, Germany's exports of ware, which in 1891 were only £1,600,000, had risen in 1906 (the last completed year for which the figures were available) to the huge sum of £5,300,000. They also showed that while in 1895, the United Kingdom's exports of ware to the United States were about £920,000 in value, last year they were only about £620,000, whereas Germany's exports to the same country, which, in 1895, were only £380,000 had increased last year to £1,040,000. He also put in various other tables which, he said, showed, as a whole, that there was very intense and severe foreign competition going on with manufacturers in this country, and any additional expense would make the position worse.

Mr. Cecil Wedgwood (of Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Ltd.), another witness, said that his firm had been driven out of the Russian market by the Germans, and a great deal of their Italian trade had gone to the Italian makers, who used Devon and Cornwall clays; the Dutchmen were copying Wedgwood cream-coloured ware, and marking the ware "Wedgwood," while at home they had to meet competition all round.

Mr. John Ridgway (of Bedford Works) amplified the evidence of previous witnesses as to the severity of foreign competition, especially in the United States market, and put forward some interesting reasons for the decline in the English dinner ware trade. In London, in many hotels, the head men were Germans, and when they ordered ware, they gave the preference to their own countrymen. Another reason he advanced was that an increasing number of people lived in flats and dined at restaurants, and thus did not need dinner services of their own.

The last witness, Mr. W. A. Grindley, of Tunstall, said that trade was too bad to justify any increase in wages, and that there had been a great falling off this year in the volume of orders received for the American market by Johnson Bros. (Hanley), Ltd., J. & G. Meakin, Ltd., Alfred Meakin, Ltd., and his own firm. During the last twelve years his own trade in toilet ware with the United States had declined by something like £20,000 a year.

The inquiry concluded at 5 o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 16, and the Umpire issued his award on the following Monday. The award refused the advance asked for by the general trade, but made a small concession to oven-men, its main clauses being as follows:—

It was agreed that my decision should operate from July 30, 1908. After duly considering the statements made and the arguments used by and on behalf of the operatives and manufacturers respectively on Sept. 14, 15, and 16 current, I have come to the following conclusions:—

I decide that, whatever the trade prospects may have been when the operatives' notices demanding an advance in wages were handed in six weeks before March 25, 1908, existing trade conditions do not admit of any general advance.

This decision is given without prejudice to any cases there may be where manufacturers are not paying the usual standard wages or are not conforming to standard trade usages.

I decide that the oven men employed at the standard rate of wages, namely. 5s. a day, are to receive an advance of five per cent., unless bonuses or allowances are paid amounting to five per cent. or more above the standard rate.

Mr. J. Lovatt, the secretary of the Pottery Workers' Society, has published a statement to the effect that the leaders of the Pottery Workers' Union prefer not to say much, as at this time they may be easily misunderstood. They only wish to reiterate that Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C., gave a patient and careful hearing to the case. The evidence was, in his opinion, against the operatives. They are, however, thankful that a section of their workers have been awarded a slight advance, and it is the first time a separate award has been given to any branch. Moreover, it is the first time any advance has been obtained by the operatives by arbitration since the first Arbitration Board was formed in 1868. "It is gratifying to know that in the opinion of the umpire 5s. per day is not sufficient for an oven-man, and even in a state of bad trade 5 per cent. advance has been given. It is reasonable to suppose that 5s. per day would also be considered too little for a wheezy flat presser or asthmatic hollow-ware presser, and the same would apply to other branches, and it would seem that once it can be proved that they do not earn more than this amount there is hope that, in the near future they will be able to get it."

Foreign Notes.

Stettin Felspar Exports amounted to 285 metric tons in 1907, being 47 metric tons more than in 1906.

Earthenware and China to the value of £11,921 were imported into Kansas City during 1907. The value is the highest since 1904.

Glassware with guilloched ornaments is dutiable at 15 fr. per 100 kilos. on importation into Switzerland, according to a recent Customs decision.

Glass and Crockery to the value of £2,746 was imported at Reykjavik (Iceland) last year. Denmark supplied £1,966 worth and the United Kingdom £741 worth.

Tiles of white, non-transparent glass, for mural decorations (so-called tiles of *fonte de porcelaine*, *silhyo* or opaline) are dutiable on importation into Switzerland at the rate of 7 fr. per 100 kilogs.

Earthenware and Pottery of common varieties to the value of £485,560, and weighing 46,716,600 kilos. were imported into France during the six months ending June 30, 1908. The figures show a steady increase.

Porcelain Tableware to the value of £1,182,900, and weighing 14,338,200 metric tons, was exported from Germany during the first six months of the current year. The export during the corresponding period of 1907 amounted to 15,440,400 kilos., valued at £127,385.

New Austrian China-clay Deposits.—It is reported that some important beds of china-clay have just been discovered in the Tyrol, near Landeck, and they are to be exploited by a German company. A German syndicate has also arranged to acquire concessions in regard to land near Tettiren, which is said to be very rich in china-clay.

Pottery and Glass at "Rio."—In the imports of earthenware and china to Rio de Janeiro, both in 1906 and 1907, the United Kingdom comes first and Germany second, other countries being far behind. In the importation of bottles, flasks, goblets and tumblers Germany is first and other countries entirely out of the running. As regards glass and crystal, Germany comes first, France second, and Austria-Hungary third. In window glass Belgium is well ahead of other competitors, and the United Kingdom comes second.

Chicago China and Earthenware Imports.—The imports of china and earthenware into Chicago continued to increase steadily last year, reaching nearly £3,000,000 in value, over one-third coming from Germany. The United Kingdom supplied £655,000 worth, an increase of £40,000, while over £500,000 worth came from France. Austria-Hungary and Japan both supplied less than last year. The direct importations to Chicago were valued at £234,360, a marked increase over former years, but those from the United Kingdom, although slightly more than in 1906, show a loss of £15,000 from 1903.

New Continental Glass Works.—A new company, the Flerohopps Bruks Aktiebolag, has been established at Flerohopps Bruk (Landybgden), with a capital of 50,000 kroner, for glass making. The manager is Mr. C. A. Svenssan, proprietor of the Flygsfors Glasbruk, Madesjö Socken.—A new works is being erected by a Belgrade company, at Kostelatz-on-Danube, for the manufacture of plate glass, and will be ready to start operations by the end of the present year. The new glassworks at Paracin has now been started, but, for the present, is only making hollow ware, to compete with imported Austrian ware.

U.S. Customs Decisions.—The following decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—Moulded-glass bottles imported filled with perfumery and fitted with cut-glass stoppers are not dutiable as separate articles of merchandise, the bottles under paragraph 99 and the stoppers under paragraph 100 of the Tariff, but are collectively dutiable as entireties at the rate of 60 per cent. ad valorem, under paragraph 100, as articles of cut-glass. So-called "Thon Kegel" or "Seger Kegel," which are composed of clay and chemicals, have not been baked or fired, are in the shape of cones or pyramids, and are used in ascertaining temperatures of furnaces or kilns, are dutiable at the rate of 20 per cent. ad valorem, under Section 6 of the Tariff, as unenumerated manufactured articles.

Crockery and Glassware in China.—The following notes have been received from Sir A. Hosie, acting commercial Attaché to H.M. Legation at Peking. The imports of chinaware, including crockery and earthenware, most of which comes from Japan, were valued at £80,758 in 1905, at £92,867 in 1906, and at £86,701 in 1907, so that, although there was a decrease of about £6,000 in 1907, as compared with the import of 1906, the 1907 figures exceeded those of 1905 by a like amount. Japan has become a strong competitor for supplying China with glass and glassware; in 1906 she sent nearly 50 per cent. of the total. Japanese glass is not so fine as European but is cheaper, and, if broken, can be replaced at a moment's notice, as stocks are kept in Shanghai. It is, of course, more difficult to replace European glass, and there is always the risk of breakage en route. The value of the total import of glass and glassware into China in 1907 was £176,901, nearly £20,000 ahead of 1906, and 56·34 per cent. greater than the average annual import of the previous five years.

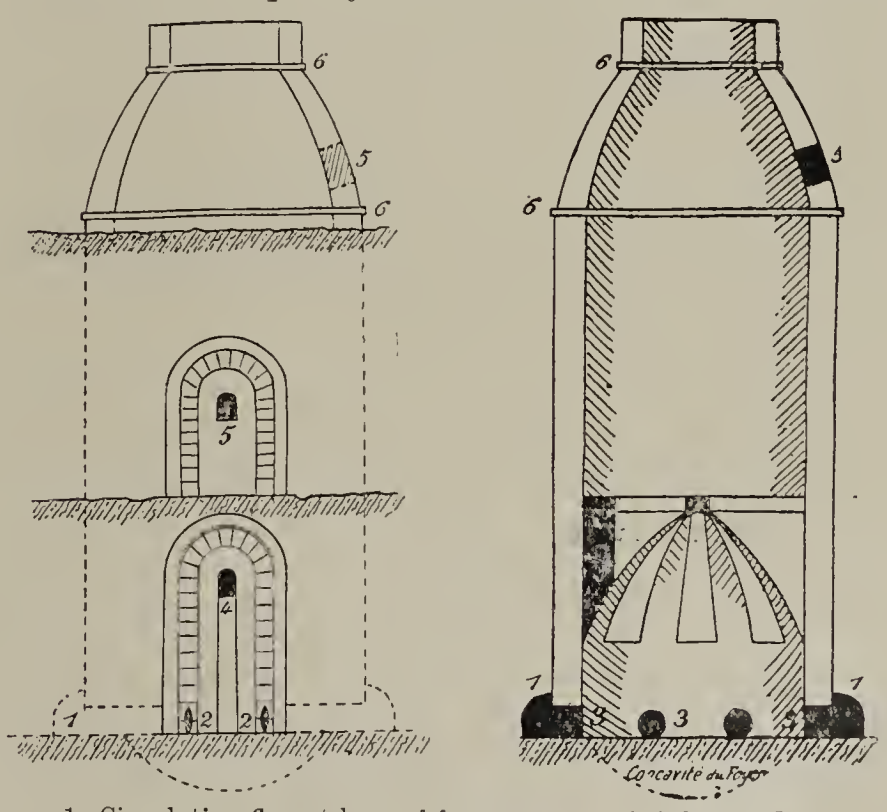
Glassworkers' Congress.—An international congress of glassmakers, which was opened at Paris at the end of August, fixed the annual subscription at 20 centimes, payable quarterly. It tentatively accepted for the period of one year the proposal of the German delegates to have the functions of secretary performed by the permanent delegates. The German glassworkers, whose trade unions number 17,000 members and who are highly organised, have undertaken the secretariat of the new international federation free of expense. A difference of opinion existed between the Belgian and German delegates and the French, the former emphasising the importance of political action, while the latter are less inclined to expect benefit from Parliamentary interference. There was much discussion on the possibility of reducing the hours of labour and abolishing night work. The latter, as a French delegate pointed out, would involve in many cases in this country the reconstruction of the furnaces. It was decided that, in the event of a strike, foreign glassworkers would refuse to take the place of the strikers. The Congress terminated on Sept. 1. Before dispersing, the delegates discussed the question of the use

of machinery. A French delegate remarked that workmen now no longer regarded the effect of the use of machinery as a laughing matter, though at the outset they had not taken too serious a view of the question. An English delegate advocated the workmen seizing all the glassworks and working them for their own benefit. Resolutions put forward by Italian and French delegates in favour of glass-workers organising so as to derive the greatest possible benefit from machinery, and in favour of a propaganda with a view to a redistribution of wealth, were adopted by the Congress, which then broke up.

Modern "Terra Sigillata" Ware.—The beautiful coral red Roman pottery known as "terra sigillata," which has been successfully imitated at the Royal Porcelain Works, Berlin, must necessarily have been produced by very primitive methods, no special artistic skill being required, and the ordinary potter's muffle furnace sufficing for the baking process. First produced in Italy —where the industry flourished at Arretium in the last two centuries preceding the Christian era—this ware was introduced into France and Germany during the Roman occupation. Owing to the large demand, works were soon established in both these countries, one large manufacturing centre being at Rheinzabern (Tabernae Rhenanae) in the Pfalz district, where hundreds, of kilns some still containing ware, have been discovered. The same ware was also produced at the Roman city of Nidda, near Frankfurt, and probably also at Seulberg, near Hamburg. The chief characteristic of the best sigillata ware is the velvety lustre, undimmed by centuries of burial. This gloss was long regarded as due to a fusible glaze, containing lead, boric acid, silica, &c., but all experiments with a view to reproducing the same effect on these lines failed, the velvety appearance being lacking. The author expressed the opinion that the original glaze must have been made by a comparatively simple process, and, by working on this basis, K. Fischer, of Sulzbach, finally succeeded in obtaining ware possessing all the characteristics of true sigillata ware, in the following simple manner: The unbaked or biscuit ware is coated with a slip of red clay, or clay that turns red when fired, and this coating is polished to a high lustre before being fired on. The ware is sufficiently baked when the engobage has reached the hard or refractory stage. This new terra sigillata can be made in a variety of colours, a paticularly fine effect being obtained with copper patina, and another with a velvety black. The former is specially adapted for art tiles, and the latter for Grecian vases.

French Bauxite Exports.—According to official figures, the quantity of bauxite exported from France in 1907 was 110,915 tons, valued at £95,000. The French deposits, continue to be the most important in the world, both in extent and value. The first valuable beds were found in the neighbourhood of Les Eaux, a few miles to the west of Marseilles, which accounts for its name. At present, according to the American Consul-General at Marseilles, the chief sources of supply are in the department of the Var, a few miles east of Marseilles, from which exports are made. From a mineralogical point of view, bauxite is a non-silicated earth of the oxide family. It may be compared somewhat with corundum, and with emery, which is merely a variety of corundum. Indeed one of the chief uses to which it is put in the United States is for the manufacture of an artificial corundum. It is also utilised in that country in the manufacture of aluminium, alum, and various refractory products. This last application is of comparatively recent origin, and is by no means so extensively generalised as in France, although it is beyond doubt, that as a refracting material for lining furnaces in which the corrosive action of the basic slag must be resisted the utility of bauxite is very great. The consulting engineer of the city of Marseilles has stated that in 1907 the production of aluminium was 25,000 tons, requiring for the manufacture thereof 120,000 tons of red bauxite; the manufacture of refractory products consumed 180,000 tons of other bauxite; the total production of this mineral, therefore, was 300,000 tons in 1907 Since a year ago the exploitation of French bauxites has developed considerably, this being due to the fact of the establishment of a number of new factories, in which use is made of processes the patents for which have expired. Rich deposits of the mineral have been found in different localities, until now unexplored, and in the opinion of the Marseilles engineer the French bauxite deposits are inexhaustible. The most expensive quality of bauxite is the white ore, which yields 60 per cent. of aluminium, 4 per cent. almost of iron, and which is without silica. This ore is utilised in the manufacture of chemicals. Next in value comes the red bauxite, containing 60 per cent. of aluminium and 3 per cent. of silica, which is converted into aluminium. Third in order comes a special white bauxite for the manufacture of refractory products, containing 45 per cent. of aluminium, traces of iron, and much silica. It is believed that bauxite enters largely into the secret processes of the French makers of fireproof china.

Improvements in Arabian Kilns.—The important modification introduced into the primitive Arabian kiln by Sicard consists in a system of aeration, to facilitate the gasification of the fuel, by means of a circulating flue, at the bottom of the kiln, for distributing the air throughout the furnace, the air supply being regulated by bricks placed in front of the air inlets. The kiln is preferably sunk into the ground, being erected on a slope so that the base of the furnace is flush with the lower level of the ground, whilst the upper floor of the kiln can be reached from the higher level, for convenience in loading and unloading the kiln. Ordinary bricks are used in constructing the kiln throughout, the natives using unbaked brick except for lining the kiln; and it is found that this kind of lining will stand the influence of the fire for a considerable time, the resistance depending, of course, on the quality of the clay employed. This modified kiln is said to be not only very practical, but also cheap, both as regards construction and the consumption of fuel. The ordinary dimensions are about 10 ft. in internal diameter and 15 to 17 ft. in height (measured in the kiln proper), and they will take 17,000 to 18,000 bricks or



1. Circulating flue at base of furnace; 2. Air inlets to flue;
3. Air inlets at base of furnace; 4. Charging hole for fuel;
5. Holes for loading and unloading kiln chamber;
6. Iron bands.

circular tiles. The fire is started with a little wood, and kept up with dry dung collected generally from cavalry barracks. This fuel costs about 28s. per charge, or 1s. 7d. per thousand bricks, and the item of labour amounts to 16s. per charge (11d. per thousand), so that the total outlay is 2s. 6d. per thousand. The time occupied in burning a charge is about 48 hours. Where dung is not available, equally good results are obtained with small timber and brushwood. In countries where fuel is expensive, such as Algeria and many other colonies, these kilns are very useful.

The German Glass Industry.—In his report to the Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce on the glass industry of Germany during 1907, Director Theodore Wieseler says, generally speaking, the favourable prognostications formed as to 1907, on the basis of previous conditions were fulfilled during the chief part of the year: the disturbances which have since marked the course of business not having been fully experienced during the period under review. The rise in the German rate of discount, acting as a storm signal, warned manufacturers against undue extension of their operations, thus exercising a salutary influence, which has alleviated the effects of the subsequent financial troubles. Although sales were generally in somewhat lower grades than in the previous year, what was lost in quality was made up in quantity, most concerns which followed closely the tastes of their customers doing as large a turnover as before. The advances established by manufacturers were accepted by the trade, buyers in many cases being glad to secure deliveries; while the slow rate at which the latter were made indicated that order books had been copiously filled. The operation of various combinations of manufacturers tended in the direction of securing for wholesale distributiors the equivalent of the advanced values of goods. Higher prices were, in many cases accompanied by improvement of quality, so that a close community of interest was established between manufacturers, jobbers and retailers, by no means adverse to that of consumers, who now can, at moderate expense, share in the luxuries to which their higher wages would seem to entitle them. Growing foreign markets offer, it is remarked, assurances of these conditions favourable to German industry being maintained. The period under review witnessed no falling off in the demand for ordinary hollow glassware in high grades, and many works having given up that branch as not being lucrative the factories still in that line were able to sell their produce rapidly, the slight advances in lists being readily conceded. The opinion is expressed that buyers should make timely provision for new working forces by means of apprentices. Owing to the protracted strikes at Weisswasser (Silesia), poduction was more or less disorganised and a settlement was only found possible on the basis of a 15 per cent advance in wages. Efforts are now being made to bring about a combination of manufacturers in this branch of the glass industry. Works in this line having maintained their normal production, the needs of the trade were promptly supplied at steady prices during most of the year, but towards the close inquiry fell off, with the result that temporary concessions were offered by manufacturers. Good qualities met with general demand, while inferior grades could only be moved with difficulty. Hence, most factories have acquired the right to use the selenium process. A resolution was adopted early this year for the increase of prices by 10 per cent. The good, heavy quality of the American pressed glass, specially imported for the German market, continues to attract the buying public, particularly in medium qualities. One reason for the success of American crystal ware in Germany probably exists in the fact that German factories in that line (as the report points out) cannot fully meet the wants of their home market, so that French, Belgian and Bohemian articles supply the bulk of the deficiency.

TECHNICAL TEACHING IN THE GLASS AND POTTERY TRADES.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

(*Continued from page* 1066.)

THIS work was done by one of the students from Lambeth School of Art. His name is now famous far and wide. George Tinworth's lovely Scriptural reliefs are known to all as pictures in clay of the highest excellence.

I have often thought of the few days I spent at that factory, where jugs, mugs, ginger-beer bottles, inkpots, and crucibles were the staple production, and I can trace the nucleus of this present great art pottery to the brains of the leaders and the skill of their first modest artist.

Apropos of this, my friend E. Cooper, Esq., J.P., of Brierley Hill, has called my attention to the fact that the Doulton family originated from his district. Sir Henry's father lived in Foster-st., and was employed (as was Sir Henry as a youth) at Westwood & Moor's stoneware pottery. This building was taken down a short time since. It was quite near to Messrs. Stevens & Williams' Glass House.

Messrs. Doulton, being anxious to advance their art work, naturally took advantage of the opportunities which fortunately offered. I am now speaking of about 1870 to 1875.

A school of pottery painting was opened at Kensington Gore, close to the Albert Hall, under the management of Mr. Hugh Minton, the art teacher and director being Mr. W. S. Coleman. Practically all the painters were from South Kensington Museum, and the school was in part under that management.

Mr. Lionel Pearce (son of Mr. Pearce of the old firm of Phillips & Pearce, of Bond-st.), now of the Dennis Glass Works, who was one of the students, has given me much valuable information as to the work done there.

Mr. Coleman was a well-known painter, and he did work himself at the studio of the highest class. There was a fine exhibition of his china painting in rooms in Lower Regent-st. I well remember the pleasure I derived from examining these lovely works, embracing, as they did, treatments of almost every variety of natural object, yet with great ornamental feeling. His treatment of the figure also was most delicate and refined. (His Christmas cards many will remember.) Under such training the students advanced rapidly.

Unfortunately, this excellent instruction ceased after a few years, the studio being burnt down, through faulty construction in the flues, and it was not rebuilt.

Amongst the lady students who made names for themselves as painters on china was one who was related to a noted etcher and engraver. Miss Barlow stands out as an original genius. Taking a lump of clay, this talented lady made delicate slabs of it, and etched them with the most charming outlines of horses and cattle in a thousand actions; these etchings were then filled with a colour, such as manganese or cobalt, and fired under the influence of a salt glaze. The line was, in consequence, softened on the edge, giving great beauty to the effect of the work.

Messrs. Doulton supplied the modelling clay for the students, and did what clay firing was necessary at that time; and naturally, this special work was taken up by them. Vases and jugs of homely shape decorated in etching, were soon fashionable, and the style of what we now know as "Doulton Ware" developed from this early form of line decoration.

Painting was soon afterwards started, and Messrs. Doulton took advantage of the work done in the art schools and pottery studio by employing many of the students who had been trained there. It will not be

necessary for me to give the names of all those I have a knowledge of, but I must mention one of exceptional merit who was a South Kensington student as well as a student at the pottery studio.

Mr. John Eyre, whose paintings in water-colour are often to be seen in the various galleries, after leaving the studio, directed the painting department at Messrs. Phillips' studio in Oxford-st., and then went to Messrs. Doulton's as their director. His work is too well known for me to add more than a personal appreciation of its worth.

I have shown here, in Messrs. Doulton's works, that a valuable art and industrial ceramic business was built up, or at least made possible, by the education given in the art schools of the country. It will be seen that these students were, by the system pursued at South Kensington, not drawn from London only, but from Great Britain and Ireland.

Messrs. Powell, of White Friars, supplied the glass and did the firing for the windows painted by the students under the direction of Mr. F. W. Moody. I know that the master glass painters benefited by the work of many students so trained.

Mr. Minton Campbell, M.P., was a frequent visitor to the training school and studios, as he took a great interest in the mosaics which were executed by lady students under the instruction of Mr. Cooper, who had himself gained high awards for works in the national competitions in the art schools. Mr. Campbell engaged several of the young artists in Mr. Moody's studio for Messrs. Minton's works in the Potteries, with which he was connected. One of these was William Wise. He was known as an etcher and painter of great skill before he left London, and I believe that many artists in the Potteries owe much to his teaching.

I have given some of the names of students who have influenced the industries we are now considering, but it, almost appears invidious to have mentioned them when I think of the many excellent designers, painters, and modellers who now work in these industries (amongst them being pupils of my own) who have had their training in art schools.

Much of the work done in the country must of necessity have escaped my observation. One can know few of the great army of art workers who have been produced by the various classes and schools throughout the country.

So far, no science teaching has been mentioned as being taught specially for our two industries. In fact, although excellent schools for teaching science were in existence, no special examinations were held, to my knowledge, until the City and Guilds of London Institute commenced their system. This Institute began its work in 1878. Four or five years later there were three or four classes only in our special industries under this authority. One or two in the Pottery towns for pottery, one in London (Messrs. Powell's works) for glass, and one (of which I was master) for pottery at Coalbrookdale (Coalport China Works and Encaustic Tile Works). On my moving to this district—Wordsley—I taught a class in glass, and also one in pottery, both being very successful. Of these two classes, the first started in the district in these technical subjects, the pottery unfortunately ceased, but the glass has advanced, as we shall see later, and is now doing excellent work.

Professor Turner, of the Birmingham University, has lately suggested in a powerful speech at a public meeting in Stourbridge that a school for the teaching of ceramics special to this district should be instituted. Professor Turner, when he was Director of Education for the Staffordshire Education Committee, used his influence in aid of the technical class in glass in Wordsley to the utmost of his power, and since then he has not failed to work in aid of the same cause. I trust that his suggestion may be realised, and that the County Council of Worcestershire will give the needful aid to Stourbridge, so that a well-equipped laboratory specially fitted for the clay industries may be established.

Before closing these remarks as to the City and Guilds of London Institute, I wish to speak of the value of their work. I know many who have benefited largely from the knowledge gained through these classes, but, at the same time, I feel that masters and men should take a much greater interest in this work than is now done. With examiners of such high distinction as Mr. Wm. Burton, F.C.S., in pottery, and Mr. W. Rosenhain in glass, interest must surely grow from year to year. For some years after the pottery studio (for painting) at Kensington Gore was burnt down there was no direct class or school devoted entirely to either pottery or glass; yet in the various schools of art throughout the country, and especially in those towns connected with these industries, much good teaching was given and many clever students produced, as was shown by the annual exhibition of students' works.

Some years since, however, a special pottery school was opened in the Royal College of Art at South Kensington (I am now using the new name for the old Training School, which I have so far used, and in the remaining part of this paper I shall speak of South Kensington Museum under its new name of the Victoria and Albert Museum). I am very anxious to draw attention to this school, because I believe that a great future is in store for it. Its position in London alone, and its proximity to the splendid examples of ancient and modern art in the museums and collections there, give it opportunities which no other place in the kingdom can possess. The addition of a school for glass-making and decoration would add materially to the usefulness of this institution, and the cost need not be much, as the present muffles, &c., used in the pottery school would do for a time at least, and the cost of an installation for cutting and engraving would not be large. The blanks for the purpose of teaching would, as in the case of pottery painting, have to be bought of the large makers. Scholarships for advanced students in the local schools in pottery and glass should be offered, and when awarded, the scholarship—a maintenance one, of course—should be taken at this school.

The master of the pottery school, Mr. Richard Lunn, is a man in every way suited to the work he has in hand. He has a wide knowledge and experience, and the students who have the fortune to be trained under him well know this.

Mr. Lunn is an old friend and fellow-student of mine. Shall I just give a picture or snapshot of those student days, so dear to me, though forty years have passed?

I see clearly the old Life Room with its great flaring gas sunlight making the room hot as a southern clime. On the daïs stands the finest model of the day—Westall—in a pose which brings out his splendid form and colour. In the great circle of easels, how many there are I know! I go round and talk with them as I used in those days so long gone by. Here is Morgan, now Master of the Mint, at Washington. There Woods, Gregory, and Herkomer, whose work in enamels brings him in touch with our two arts, all now with Academy honours and known the world over. There Clausen, but lately elected to this degree, is carefully trying the tones of colour on his canvas; and here are men who later took up glass painting. Further on, others who devoted themselves to pottery painting. Here, side by side with the writer, is Lunn modelling a high relief study.

Leaving this picture, I will turn to the work Mr. Richard Lunn has in hand at the pottery school at the

Royal College of Art. The following extract from the prospectus shows the scope of the instruction :—"The object of this class is to illustrate in a simple and inexpensive manner principles and facts relating to the making and decorating of pottery, enabling students to design, make shapes, and decorate them, with a knowledge of the requirements for this important industry."

"*First Course.*—Materials—composition of body or paste. Clays and their contractions. Making of tiles—plain, embossed, &c. Mould making. Shapes—made by using jigger and jolley—by turning upon the lathe—by casting with slip—by pressing. Dip ware—slip painting. Firing biscuit ware.

"*Second Course.*—Decoration by painting with underglaze colours and coloured glazes. Hardening on and glazing. Firing glazed ware. Decoration in enamel colours. Firing enamel kiln. Della-Robbia ware—Majolica and Oriental tiles."

Mr. Lunn was for some years connected with the Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Works, where, though there was no actual pottery school yet, the youths in the modelling, painting, and gilding shops were bound to attend the local School of Art.

Further, Mr. Lunn gives me the following valuable information :—

"Outside the Pottery district about twenty schools of art do pottery in some form or other, but not many fire their work. At the Royal College of Art I have a Fletcher, Russell & Co.'s gas muffle kiln; inside measurement of muffle is 18 in. by 14 in. by 14 in. ; this is satisfactory for class work. At Redhill School of Art, Surrey, they have one the same size. Wimbledon has one, but rather smaller. These classes are taught by Mr. Alexander, at one time a student in my pottery class. Leeds School of Art has one. This class is taught by Mr. Broughton, another student from my class. Blackheath School of Art, Lee-rd., has one the same size as mine. Camberwell London County Council School of Arts and Crafts has ordered one. The latter classes are taught by myself. Burslem School of Art has just got one."

It will be seen then that there is a growth, in work and interest, in the teaching of potting due to Mr. Lunn's teaching and initiative.

Here I must mention the class in stained glass. Earlier in this article I stated that this work had been done here (South Kensington Museum) in Mr. F. W. Moody's studio many years since. Now a special class is established under the able teaching of Mr. C. W. Whall. The course embraces the past history of stained glass, present methods, and practical work. In the same establishment is a class for teaching engraving and etching under the noted etcher, Mr. Frank Short, R.P.E. This subject is of the greatest importance to the pottery and glass trades, and the knowledge gained here has been of great use in these industries.

Of course, the greater part of the teaching given in the Royal College of Art is general teaching in the various art subjects, such as modelling (Professor, E. Lantéri), design and crafts (Professor, W. R. Lethaby), decorative painting (Professor, Gerald E. Moira), &c. This teaching is of the very highest importance in our two industries, and the names of the professors give a guarantee of the high quality of the instruction given in these classes.

The teaching of the art schools of the country is tuned up, so to speak, by that of the Royal College of Art, with which they are all related. The excellent effect of this training on the glass industry by local art schools I have already stated in your pages ("The Portland Vase," Jan., 1908), and I need not further enlarge on so well-known a subject, except to point out the admirable work done in the Potteries, notably in Burslem, by Mr. Thorogood, the headmaster of the School of Art there.

Staffordshire is remarkable in regard to our two industries in that in the extreme south the most important flint glass industry of the country is situated (Wordsley and district), and that in the north are the "Potteries," a number of towns having one common industry and known the world over.

The Staffordshire County Council, through its Education Committee, have therefore a great responsibility, in that for some years they have had to direct the technical and art education of the county, and, where necessary, to initiate. Fortunately for the county, this has been done well, considering the limited means at their disposal. Mr. F. E. Kitchener, M.A., the first chairman, was extremely active in forwarding technical education throughout the administrative county. Mr. Jones, the first Director of Education for Staffordshire, was of great assistance also ; in fact, to him in a great measure Wordsley owes the initiative of the Technical Institute and glass-making class, which, after many years of patient toil on the part of its promoters, have been lately completed (THE POTTERY GAZETTE, 1897).

It is remarkable how few facilities there are the world over for the special study of glass making. At Wordsley, we have apparently the only permanent class for this subject in the English-speaking world. The United States, with its admirable system of education, has done nothing in this direction. Sir C. Purdon Clarke, Director of Art Education there, writes me as follows :—"I am not aware that there is any technical instruction in glass making given in Government schools, although in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, there are institutions of private foundation where the same work is carried on as in the English polytechnics ; but in neither of these is there any equipment for glass making."

Education in this subject is not a local question only, but a national one. Special measures should be employed to help forward what is understood to be a declining industry. That vast amounts of foreign glass could be replaced by home make, and at a profit, is not, I think, out of the bounds of possibility, providing the right conditions of manufacture and educated labour are present. That a much larger grant to the Wordsley Glass Making Class should be given by the various authorities is clear when one considers the great importance of the subject.

The examining body under which the Wordsley class is carried on is that of the City and Guilds of London Institute, whose excellent system is also in use at the Staffordshire Pottery School at Tunstall. The examination tests are usually excellent, but in my opinion the elementary papers do not quite savour enough of the glass house. For it must be remembered that the lads in this stage are simply "takers in" or helpers in other ways, and this part of the examination should be to increase their interest and arouse their powers of observation. In this stage questions should also be set as to suitability of forms and means of decoration for the various processes used in glass manufacture.

To teach so highly technical a subject as ours, it is necessary that the master should himself have a thoroughly practical knowledge of every detail. Wordsley has been most fortunate in this. Mr. F. Carder, who came from an old family of potters and who is now connected with the Steuben Glass Works, Corning, U.S.A. (whose valuable paper on "Glass Making in Germany" was circulated by the Staffordshire County Council), was master for a long period. He, as well as his brother, Mr. George Carder, who is master now, and whose address on "Glass Making" to the Midland Association of Art Masters was printed and circulated by them, have had a life's training in the well-equipped glass works of Messrs. Stevens & Williams.

Both Mr. Frederick and Mr. George Carder were students originally of the Wordsley art classes.

(*To be continued.*)

GLASS DECORATION.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

(*Continued from p.* 1428, *Vol.* XXXIV.)

CHAPTER VII.

FROSTING GLASS WITH ACID.—Many plans are adopted for imitating the dulness produced on glass by the vapour or hydrofluoric acid or by the sand blast. The principle of all of them is to coat the glass with an opaque or semi-opaque composition, and there is obviously a very wide range of selection of suitable substances for the purpose. The following recipes include some of the best compositions known: Grind starch with nut oil, adding at the same time a little sugar of lead to act as a drier, proportioning the starch to the oil according to the degree of opacity which is to be required from the film. The composition is applied with a brush, dabbing it on as uniformly as possible with the ends of the hairs of the brush. Any crystallisable salt may be dissolved in water and applied with a brush after thickening the solution with a little gum. Too much gum must not be used or it will hinder the crystallisation. If it is found possible to apply the solution quite evenly without gum it is better to dispense with the adhesive. If the glass is perfectly clean when the application is made, the probabilities are that the crystals will adhere quite firmly enough. Alum, borax, sugar of lead, Epsom salts, sulphate of copper, and many other salts can be used and give very good effects. Care must be taken that the solution is not too strong, but no rules can be given. No two salts can be used in the same strength of solution and only experience will show which strength gives the nearest approach to the particular kind of effect desired. The dry coat of crystals can be protected from weather or the effects of washing the glass by a coat of colourless oil or varnish, or better still by a solution of raw india-rubber. These varnishes must be used thin and applied with care to avoid detaching the crystals. An excellent coating for glass which is weatherproof and washable once it is thoroughly set is made by mixing kaolin or porcelain clay with a solution of water glass of 1·2 specific gravity in proportions according to the degree of opacity required. The mixture can, if necessary, be coloured, and is applied with a brush.

CHAPTER VIII.

BEVELLING GLASS.—Of late years it has been a very common practice to grind the edges of sheets of plate glass to a chisel or wedge like edge. This is called bevelling. The bevelling produces certain prismatic effects which are not without their value as the bevelled edge is optically considered a prism and has the dispersive action on light of any other prism. Inasmuch, however, as the angle of the prism is small in the case of bevelled glass, the dispersion—*i.e.*, the separation of white light into its component colours—is also small and the chief effect is that the bevelling makes the plate look much thicker and more solid than it really is. The advantage of this from certain points of view is sufficiently obvious. It is due to the effect produced upon the eye by rays reflected from parts of the unground surface which are near together entering the eye from different directions. Glass bevelling is done in two distinct ways. In the more common method the plate of glass is brought into contact with a grinding surface of sandstone which is vertical, being the face of a grindstone rotating on a horizontal axis. The other method is to have the glass horizontal and the grindstone inclined. It is evident that the proper angle between the stone and the glass must be kept true in either case. In working the first method the sheet of glass is firmly held at the proper angle from the vertical in a frame. This frame has a reciprocating horizontal movement whereby it rubs the glass over the vertical face of the rotating stone. In the second method the glass moves backwards and forwards on a horizontal bed, its edge passing under a circular stone rotating upon an inclined axis. To bevel the edge of a circular sheet, the glass is given a rotatory instead of a reciprocating motion, care being of course taken to centre it properly and to fix it down firmly to the rotating bed. The bevelled glass is finally polished as described in the special chapter relating to that process.

CHAPTER IX.

IRIDESCENT GLASS.—There is no department of the glass decorating industry over which so much mystery hangs as the subject of the present chapter. The iridescent effect depends mainly upon superficial etching of the surface, whereby optical effects are produced due to the interference of light. This action may be produced in two ways. The first is to take advantage of the powerful action of superheated water, by which we mean water from a high pressure boiler. It is well known that the boiling point of water is an extremely variable temperature, depending mainly upon the pressure. Thus water boiling in an open saucepan one day may possess a different temperature from the same water boiling in the same saucepan on some other day, the difference being due to variations in the atmospheric pressure and in a steam boiler the pressure is artificially made far greater than any natural atmospheric pressure. Water is under any circumstances one of the most powerful solvents we possess, and few compounds can resist it when it is heated to temperatures considerably above 100 deg. C., which it can be, if the escape of its vapour is prevented by a sufficient pressure. Glass yields readily to water under such conditions, and, as like all other solid masses, it is never uniform in texture and composition, its surface becomes irregularly acted upon. Hence the subsequent effect upon reflected light. The action of the water is usually assisted by other substances, of which hydrochloric acid is one, and if soluble colouring matters are used at the same time, a superficial and irregular coloration of the glass is produced, and adds considerably to the beauty of the effect. It is quite obvious that this effect depends upon the composition of the glass and upon the temperature and composition of the liquid which acts upon it. Only empirical knowledge of the subject exists. It is known that certain kinds of glass acted upon for certain times by liquids of certain constitutions produce approximately the same results when the conditions remain the same. As long as the effect does not differ from that expected beyond certain limits, this uncertainty is rather advantageous than otherwise, for the *raison d'etre* of iridescent glass consists quite as much in its endless variety as upon anything else. The temperatures chiefly used range from 120 deg. to 150 deg. C. If they are too high or the action is unduly prolonged, the glass is simply disintegrated.

The second method depends upon a remarkable property possessed by gelatine. If a solution of gelatine is evaporated, it behaves in what may be called a normal manner until it begins to set. It then contracts with very great force, and this contraction has a special effect upon the surface of glass or glazed porcelain, *i.e.*, porcelain covered with a superficial coating of glass. The contraction actually tears up the glass in places, and the resulting ridges not infrequently show iridescent hues after the

manner of mother-of-pearl. Here, again, a colouring matter may be used and the effect produced depends upon the nature of the glass and upon the rapidity with which the gelatine sets, *i.e.*, upon the rapidity of the final stages of the evaporation. Speaking generally, the best effects are obtained when the final evaporation is fairly quick. Inasmuch as the surface of iridescent glass is of a very delicate nature, it unavoidably suffers from the drawback of being very susceptible to wear. Much handling will soon reduce the iridescence to a minimum and the glass is therefore employed only for objects which are practically exempt from friction, and which do not require much cleaning. They can be dusted with a soft brush many times, however, without suffering any appreciable damage.

CHAPTER X.

Decorative Grinding and Cutting.—Beautiful decorative effects are obtained by cutting grooves into the thickness of glass by which means flat or curved surfaces inclined at various angles to one another are produced. Glass-cutting, properly so called, leaves the surfaces clear and transparent, while grinding may be intended either to leave a matt or dull surface, or, as in the case of lenses for optical instruments, to leave the glass with its full transparency. Glass cutting is done with wheels of various materials which are rotated on a horizontal axis, as in a lathe, the glass being pressed against them by hand, in constantly changing positions which evidently have to be regulated by the result to be produced. Everything depends upon the manual skill of the operator. There is a good deal of analogy between his work and that of a knife or scissors grinder. If the knife grinder lets the edge of the knife be acted upon too long at one point by the grindstone, his work is spoiled, and so with the glass-worker and his mill. A mill consists of very few parts. There is the rotating wheel, a reservoir above it for feeding its edge with the cutting material of which the wheel itself is simply the carrier and the means by which it is brought into contact with the glass, and a trough below to catch the stream as it leaves the glass. Cutting wheels are from 3 to 18 inches in diameter according to the class of work to be done. The glass is first roughly worked down to shape with cast or wrought iron discs, fed with sand and water, These rapidly remove most of the glass that has to be cut away, but leave the surface dull and matt. Hence their action is followed by that of smoothing wheels of fine sandstone supplied with water only. The final touches are put with wooden polishing wheels covered with felt or leather. The glass passes a succession of these, fed with finer and finer emery, and finally with rouge or putty powder (stannic acid, $Sn.O_2$). Engraving wheels for cutting patterns are made of copper and fed with emery or carborundum. They are necessarily always small. In fact, the largest used do not exceed a few inches in diameter, and some are no larger than a pin's head. It is self-evident that large wheels could not be made to follow the intricacies of a pattern. They are fed with emery of various grades of fineness, always ending up with the very finest, but beginning with a grade depending upon the character of the work. If the lines have to be engraved deeply, a coarse emery is used first, so as to accclerate the removal of most of the glass to be got rid of, but for fine engraving the very finest emery may be used from the first. In grinding glass for a matt surface, whether with sand, with emery, or with any other abrading agent, the great rule must be borne in mind that the coarser the sand, &c., the whiter the glass will be. At the same time, however, the coarser the abrading agent the greater is the chance of producing visible scratches. Another most important thing to remember is that in the production of a matt surface, whether of coarse, medium or fine grain, it is impossible to get a uniform appearance unless the abrading substance is in grains all of the same size. Sifting is thus a most essential operation in glass grinding, for economy dictates that the same sand, &c. must be used over and over again. Now, however uniform in grain it may have been when an operation was started, there will be serious differences when it has been used a few times, or even after once using with a very hard kind of glass. Levigation is probably better than sifting, as the sand inevitably wears the sieves and so widens the meshes. Filtration of the water into which the waste sand has been received through canvas filters of various degrees of coarseness, is also a very good plan.

In all cases, the part of the glass cut into requires polishing after the cutting is finished to give it its full transparency. This is done with pumice, emery, or rouge. The finer the powder used the better the polish will be, but for reasons of economy it is usual to employ two or more lots, winding up with the finest that it is contemplated to use. It is of the utmost importance to clean off each grade of polishing powder entirely by rinsing with water before beginning work with a finer sort. If this precaution is omitted, the surface will be left scratched. The amount of water used must also be regulated. The finer the polishing powder the less water must be used, but experience alone will enable the proper amount to be judged. The powder rinsed off is allowed to accumulate at the bottom of the rinsing vessel, and is ultimately dried and sifted for use again. The above is the general process for smoothing and polishing glass. If a dull or matt surface is wanted, coarse emery is the only thing which will be required. If a pattern has been bitten into the glass with hydrofluoric acid or the sand blast, the ground can be matted or polished without affecting the pattern if care is taken.

(*To be continued.*)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNTY POTTERY LABORATORY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

XX.—THE IMITATION OF FIRED POTTERY BODIES.*

By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc.

One of the principal claims of rational analysis is that it readily adapts itself to the compounding of pottery bodies either in imitation of a given body whose rational composition is known. or in the substitution of one material for another in a given recipe. It also furnishes a somewhat simple method of experimentation. I have proved, however, that the method of rational analysis is unreliable, and frequently furnishes absurd results (Pottery Gazette, 35, 1,060, 1908). But whatever be the merits of the rational analysis, the insolubility of clay substance which has been fired above 1,000 deg. renders the process futile in resolving the constituents of a *fired* body into "clay substance, felspar, and quartz." In fact, it is not possible to determine the rational composition of a fired body by the present-day methods for rational analysis.

There is a prevailing opinion that when a body is compounded from two clays—say ball and china clays—along with, say, Cornish stone and flint, the problem of finding how much of each clay has been employed in the original recipe is beyond the powers of chemistry. I shall show, however, that an ultimate analysis of the raw materials and of the *unfired* body enables this problem to be solved within the limits of experimental error. Moreover, the proportions of raw materials employed in making up a given *fired* body, whose ultimate analysis is known, can be determined in a similar manner, subject to the small error due to volatilisation of silica, alkalies, &c. (J. W. Mellor and F. Austin, Pottery Gazette, 35, 681, 1908; *Trans. Eng. Cer. Soc.*, 6: 129, 1908), and the permitted experimental errors of analysis.

For the sake of illustration, let us suppose it be desired to imitate a given fired body, whose ultimate analysis is known, from a mixture

* *Trans. Eng. Cer., Soc.* 7, —1908.

of ball clay, china clay, flint, and Cornish stone, when the ultimate composition of each component is known.

PROBLEM.

A fired body contains :—

Silica	*67·18 per cent.*
Alumina	*27·37* ,,
Ferric Oxide	*1·05* ,,
Magnesia	*0·15* ,,
Lime	*0·72* ,,
Potash	*2·42* ,,
Soda	*1·11* ,,

It is desired to find the proportions of ball clay, china clay, flint, and Cornish stone which must be employed to furnish a body with the same ultimate composition when the analyses of the available raw materials are as follows :—

TABLE I.—COMPOSITION OF RAW MATERIALS.

	Ball Clay.	*China Clay.*	*Flint.*	*Stone.*
Silica	*49·12*	*47·10*	*98·47*	*70·30*
Alumina	*33·60*	*39·42*	*1·02*	*16·62*
Ferric Oxide ...	*1·75*	*0·23*	*0·04*	*1·54*
Magnesia	*0·17*	*0·24*	*nil*	*0·08*
Lime	*0·45*	*0·31*	*0·02*	*1·54*
Potash	*2·24*	*0·16*	*0·11*	*5·39*
Soda	*0·91*	*0·08*	*0·04*	*2·57*
Loss on Ignition...	*11·78*	*12·24*	*0·13*	*0·55*
Totals	*100·02*	*99·78*	*99·83*	*98·59*

We first eliminate the "loss on firing" from the analyses of the raw materials, and calculate the relative proportions of the different constituents in the fired clays, flint and stone by simple "rule of three." Thus, 100·02 less 11·78, or 88·24 of fired ball clay has 49·12 of silica, hence, 100 of fired ball clay has 55·666 parts of silica. This furnishes the following table :—

TABLE II.—CALCULATED COMPOSITION OF FIRED CONSTITUENTS.

	Ball Clay.	China Clay.	Flint.	Stone.
Silica	55·666	53·804	98·766	67·182
Alumina	38·078	45·031	1·023	27·366
Ferric oxide	1·983	0·263	0·401	1·051
Magnesia	0·193	0·274	nil	0·149
Lime	0·510	0·354	0·020	0·723
Potash	2·539	0·183	0·110	2·418
Soda	1·031	0·091	0·040	1·110

Next compute the amount of "oxygen in the acids" of the two clays, flint, stone, and the given body ; then the oxygen in the alumina, and ferric oxide ; add the two latter results and call the sum "oxygen in sesquioxides" ; and, finally, calculate the amount of oxygen in the magnesia, lime, potash and soda, and call the result "oxygen in bases."

For example : 40 parts of MgO carries 16 of oxygen, hence 0·193 of MgO carries 0·077 of oxygen ; 56 of CaO carries 16 of oxygen, hence 0·510 of CaO carries 0·146 of oxygen ; and similarly, 2·539 of K_2O carries 0·432 of oxygen ; and 1·031 of Na_2O carries 0·266 of oxygen. The sum

$$0·077 + 0·146 + 0·432 + 0·266 = 0·921$$

represents the amount of oxygen in the bases of ball clay. When each material is treated in this manner we get the following table :—

TABLE III.—PROPORTION OF OXYGEN IN FIRED CONSTITUENTS.

	Ball Clay.	China Clay.	Flint.	Stone.	Given Body.
Acid	29·689	28·696	38·243	52·675	35·831
Sesquioxides	18·514	21·270	8·449	0·494	13·193
Bases	0·921	0·266	2·094	0·035	0·964

Now let a, b, c, d represent the respective proportion of *fired* ball clay, china clay, stone, and flint in the given body, such that

$$a + b + c + d = 1 \quad .. \quad .. \quad .. \quad (1)$$

Equate the "oxygen in acids" such that

$$29·689a + 28·696b + 38·243c + 52·675d = 35·830 \quad .. \quad (2)$$

Equate the "oxygen in sesquioxides," Al_2O_3, Fe_2O_3, and we get

$$18·514a + 21·270b + 8·449c + 0·494d = 13·193 \quad .. \quad (3)$$

Finally, equate the "oxygen in bases," and

$$0·921a + 0·266b + 2·094c + 0·035d = 0·964 \quad .. \quad (4)$$

Four equations, four unknowns. The equations can therefore be solved by algebra. Using equation (1) to eliminate b in (2), (3) and (4), we obtain—

$$0·993a + 9·547c + 23·980d = 7·135 \quad .. \quad .. \quad (5)$$
$$2·756a + 12·821c + 20·776d = 8·076 \quad .. \quad .. \quad (6)$$
$$0·655a + 1·828c + 0·231d = 0·689 \quad .. \quad .. \quad (7)$$

Eliminating c in (5), (6) and (7), we have, from (5) and (6),

$$13·596a - 109·077d = - 14·366 \quad .. \quad .. \quad (8)$$

and from (5) and (7),

$$4·442a - 46·040d = - 6·372 \quad .. \quad .. \quad (9)$$

Solving equations (8) and (9) for d furnishes

$$140·571d = 22·694 ;$$
$$\therefore d = 0·161$$

Solving (8) and (9) for a, furnishes

$$140·571a = 33·582$$
$$\therefore a = 0·239$$

Substituting these values of a and d in (5), we get

$$9·547c = 3·027 ;$$
$$\therefore c = 0·317$$

Substituting these values of a, c, and d in (1) furnishes

$$b = 0·283$$

These values of a, b, c, and d furnish the proportions of fired ball clay, china clay, flint, and stone respectively in the fired body. It now remains to reverse the calculation employed in converting Table I. into Table II., in order to obtain the amounts of unfired ball clay, unfired china clay, unfired flint, and unfired stone which must be employed in making up the given body. Thus, 100·02, less 11·78, or 88·24 parts of fired ball clay come from 100·02 parts of unfired ball clay, hence, 0·239 of fired ball clay come from 0·271 of unfired ball clay. We thus obtain the table :—

TABLE IV.—CONVERSION OF PROPORTION OF FIRED TO PROPORTION OF UNFIRED CONSTITUENTS.

	Fired Constituents.	Unfired Constituents.
Ball clay	$a = 0·239$	0·271
China clay	$b = 0·283$	0·323
Stono	$c = 0·317$	0·324
Flint.....	$d = 0·161$	0·162

Converting the last column into percentages we obtain the following recipe for the given body :—

Ball clay	25
China clay.....	30
Stone	30
Flint	15

Of course, I do not claim that a body made up with this recipe will be exactly like the original body, even if the new body be fired at the same temperature as the body being imitated, but this recipe does furnish the only mixture of the available raw materials which will give a body of the same ultimate composition. The original body may have been made from different raw materials from those just indicated, or from the same raw materials differently treated. In neither case would the two bodies be necessarily identical. However, it is obviously a great help to get so close to the original body with a first trial. The method of calculation can sometimes be simplified in an obvious manner. Had the titanic oxyde, TiO_2, been expressed in the above analyses, its oxygen would have been added to the silica oxygen in making up the "oxygen in acids."

The method just outlined can also be extended to glazes, glasses, and frits. It can also be employed for calculating the mineralogical composition of clays provided the compositions of the individual minerals which make up the clay be known. It also suggests that if we could learn to think in terms of oxygen in acids, sesquioxides, and bases, the advantages offered by the rational analysis in compounding bodies could also be claimed by the ultimate analysis, and there would be no danger of the confusion which is introduced by rational analyses such as those illustrated in my note, POTTERY GAZETTE, vol. xxxv., p. 1060.

I desire to thank Mr. G. Campbell—a student in the pottery classes—for solving the numerical equations for me.

"Where Ignorance is Bliss."—A lady in the china shop was heard to remark, "I do not like white china ; it shows the finger-marks so plainly."

CLAYWORKERS, OLD AND NEW.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

TO the thoughtful collector of old china and pottery, the greatest charm of his fascinating hobby is not the delight of merely gloating over some choice specimen of the potter's art, enchanted by its delicate tint or chaste design, nor in the selfish sense of possession, but rather the pleasure of trying to form in the mind some idea as to the personality of previous owners of his ceramic treasures and indulging in speculations as to how many different individuals had at one time or another owned or handled the various articles in his cabinet. How many men had called his vase or his tureen theirs? How many "a thirsty old soul as ere drank a bottle, or fathomed a bowl," had waited impatiently for his old toby jug to be passed their way? How many pretty eyes admired the roses and true lovers' knots on the quaint basin? How many shapely hands handled the old teacup? How many dainty lips pressed its fragile rim? Some collectors go further and would know something of the actual makers of their crockery, wondering what manner of men they were who in troublesome times, when bloody wars distracted the nations, could with clear eye, firm hand, and easy mind settle down to pot-making. Others allow their thoughts to dwell upon the many different and varied conditions under which the old potter worked, some in poverty, literally burning the household "sticks" to light up the kiln fire, some working within the precincts of a palace, under the smile and patronage of royalty.

Very few persons, however, trouble to give a thought as to the clay used by those old-time potters, or speculate as to what lucky accident led to its discovery and working, nor who the finders, nor who the getters. Here and there are found one or two who are acquainted with the fact that Cookworthy discovered china clay in Cornwall about 1745, and that it was known to the Chinese 200 years B.C., and are content that this should sum up their clay learning, although there are deposits of clay found all over England, and signs of clay-getters repeatedly met with. Sometimes this occurs at very queer places and very awkward times, never perhaps at a more inopportune moment than when Sir Christopher Wren, laying the foundations of St. Paul's Cathedral, found in the north-east corner a pit from which all the pot-earth had been robbed by old-time clay-getters, necessitating his sinking 50 ft. down to and through the old sea beach to the original clay. In all parts of the world and in all ages men have engaged in clay-getting for domestic, artistic, literary, or religious purposes. Bricks, vases, books, gutters, gods, butter-pots, coffins, statues, urns, bullets, armour, and a host of articles too numerous to mention have been made of clay from time immemorial.

For very early clay-getters the mind goes back instinctively to those great Egyptian clay-fields, where an enslaved nation—men, women, and tiny children—toiled in compulsory clay-getting, moistening the clay with their tears and blood. In pre-historic times, and probably a long way down through the centuries, most of the clay used was obtained by forced labour. Amongst a civilised people the task would devolve upon captives taken in war. Amongst savages the clay-getter would have been as now, the "weaker vessel," and as old decorated cooking-pots have been found, the decoration upon which could only have been done by a woman's finger nail, so another "right" enjoyed by old-time suffragettes was that of clawing up from the alluvial field sufficient clay to meet the demands of their lord and master—Man. Sometimes the potter would have been his own clay-getter, at others purchasing or bartering it. In either case every precaution was taken to keep the manner of working and the locality a profound secret, and very little information on clay and clay-getting was available to the general public. Old sea captains had seen china clay in the Celestial Empire, and carried it as ballast. Here and there a travelled priest would tell to incredulous hearers of strange clays used in foreign lands, showing with pride the little sample of earth which he had so artfully concealed. In another age, an early glass and china dealer passing from town to town, his stock in panniers on to his back, finds on some lonely moor a scrap of clay which he puts in his wallet on the off chance that it may interest his friend the potter or clay-getter, either of whom would have kept the matter to himself—the clay-getter being unwilling the worker should get his clay direct, and the potter jealous lest his brother craftsmen should learn his source of supply.

The potter mystified the public by declaring that he used in making his goods many curious ingredients, some of which were not "fit" until buried for a hundred years or so in a cool place. The clay-getter compelled his employees to solemnly swear not to divulge any secrets, and oftentimes clay was sealed up in barrels by dumb workmen, whilst rarely was any clay-mixing recipe nor particulars as to the clay-hole written in the vulgar tongue. Acts of Parliament were directed against those who endeavoured to "entice, solicit, or seduce" any employee to take service in foreign countries, or who tried to learn trade secrets; indeed, some vacant-looking individuals assure us that only idiots were employed in the old clay and potting industries. Debarred by present-day requirements from obtaining a position in the clay or glass and china market, they must feel keenly the disadvantage of living a few centuries too late to have been useful members of the trade. Geologists have unwittingly helped to keep the secret of the clays, and gorgeous, rainbow-hued plates show granite, limestone, and old red sandstone, where, according to geology, these rocks should be, but where, as a matter of fact, there is nothing but clay.

The clay proprietor does not trouble to correct these little mistakes, and, having a good thing (for a clay-pit in England is better than a gold mine in Africa), is content to keep his knowledge to himself. The consequence is that, although in the present day more persons than ever are engaged in getting clay and using clay for every conceivable purpose, as little is known outside the trade as in the earlier periods. No strangers are permitted on the clay-field, and even where only the commonest clay is raised their intrusion is as much resented as when heavy duties were paid upon every thousand brieks, and every stranger considered a spy. The potter, true to the traditions of his trade, maintains an inviolable silence, whilst purchasers of clay for other than pottery purposes are even more reticent, not caring for the public to know they use clay at all, the public revenging itself by suspecting clay in plenty of places where it is absent, looking with suspicion upon the slip-like infants' food, and in old age speculating as to the brand of the "sandy pipe" looking sediment at the bottom of the doctor's bottle. No school-book treats of clay and few teachers care to soil their fingers with an object-lesson on the subject, and, whilst children acquire a rough idea of moulding and modelling in the cookery class, and of firing to the extent of producing vitrified buns, these born clay-getters only glimpse of clay-getting, apart from "spuddling" for clay to make marbles, is when they go with that clever old island clay-getter and potter, Robinson Crusoe, to discover that wonderful seam of clay which appears to have been equally good for lamps, round pots, flat dishes, pitchers, pipkins, tobacco pipes, and 24 by 24 by 9 fire tiles (still a stock size on most works.)

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"BAD from the top to the very rock bottom!" That is the expressive phrase in which the condition of the potting trade was described to me the other day by a gentleman who is probably in more intimate touch with most of the large manufacturers of the Potteries than anyone else in the district. His words only reflect the general feeling prevailing in the industry from one end to the other. Many factories, which, not long ago, were running full time, are now only working three or four days a week. Employers, however desirous they may be of helping their workpeople by putting more into stock, cannot go on doing this indefinitely, and have had to curtail production to an enormous extent. Trade ought, in the usual course, to be picking up very shortly for the Christmas spurt, but, so far, orders show no buoyancy, and the outlook is not improved by the position of the cotton trade dispute in Lancashire. The County Palatine is an important market for the products of the china and earthenware factories of North Staffordshire, and the district is already suffering in consequence of the dispute. Even if the strike, as some predict, should only last for three weeks it is obvious that 150,000 workpeople cannot be drawing no wages, and fifty millions of capital yielding no return, even for that short space of time, without a disastrous effect upon the general community. The testimony given by the pottery manufacturers before the umpire at the recent arbitration at Stoke, on the subject of Potters' wages (a lengthy resumé of which appears elsewhere), shows conclusively the deplorable position of local trade at the present time.

If any further evidence is sought as to the depression in the potting trade it is abundantly furnished by the Board of Trade returns which showed that, during August, the exports of British made ware only amounted to £191,317, compared with £243,184, and £226,571 in the two previous years, or a falling off of £51,867 compared with August of last year, and of £35,254 compared with August of 1906. The exports to the United States alone were £20,000 less than they were in August, 1907; Germany's custom showed a decline of £2,400 on the month; that of France, £1,000; Brazil, nearly £4,000; Australia, over £8,000; New Zealand, £5,000; Canada, £2,400, and minor countries upwards of £13,000. On the other side there was an increase of about £1,400 in the exports to the Argentine, £1,700 to South Africa, and about £1,000 to the East Indies. Taking the eight months of the present year to the end of August, there was a falling off of £123,000 in the value of the exports compared with the corresponding period of last year, the exports to the United States showing the tremendous decline of £74,000 to date. The exact figures for the eight months of the last three years are:—1908, £1,628,423; 1907, £1,751,439; 1906, £1,547,502. The value of the foreign ware placed on the British market in August was £51,868, and for the past eight months £532,710; but there was a decrease in the imports compared with August of last year, which may probably be taken as another indication of the depression existing in the home market.

Close upon the heels of the announcement of the scarcity of hard purple stone, to which we referred last month, comes intelligence of an approaching famine in another important material used in the potting trade, namely, Rio Grande bone ash. It seems that very small shipments of this material have been made this year, and that in consequence the depots at Runcorn, Ellesmere Port, and Weston Point, have been depleted to a greater extent than at any time during the last quarter of a century. The statement is made that there is not more bone ash in stock, in England, at the present moment, than the Potteries consume in a month or six weeks. Moreover, no arrivals can take place this year except a consignment of about 300 tons of soft calcined bone in the "Metcor," and another consignment of about the same quantity of bone ash per the "Gazelle." Up to July 31, no further charters had been made, so that in all probability the "Gazelle" will be the last arrival for the year 1908.

Mr. E. Brain, of E. Brain & Co., Fenton, ex-president of the English China Manufacturers' Association, attended the autumnal meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce which opened at Cardiff on Sept. 17, and, as the representative of the North Staffordshire Chamber, seconded a resolution calling upon the Government to consider what steps should be taken to bring about the abolition or reduction, of the tariffs levied by foreign countries on British goods in view of their damaging effect upon British industries. Mr. Brain attributed the want of employment in this country to the effect which foreign tariffs have upon our trade, and said he felt strongly that foreign imports placed on British markets, should bear some part of the cost of maintaining those markets. ——At a recent meeting of the North Staffordshire Trades and Labour Council, a letter was received from the Leeds Trades Council pointing out that, in the schools in Leeds, porcelain ink wells were used which were made in Germany, although supplied by an English firm. It was asked whether British pottery manufacturers could not supply these goods as well as Germans. The Council has forwarded the letter to the joint committee of Pottery manufacturers.

Recent additions to the collection of pottery in the Hanley museum include a fine example of lustre ware, the product of a pottery in Zsolnay, Hungary, purchased at the great Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush. It is one of the most perfect specimens of lustre in the district. Another interesting piece is an Indian plaque of modern manufacture, the decoration of which is thought to have been the work of a student of the Bombay School of Art, or some kindred institution. Mr. Rudyard Kipling's father, Mr. John Lockwood Kipling, it will be remembered, went out to India from Burslem (where he was employed by the now defunct firm of Pinder, Bourne & Co.), and he is said to have influenced the Indian schools of art very considerably.

Alderman Thomas Edwards, of Burslem, the secretary of the Oven-men's Society, has been added to the Home Office Committee which is investigating the subject of lead-poisoning, and the dust problem, in the potting trade. During the last few days the committee has been taking evidence in Scotland, and a visit to Newcastle is also stated to be in contemplation. Manufacturers are manifesting some uneasiness as to what interference with the processes of manufacture may result from the committee's findings, but it is no good, at this stage, attempting to anticipate their report, which will not be issued for some little time yet.——The friends of Mr. John Currie, a former student of the Newcastle and Hanley Schools of Art, who also worked for a time, for Messrs. Minton (Stoke), and Messrs. Doulton (Burslem), will congratulate him upon his appointment, at the early age of 25 years, as Art Inspector to the Board of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Four years ago, Mr. Currie obtained a National scholarship, coming second on the list in the kingdom, and, from South Kensington, he was taken by Sir W. Richmond as his assistant in executing the mural painting at the new central courts of justice.——The employees of the Non-Porous Tile Company, Chesterton, have presented their employer, Mr. J. B. Williamson, with a handsome liqueur and game case, and egg stand, to mark the occasion of his recent marriage. ——The wedding took place at Longton on Sept. 2, of Miss Lizzie Wildblood, second daughter of the late Councillor R. V. Wildblood, china manufacturer, and step-daughter of Alderman H. Coates, J.P., and Mr. Harold Rigby, M.I.M.E., B.Sc., of Greville Lodge, Cheshire, son of Mr. John Rigby, J.P.

Deep and widespread regret has been caused by the decease of Mr. Frederick Winkle, head of the firm of F. Winkle & Co., earthenware manufacturers, of Colonial Pottery, Stoke, which occurred on Sept. 10. Another lamented death is that of Mr. George Woolliscroft Rhead, Messrs. Minton's heraldic artist, which occurred at his residence, The Laburnums, Clayton, Newcastle, on Sept. 23 Obituary notices appear elsewhere in this issue.

Two serious fires at manufactories have been reported during the last few weeks. On Saturday, Sept. 12, the packing-houses connected with the Eagle Pottery of J. & G. Meakin, Hanley, were found to be on fire, and as the employees were not working on the premises at the time, the flames had obtained a firm hold before they were discovered. The fire brigade with a steamer, attended promptly when the call was given, but so serious was the fire found to be, that it became necessary to send for a second engine. The building and contents were totally destroyed, only the outer walls being left standing. Fortunately the packing houses were isolated, otherwise the fire would probably have been of a more serious character even than it was. A considerable quantity of ware, packed ready for dispatch, as well as a quantity of unpacked ware, was destroyed.——On the night of Sunday, Sept. 20, the Alexandra Pottery Ltd., of Johnson Bros. Ltd., Tunstall, which, only a few weeks ago were flooded through the bursting of a reservoir on an adjoining property, were the scene of a fire, which was located by the night fireman in the engine-room. The factory is a modern one, of considerable dimensions, and the part involved by the fire runs parallel with the platform of the Tunstall railway station, from the vicinity of which a large concourse of people watched the Burslem and Tunstall fire brigades fighting the flames. The buildings on fire included the engine-house, glaze mill, lead and slip houses, and the mould chambers in which the working stock of moulds was stored. Fire-proof doors prevented the flames from spreading to other portions of the factory. Though the brigades worked hard,

in a short space of time the flames were leaping high through the roof of the building. Every effort was made to save the engine-house, so as not to interfere with the motive power for the rest of the works, but this was found to be a hopeless task, and, in the end, the engine-house, the slip-house, the glaze mill, and the stock of moulds, blocks, cases, &c., with the exception of some which were in the potters' shops, were destroyed. The works was thus affected in a vital part, and a considerable proportion of the 500 or 600 persons employed there, were temporarily thrown out of employment. The damage is considerable, but the building and contents are insured.

The members of the jet and Rockingham section of the Staffordshire Potteries' Manufacturers' Association enjoyed a delightful excursion on the afternoon of Saturday, Sept. 5, when a motor car run was taken from Burslem to the Valley of the Manifold. The outing was arranged in honour of Mr. G. H. Beetenson, who, for some years has acted as assistant secretary to the Association, and has rendered the manufacturers great service at their various meetings and conferences. Mr. Beetenson is one of the most courteous and hard-working officials the manufacturers have ever had, and the compliment paid him on this occasion had been thoroughly well deserved. Among those present were Mr. A. J. Wade, President of the section, Mr. S. Gibson, Mr. W. G. Barratt, Mr. H. J. Wood, Mr. A. H. Gibson, Mr. S. Gibson, junr., Mr. F. Gibson, Mr. J. Sadler, Mr. L. Sadler, Mr. J. Sudlow, Mr. J. Webster, Mr. Jones, Mr. G. Price, Mr. J. King, and Mr. S. H. Dodd. Luncheon was served at the Manifold Café. Subsequently, Mr. Wade, in the name of the Association, presented Mr. Beetenson with a handsome gold cigarette case, and match box, the latter bearing a monogram and inscription. The gift was suitably acknowledged by the recipient, and a short toast list followed. Afterwards, the party again entered the motor and proceeded to Buxton, where a short stay was made, the journey being then continued by way of the famous "Cat and Fiddle" hill to Macclesfield. Here tea was served, and the homeward run was made by way of Congleton, the trip passing off in the most pleasant manner from start to finish.

An inquest was held at Hanley, on Sept. 4, on the body of John Mould, a potter's dipper, of Heathcote-st., who had been employed by Bullers, Ltd., porcelain electrical fittings manufacturers, for over twenty years. The deceased worked up to Aug. 22, and died on Sept. 1, the jury finding, after taking copious evidence, that death was due to hemorrhage caused by lead poisoning.——The story of an heroic action, in which Mr. Harold Whitfield, a local flint merchant, was the principal figure, comes from Abersock, near Pwllheli. Mr. Whitfield, who was taking his holiday at the resort named, happened to be at hand when a girl of ten years fell off the rocks into the sea; and, with the most commendable pluck and promptitude, he plunged in to her rescue. To reach the girl he had to swim a distance of 200 yards, and she had become unconscious before Mr. Whitfield could cover the distance, strong swimmer though he is. After he had succeeded in conveying her to the shore, means of resuscitation were resorted to with eventual success.

Not long ago it seemed likely that the present chief magistrates of the Potteries towns would be the last holders of their office, and that next November it would only be necessary to choose two Mayors, one to fill the position of the first civic dignitary in the prospective new federated city of Stoke-upon-Trent, and the other to discharge a similar responsible post in the ancient and loyal town of Newcastle-under-Lyme, which, though only a few minutes' walk from three or four of the Potteries townships, seems destined to preserve a separate individuality for some little time yet to come. However, a decision of the House of Commons Committee which recently dealt with the Bill for the Federation of the Potteries, has the effect of postponing the operation of that measure (should it pass safely through the Upper House), until November, 1909, and therefore the towns will each be called upon to elect their mayors on November 9, as usual, and some of the boroughs have already made their selection. At Newcastle-under-Lyme an excellent choice has been made in Mr. Sydney Myott, J.P., of the firm of Myott, Son & Co., earthenware manufacturers, of Cobridge. Longton is once again extending an invitation to Alderman Aaron Edwards to fill the civic chair for another year, and it is ardently hoped, on all sides, that his Worship will see his way clear to accept the invitation. At Hanley, Councillor G. F. Adcock has consented to remain in office a second year. So far, no definite arrangement as to the Burslem mayoralty has been made, the present chief magistrate, Ald. S. Malkin (head of the well-known firm of tile manufacturers which bears his name), being absent on a journey to Vancouver. Councillor W. B. Hackney has accepted the invitation of the Stoke Town Council to continue in office as mayor for the third successive year.

At a meeting held at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, in connection with the N.S. Branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association, the chairman of the N.S. branch, Mr. Charles Keeling, presented a walnut Westminster eight-day chiming clock to Mr. Henry Stephens, vice-chairman of the branch, who has recently left the district for Leeds, and Mrs. Stephens, to mark the very high esteem in which the recipients have been held by the members of the branch, and to show their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Stephens. Mr. Stephens made a suitable response, and an excellent musical programme was a feature of the proceedings.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE attention of the Scottish principals and employés in the pottery industries is always more or less attracted by the aspect of things in the English pottery settlements, and this has been very emphatically the case in evidence during the progress of the recent arbitration, the decision in which is somewhat nervously awaited at the time of writing of this. Whatever his decision may turn out to be, it is bound to exercise a very notable influence on the Scottish situation and on the future relations between the masters and men here. The movement in Scotland, in the direction of a permanent board of conciliation, referred to in my last report, has not led to any further specific development, but the prospects of ultimate realisation are at least as promising as they were a month ago. A number of the leading principals in the pottery industry have been away on holiday. Some are still absent, and until all have returned there can be no more definite shape given to the proposal.

The coast and spa season is now practically at an end, having turned out rather better for the retail trades than had been promised up to midsummer. The September weather conditions, however, have been distinctly less favourable than those of the foregoing two months. So far as retail business in the cities and towns is concerned, the past month has been decidedly poor, a long way below the average for September. Families, it is true, have been returning to their permanent abodes; but good shopping conditions have been wanting, and, besides, there has been the now chronic indisposition to part with money to contend against, a disposition which seems to become more and more confirmed, instead of showing any tendency to relaxation. Reports from the wholesale merchants with regard to the reception which their travellers are meeting with while on the quest for orders in connection with the late autumn supplies take on a shade more of gloom than was the case a month ago, and it is now evident that there is to be no manifestation of activity during the course of what remains of the present year. There is still a complaint, too, of the difficulty in getting in from customers the accounts due—overdue; and indeed an almost unexampled stiffness is the general rule all over the field. There have been during the month no overt changes in the market quotations for goods in these trades, whether glass, china, stoneware or whiteware, but the suspicion still exists that the great difficulty in procuring orders conduces to incutting on the part of the travellers, though, indeed, even that seems to be powerless to stimulate ordering to any appreciable extent.

During the month there have been no meetings on the part of any of the associated masters, a blank generally to be noted at this time of the year, when a large number of the principals are away on their annual holiday. Rockingham reports show something more of slackness than during foregoing months, and it seems now likely that the consumption for the year as a whole, when reckoned up, will show a falling off as compared with 1907. As regards jam-jars, pretty much the same may be said, the market having been slightly weaker during the past two months. But in

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neither the one case nor the other is it feared that the outcome for the whole year will be less than moderately satisfactory from the point of view of the makers. Amid much that on the whole is disappointing in the present condition and future outlook of these industries, it is partly a comfort to record some little improvement in the Scottish staple of shipbuilding, always a factor with us. The new orders lodged during September make a comparatively good show, and this will, no doubt, prove helpful. On the other hand, however, the month has witnessed considerable damage to the cereal crops, owing to heavy rains, and this will eventually have a bad effect.

CANADA.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, Sept. 15.

THE Canadian National Exhibition attracted 760,000 persons during the two weeks it was held, but none of all that vast number was able to discover an exhibit of pottery. The three dozen potters of Canada have not gone in much for exhibitions. There were two very large and exceedingly attractive displays of cut glass by Toronto manufacturers. The Gundy-Clapperton Co. showed upwards of 200 pieces, including a vase four feet high, the largest ever cut in Canada. This firm was also represented in the process building, where they had eight frames in operation showing the process of cutting glass in all its stages, beginning with the marking of the blank. This exhibit was surrounded every hour of the day and evening by immense crowds, and was one of the most interesting to the general public in any of the buildings. Gowans, Kent & Co., Toronto, made a fine display of richly cut glass, showing some new designs in handles of fruit dishes and baskets. Prominent features of this exhibit were a cup-shaped punch-bowl of diamond pattern, about 40 inches in diameter by 18 inches in height, and a large swan-shaped jug of elaborate workmanship. Ambrose Kent & Sons, Ltd., jewellers, made a considerable display of art goods, which included a handsome range of hand-painted globes of Turkish design for electric lights. There is some talk of the Canadian importers' agents and wholesale houses exhibiting their goods at the exhibition. The Toronto houses are all complaining that the number of callers during the exhibition is less and less as the years go by. Travellers are called in to receive and entertain their customers—who do not come. So, if the mountain won't come to Mahomet, Mahomet must go to the mountain. This, of course, on the presumption that the merchants generally attend the exhibition.

Trade is surely improving, although much more slowly than there seems to be any good reason for, considering the splendid crops which have been reaped everywhere throughout the Dominion. A very large percentage of the wheat crop of the Canadian North-West is of the Red Fife variety, and it is grading up to No. 1 Hard, which is the highest grade in North America, if not in the world. Moreover, grain men believe that the remarkably large percentage of first-grade wheat will create a demand that should elevate the price to $1, or some 20 cents above the opening market figure. Travellers reporting from the West continue to forward fat orders from British Columbia, where the stringency has hardly been noticeable, and probably will not be felt to any further extent, as the fruit crops there have been wonderfully abundant and of excellent quality. The wholesale houses and those doing business as manufacturers' agents are regaining confidence. But it is to be a stock-house harvest this fall, and some of the manufacturers' agents who realised this fact two or three months ago shrewdly stocked up with a quantity of "packages of assorted quicksellers" with which to keep their customers supplied until they can get their accounts straight with the farmers and their confidence in the future restored. This applies to the North-West and to Ontario particularly. In the East there is little doing except in the larger centres. Montreal has been buying largely for import, the representative of a Toronto stock-house establishing a new record there for orders in the month between July 15 and Aug. 15. The wonderful reports of the expansion of the great North-West is putting a keen edge on competition in all lines of business in Canada, and the effect is to attract others to this market. Edward Butler, of New York, has established a sample room in Toronto with W. H. Rundle in charge, making three New York import houses with local showrooms. This firm handles English earthenware and china exclusively. Mussett Bros., closely connected with Bronner, Mussett & Co., of London, Eng., have also opened sample rooms in this city with lines of English pottery and European glassware.

Mr. E. W. Klotz, who has been handling Maddock's & Allerton's English wares and popular lines of European manufacture, doing business as a manufacturers' agent here, has been in Europe buying for the new firm of which he is to be the head. It is said that the Junor brothers are associated with Mr. Klotz in the new concern, the headquarters of which will be in Hamilton. The name of this new wholesale house has not yet been given out. Some wonder has been expressed that the new firm should make its first flight from Hamilton, but the shipping facilities are excellent, comparing very favourably with those of Toronto, and rents and expenses of maintenance are considerably less. And there is, besides, the advantage of being in closer touch with the richer portion of the province of Ontario. Gordon, Mackay & Co., Toronto, wholesale dry goods, fancy goods, &c., will add a pottery and glassware department to their extensive business at the beginning of the year. This announcement created no end of excitement in the crockery trade here, inasmuch as the house is a strong one, and will be an aggressive competitor. Taylor & Mulveney, Hamilton, Ont., have taken possession of a fine new building, and have now one of the best-appointed and largest wholesale pottery houses in the Dominion of Canada. The building is 125 feet by 40 feet, three stories, and a fine basement. which gives them a gross floor space for offices, sample rooms and warehouse purposes of 20,000 square feet. The firm has been doing a careful and safe wholesale trade with a well-sifted line of customers, and have been making money right along during the dull times. They are not disposed to leave Hamilton, and it is within reasonable assumption that their success and prosperity have had something to do with the location of the new Klotz firm in the "Ambitious City." Hamilton is likely also to have a branch of one of the largest cut-glass factories of the United States, negotiations having been opened between the Power Company and the manufacturers.

What Canada does need, and needs badly, is a factory for the manufacture of fruit jars of the improved Mason type. Hundreds of thousands of bushels of fruit of all varieties have gone to waste in Ontario this summer for the want of suitable jars in which to preserve it. The supply ran out, as I pointed out in previous correspondence, practically before the season well opened. The failure of the factory in British Columbia created a demand from that great fruit-growing province which was unexpected and unusually large, and there have been large fruit crops in certain portions of the United States in which the crops were almost unprecedented. The American factories ran short and couldn't catch up with the orders. So Greater Canada is evidently ready to support an up-to-date fruit-jar factory.

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The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements, the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

GRAINGER & Co. (Edwin Holmes, Frdk. Arnold Grainger, and Leo Jas. Rabnett), Trent Works, Joiners-sq., Hanley, pottery manufacturers. Aug. 1. Debts by E. Holmes and L. J. Rabnett. (Sept. 1.)

URE & PATERSON, Grahams-rd., Falkirk, glass merchants, glaziers, &c. Aug. 15, by retiral of Wm. Couston Paterson. Debts by Jno. Ure, who continues. (Aug. 25.)

Limited Companies: * Appointments of Receivers; Resolutions and Notices as to Winding-up; Petitions; Orders and Official and other Notices.

** Some of these entries refer to appointments prior to the Companies Act*, 1907, *and registered under Sec.* 11 (2) *of that Act. The date of appointment appears in the entry.*

AUTOMATIC GLASS BLOWING PATENTS SYNDICATE, LTD., Birmingham.—T. M. Attlee, Edmund-st., Birmingham, C.A. appointed receiver, Oct. 6, 1903.

HYGIENIC GLASS TILE Co., LTD.—Resolved Sept. 19:—That the company be wound up. J. D. S. Bogle, 3, Great St. Helen's, E.C., liqr.

MINTONS, LTD., Stoke-on-Trent.—J. F. Campbell, Woodseat, Rochester (Staffs.), Esq., appointed receiver, Aug. 7, 1894.

POTTERS' MILLS, LTD., Longton.—C. E. Bullock, Hanley, appointed receiver, Nov. 9, 1905.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

BENNETT HERBERT E., trading as Bennett & Sons, 23, York-place, Brighton, china and glass dealer. Claims to E. W. J. Savill Brighton, O.R.

GOFF GEO., Registry-st., Stoke-on-Trent, earthenware manufacturer. Claims to F. T. Halcomb, Newcastle (Staffs.), O.R.

HOLLAND WM. T., trading as H. Holland, 59, Kingston-rd., Buckland, Portsmouth, china merchant. Claims to W. F. J. Hunt, Portsmouth, O.R.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is nccessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

HOPKINS EMMA, the Shambles, and 12, East-st., Worcester china, furniture and fancy goods dealer (wife of Patrick Jno. Hopkins). Comp. of 12s. 6d. in the £, by 5 equal instalments, at 3, 6, 9, 12, and 15 months from date hereof; secured by an assignment upon trust, &c.; the last two payments to be further secured by guarantors; debtor to pay into bank to credit of trustee £7 weekly from date hereof to meet instalments. Dated, Sept. 10. Filed, Sept. 16. Liabilities unsecured, £689; property, after deducting secured claims, £520. Tr., C. T. Appleby, Corporation-st., Birmingham. Secured creditors, £360. The following are creditors:—Lang & Co., London, £30; Lazarus & Rosenfeld, London, £24; J. Smith, London, £12; Simon Bros., London, £30; F. Blood & Co., Birmingham, £64; Baldwins, Ltd., Birmingham, £41; Cartwright & Sons, Birmingham, £27; Charles & Co., Birmingham, £14; Samuel Grey, Birmingham, £28; G. W. Schraorn, Birmingham £20; Bristol Porcelain & Glass Co., Bristol, £20; Pountney & Co., Ltd., Bristol, £15; Grimwades, Ltd., Fenton, £12; Perambulator Co., Halesowen, £18; — Simmerton, Hanley, £11; Pearl Pottery Co., Hanley, £13; Beresford Bros., Longton, £14; British Anchor Pottery Co., Longton, £16; A. Jones & Son, Longton, £10; Empire Porcelain Co., Stoke-on-Trent, £21; W. Adam & Co., Tunstall, £10; A. Meakin, Ltd., Tunstall, £13; Pemberton & Son, Worcester, £11; Bankers' claims, £24.

WALE JNO. WM., 110, Belgrave-rd., Leicester, general dealer. Dated, Sept. 12. Filed, Sept. 18. Liabilities unsecured, £167; property, after deducting secured claims, £76. Tr., H. Godkin, St. Martin's-chambers, New-st., Leicester. The following are creditors: Jonas Lang & Co., London, £10; A. Mortimer, London, £4; A. Martin & Son, Aston, £6; Preussing & Wilson, Berlin, £5; Froggatt & Tyler, Bilston, £4; Pratt Bros., Birmingham, £5; G. Smith & Sons, Birmingham, £5; King & Barrett, Burslem, £6; Elijah Cotton, Hanley, £9; W. H. Lockett, Hanley, £5; M. Carnall & Son, Ltd., Leicester, £6; J. T. Walters, Leicester, £6; J. W. Beswick, Longton, £7; G. E. Lowe, Sutton Coldfield, £25; W. H. Grindley & Co., Tunstall, £8; W. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton, £35; Mason, Cash & Co., Woodville, £7; W. H. Aston, Worcester, £4.

Private Meeting.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

FLETCHER & Co., glaziers and glass merchants, 23-25, Kineardine-st., Dundee. The following are creditors:—Donald & Smith, Dundee, £20; William M'Lean, Glasgow, £74; Glasgow Plate Glass Co., £15; preferential creditors, £25; liabilities, £422 2s. 10d.; total assets, £298. Showing a dividend of 14s. 1d. per £, subject to realisation and expenses. A meeting of creditors was held on August 25, when it was agreed to advertise the business for sale, and realise the assets. There was no offer from the debtors.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

BROADHURST WALTER, 23, Nicholas-rd., Chorlton-cum-Hardy, and 15, Charles-st., Manchester, glass etcher. Adj., Aug. 25.

NEAL WALTER WILLIAM (trading as W. W. Neal & Co.), sanitary ware agent, 5 and 6, Geat Winchester-st., E.C. This debtor attended at the London Bankruptcy Court on Sept. 15, for public examination upon a statement of affairs showing liabilities £994 3s. 5d. (unsecured £366 7s. 11d.) the net assets £107 7s. It appeared from the Official Receiver's observations and the debtor's statements, that from 1888 until 1894 he was manager of a reservoir pipe company at a salary of £150 per annum and a share of the profits of the business. In 1894 he commenced business as a manufaeturers' agent at 63, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., and traded as W. W. Neal. In 1900 a brother joined him in partnership, and they continued the business at the said address under the style of W. W. & F. Neal until December, 1906, when the partnership was dissolved, the connection divided, and the debts paid. In January, 1907, he started business, in partnership with another person, as a manufacturers' agent (sanitary ware) at 5 and 6, Great Winchester-st., E.C., and at Hockley, Essex. They had a joint capital of £200 and traded as W. W. Neal & Co. until June, 1908, when his partner retired and the bankrupt continued the business alone at both places and under the same name down tothe date of the receiving order. The bankrupt attributed his failure to bad trade, want of capital and heavy expenses of working up the business. He had produeed the usual books of account for the trading since January, 1907, and stated that all the usual books of account were kept for the partnership with his brother, who took them over on the dissolution. The liabilities to "Creditors unsecured," with the exception of £13 10s. for a personal debt, are for general business debts. The examination was concluded.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" by Messrs. G. F. REDFERN & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 4, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

BOTTLES, No. 17,795.—D. Muirhead. Improvements in and relating to bottles and the like. Aug. 24, 1908.

BOTTLE PRODUCER, No. 17,975.—J. Brighton and A. Armitage. Bottle producer. Aug. 27, 1908.

CHINA CASTING APPARATUS, No. 18,158.—W. Stubbs. Improved apparatus for casting hollow and other ware of china and other materials. Aug. 29. 1908.

CUPS, No. 18,634.—D. J. McKinney. Improvements in cups, mugs, and drinking vessels. Sept. 5, 1908.

GLASS GLOBES, No. 17,440.—O. A. Mygatt. Improvements in glass globes. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act July 3, 1908. Application for patent of addition to No. 11,538-08.)

GLASS IMAGE REPRODUCTION, No. 17,432.—A. R. Ling, T. Rendle, and E. W. Colbrook. Improvements relating to the reproduction of images on glass, ceramic, metallic or other surfaces. Aug. 19, 1908.

GLASS IMAGE REPRODUCTION, No. 17,433.—A. R. Ling. Improvements relating to the reproduction of images on glass, ceramic, metallic or other surfaces. Aug. 19, 1908.

GLASS-GRINDING MACHINE, No. 17,736.—E. L. Gover. Polished edge and grinding machine for glass and the like. Aug. 24, 1908.

GLASS MACHINES, No. 18,373.—J. Forster. Improvements in or relating to machines for making glass articles. Sept. 1, 1908.

GLASS SHAPING DEVICES, No. 16,994.—P. B. W. Kershaw. Improvements in devices and methods of shaping glass. Aug. 12, 1908.

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Mr. T. ADAMS, Terrace North, Fenton, Staffs.
Telephone No. 476 Central.

GLASS WORKING APPARATUS, No. 18,279.—J. Kremenezky. Improvements in apparatus for working glass. Aug. 31, 1908.

"SILP" PURIFYING MEANS, No. 18,482.—G. C. Solon and A. J. Campbell. Improved means for purifying the "slip" or like material employed in the manufacture of china, earthenware, and like goods. Sept. 3, 1908.

STOPPER GRINDING METHOD, No. 18,386.—H. J. C. Forrester (Precision Glass Grinding Co., U.S.A.). Method of grinding glass bottle necks and stoppers therefor. Sept. 2, 1908.

TEA SETS, No. 18,529.—L. W. Hawkins. Improvements in and relating to portable tea sets. Sept. 3, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

24,327.—Wilkins. Method of and means for securing or attaching bowls of glass or earthenware, such as wire glasses and the like, to metallic stands or holder.

11,175.—Engelhorn. Process for the manufacture of ceramic masses and articles containing aluminium oxide.

1908.

6,668.—R. R. Maschinenfabrik Gorlitz Ges. Feeding apparatus for ceramic materials. (Date applied for under International Convention, March 25, 1907.)

8,269.—Osgood. Inkstands. (Date applied for under International Convention, May 3, 1907.)

11,703.—Bertram. Flower pots.

11,640.—Clark (Whitall Tatum Co.). Bed-pans.

11,405.—Woods. Inkwells. (Date applied for under International Convention, July 5, 1907.)

Designs.

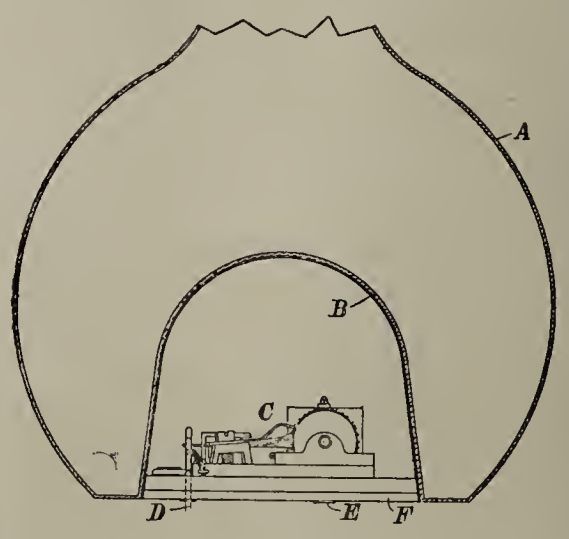
The following is a list of proprietors of designs entered on the Register in Class 4, which includes "articles composed wholly or chiefly of glass, earthenware, or porcelain, bricks, tiles, or cement."

526,895 —J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
526,896.—Johnson Bros. (Hanley), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
526,944.—G. Austin, 49, Polwarth-gardens, Hyndland, Glasgow.
527,012–3.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-st. Works, Burslem.
527,108.—Wiltshaw, Robinson & Son, Stoke-on-Trent.
527,186.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-st. Works, Burslem.
527,344.—P. B. Gregg, 116, Blair Athol-rd., Banner Cross, Sheffield.
527,394.—Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Eastwood, Hanley.
527,489.—C. Allerton & Sons, Park Works, Longton.
527,623.—H. G. Smith, 352, Farm-st., Villa-st., Birmingham.
527,687.—A. L. Dunphy and J. Tysor, c/o The South Metropolitan Gas Co., East Greenwich, S.E.
527,747.—R. H. & S. L. Plant, Tuscan Works, Longton.
527,824.—F. W. Waide, 67, Turnmill-st., Clerkenwell, E.C.
525,354.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
525,809.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
527,014–6.—Rowland & Marcellus Co., 36, Glebe-st., Stoke.
527,188.—P. Schultze, c/o A. Boning, 56, Middleton-square, E.C.
527,512.—Tooth & Co., Bretby Art Pottery, Woodville.
527,625.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Railway Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent.
527,674.—J. E. B. Howie, Ltd., Hurlfire Clay Works, Ayrshire.
527,748.—W. P. Inman, Kettlewell, Skipton, Yorks.
527,809.—J. Lane, 19, Gaddesby-rd., King's Heath, Worcs.
527,879–80.—Norton & White, 92–100, Camden-st., Birmingham.
527,884.—J. D. Lynch, 11, South Castle-st., Liverpool, and J. Leatherbarrow, Bank Hall-st., Liverpool.
527,885.—S. Maw, Son & Sons, 7–12, Aldersgate-st., E.C.
527,891.—J. M. H. Vasey, 6, Thelma-st., Sunderland.
528,065.—W. T. Copeland & Sons., 3, High-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
528,066.—R. T. Grocott, Whitehall Works, Longport.
528,203.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
528,242.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
528,426.—J. H. Tucker & Co., King's-rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham.
528,537.—E. J. Clark, 35, Marshgate-lane, Stratford, E.
528,553.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
527,686.—T. A. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Furlong Tile Works, Burslem.
528,067.—G. H. F. Algar, 52, Pembroke-rd., Walthamstow.
528,068–71.—Henry Richards Tile Co., Pinnox Works, Tunstall.
528,086.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
528,112.—International Bottle Co., 19, St. Dunstan's-hill, E.C.
528,119–9.—Linolite Co., 25, Victoria-st., S.W.
528,158.—A. Arculus & Co., 295, Broad-st., Birmingham.
528,204.—Henry Richards Tile Co., Pinnox Works, Tunstall.
528,205.—International Bottle Co., 19, St. Dunstan's hill, E.C.
528,427.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
528,697.—J. Jameson & Son, Ltd., Corbridge-on-Tyne.
528,698.—E. F. W. Grimshaw, Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
526,497.—J. Haig & Co., Ltd., Balgonie-rd., Markinch, N.B.
526,591.—Callendar Iron Co., Falkirk.
526,852.—W. Maclean, 15, Pitt-st., Glasgow.
526,967.—Townson & Mercer, 34, Camomile-st., E.C.
527,117.—T. & F. S. Tansley, Blurton Tilery, Longton.
527,922.—T. J. Hands & Son, Cecil-st., Birmingham.
528,334-8.—W. Maclean, 13, Pitt-st., Glasgow.
528,543.—J. Lane, 19, Gaddesby-rd., King's Heath, Worcs.
528,858.—E. B. Fishley, Fremington, North Devon
528,902.—Sampson, Bridgwood & Son, Longton.
528,961.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.
528,971.—R. Gale & Co., 145, Cannon-st., E.C.
528,991.—J. Walsh Walsh, Soho Glass Works, Birmingham.
528,992.—W. A. Gething, 13, Caroline-st., Birmingham.
529,036-7.—Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem.

LATEST COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS.

Manufacture of Ceramic Masses.—Dr. F. Engelhorn, 44 Werderstrasse, Mannheim-Waldhof, Baden, Germany, claims :—A process for the manufacture of ceramic masses and articles containing compounds of fused aluminium oxide and other oxides, consisting in heating fused composite aluminium oxide of a suitable degree of fineness with oxides of the metals, silicon, boron, arsenic and antimony, with or without the addition of organic or inorganic binding materials.

Improvements in Jugs, Jars, Bottles, &c.—A. E. Walkden, 2, Ailsa-rd., Liscard, claims :—(1) The improvement in jugs, jars, bottles and other like glass articles, which consists in forming them with a hollow in the bottom, lining that hollow, or inserting in that hollow a removable cone or lining with an advertisement, picture, announcement or the like, and filling up or closing the mouth of the hole, whereby the inscription is fixed in the article. (2) The improvement in jugs, jars, bottles and the like, which consists in forming a hollow in the bottom lined with any announcement that may be desired and a musical box or other instrument inserted in the hollow, but having a projecting releasing pin and winding-up device, whereby the instrument can be wound up and made to play either while standing on the table or whenever it is lifted off the table. (3) As an improved article of manufacture, a jar, jug, bottle or other glass receptacle, having a hollow or kick formed in the bottom thereof, and the inside of this hollow or kick supplied with a moving toy or device worked mechanically or otherwise.



New Foreign Patents.

United States Patents.

894,845.—W. R. Mitchell, New York, N.Y. Process for treating crucibles, &c.
894,862.—M. U. Uban, Sterling, Pa. Flower-pot.
895,206.—J. Schies and M. Wyant, Anderson, Ind. Glass-tank furnace.
895,913.—C. F. Tracey, Philadelphia, Pa. Sink bath-tub, washstand, &c.
895,904.—H. A. Smith O. Perschbacher, Wichita, Kans. Tile-mould.
896,159.—F. W. Roller, Plainfield, N.J. Glass cutter.
896,511.—A. J. Bates, Sandusty, Ohio. Receptacle for holding molten glass.
896,631.—H. L. Dixon and G. A. Marsh, Pittsburg, Pa. Method of shaping glass.
896,857.—J. B. Reily, Collinston, La. Bottle.
897,139.—J. J. Piper, Centralia, J. P. Borman, Edwardsville, Bottle.
897,135.—P. Pause, Chicago. Glass sign.

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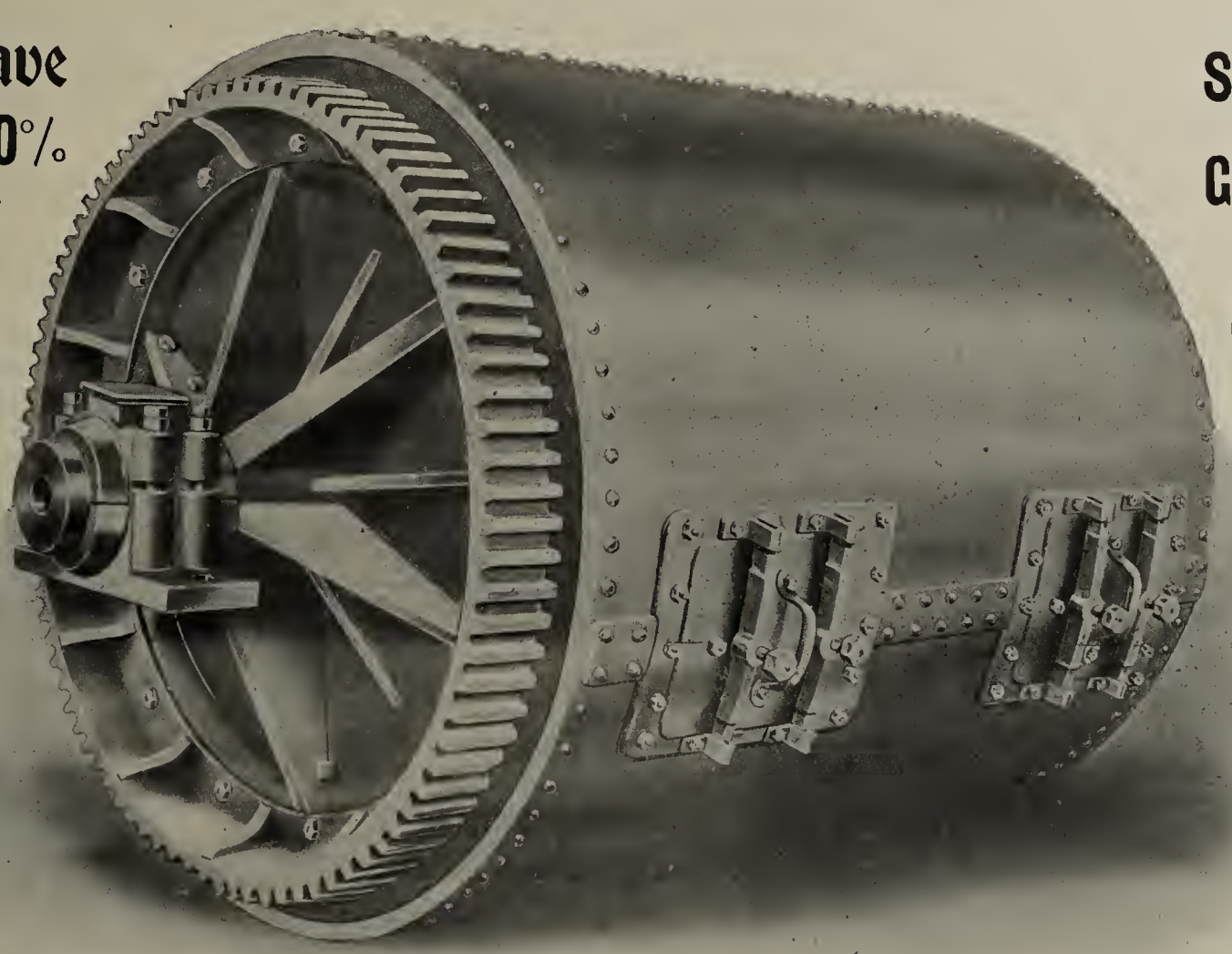
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GRINDING INTERNAL ROLLER MILLS (Bousfield System. Patent)
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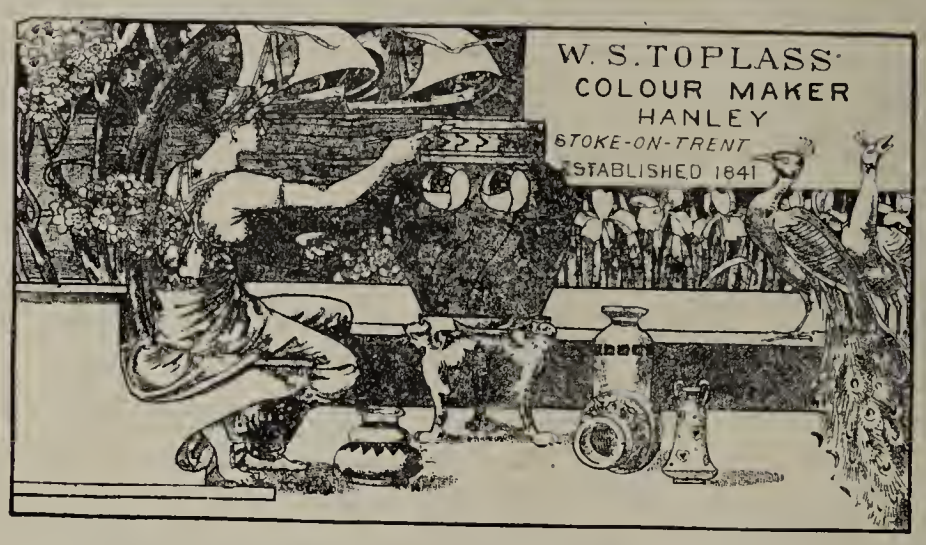
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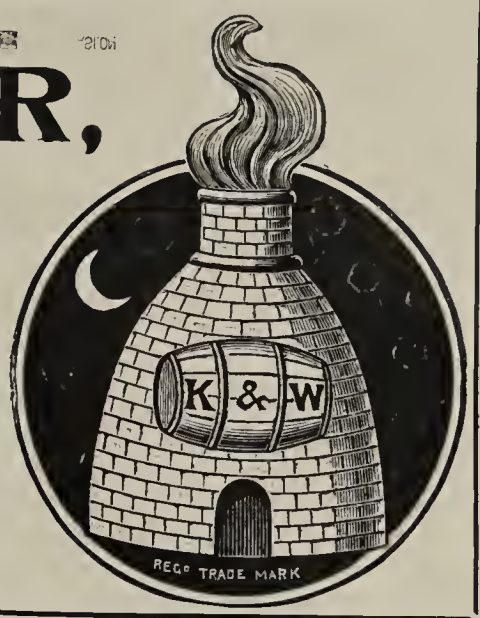
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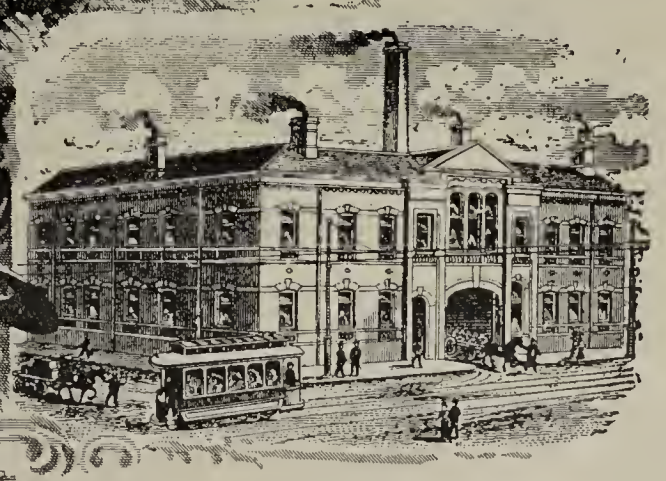


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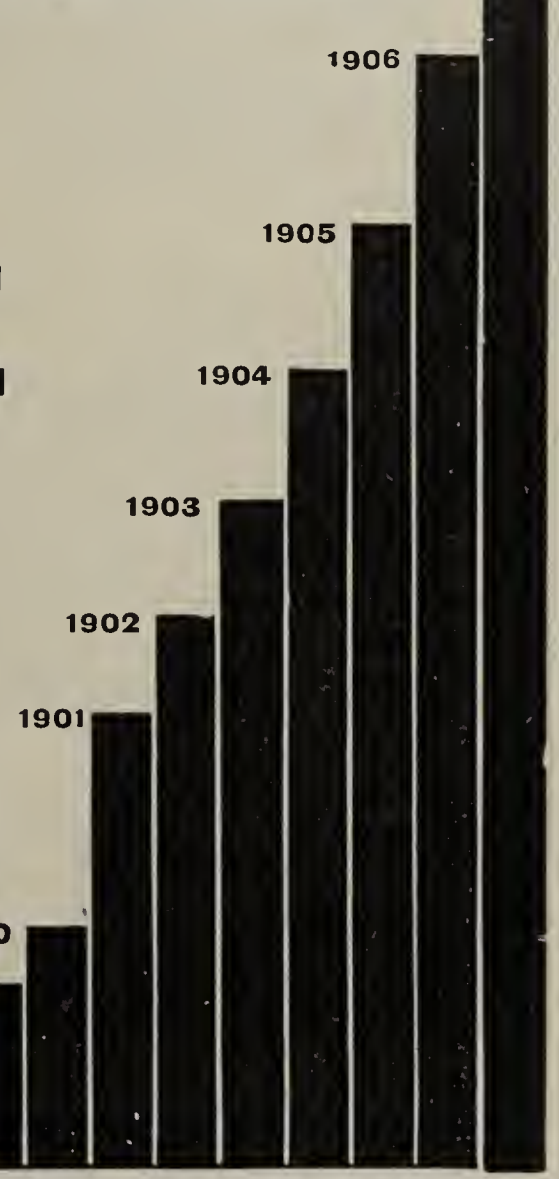
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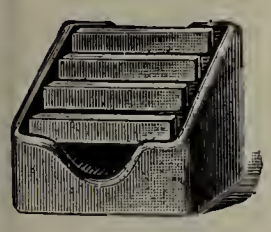
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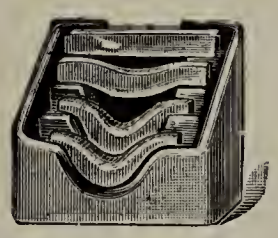
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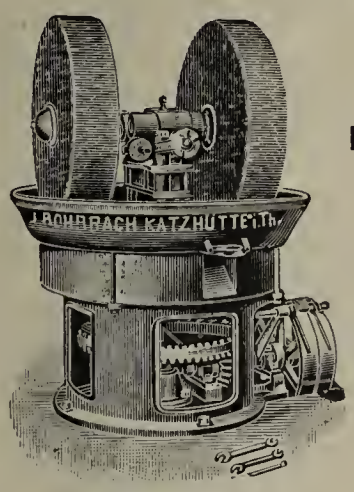
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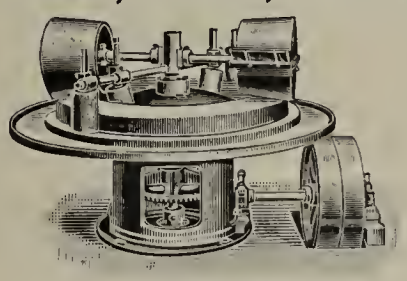
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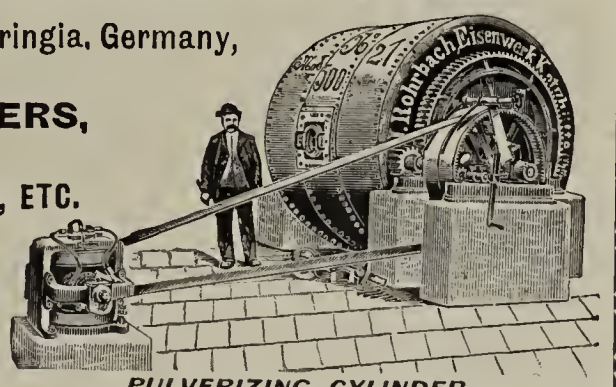
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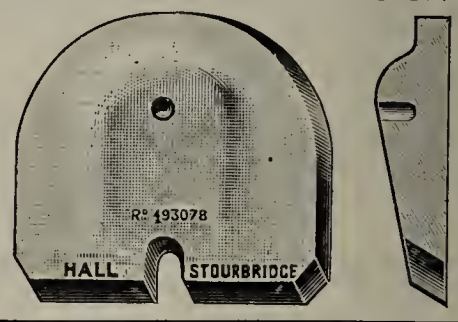
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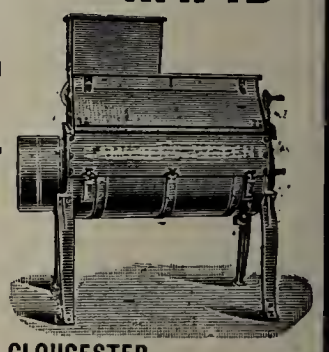
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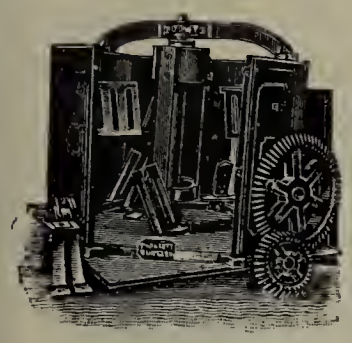
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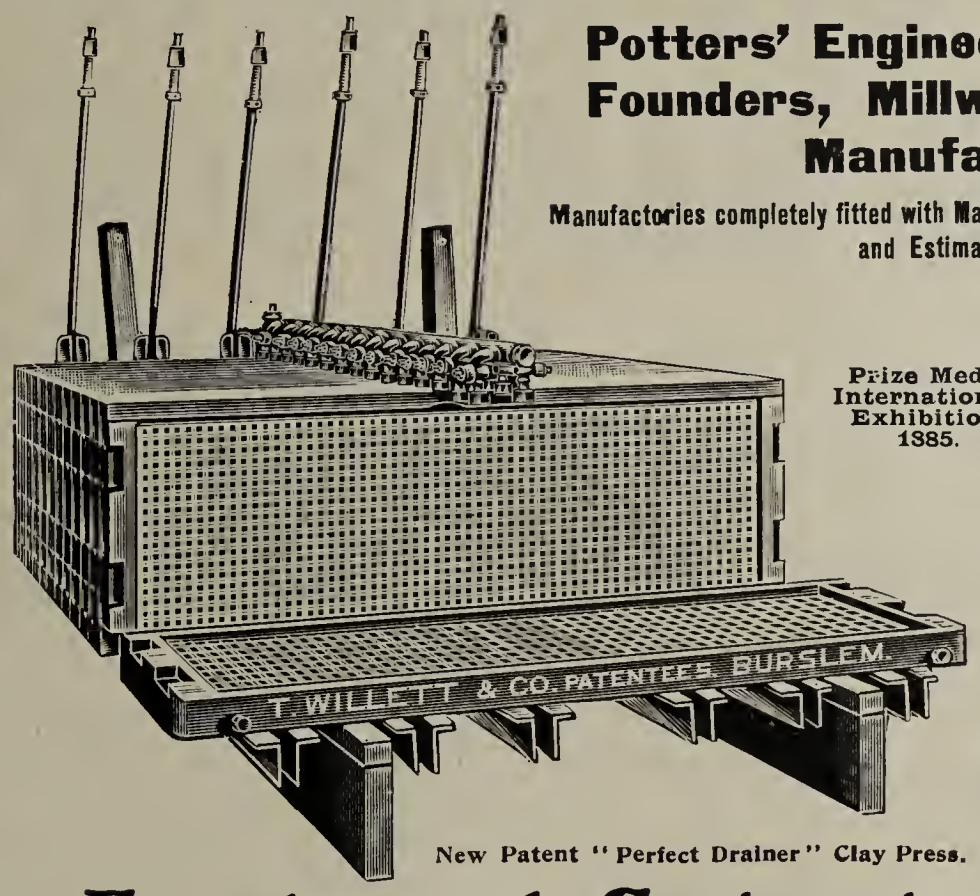
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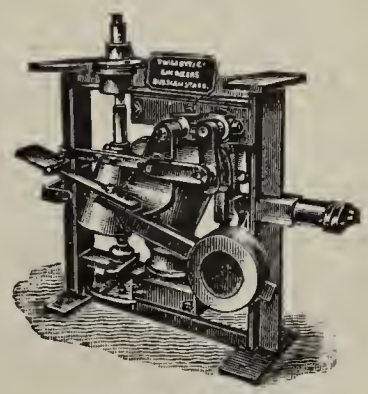


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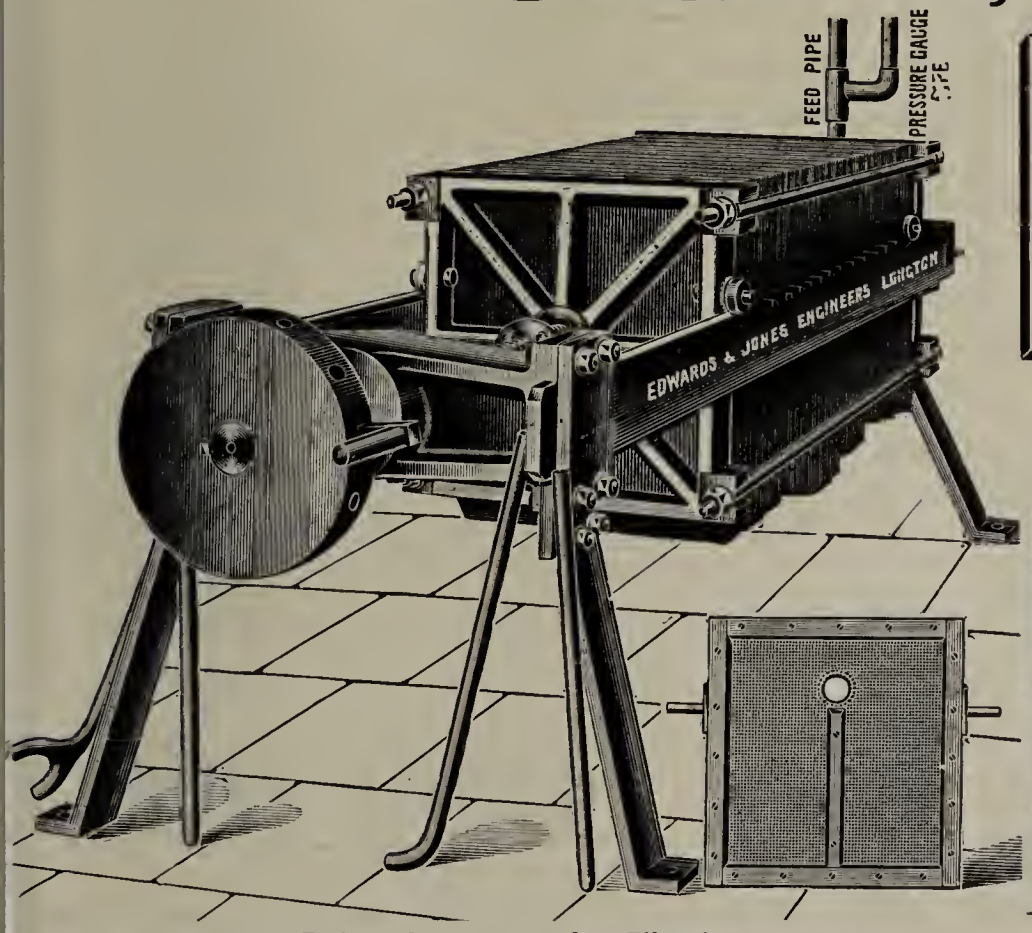
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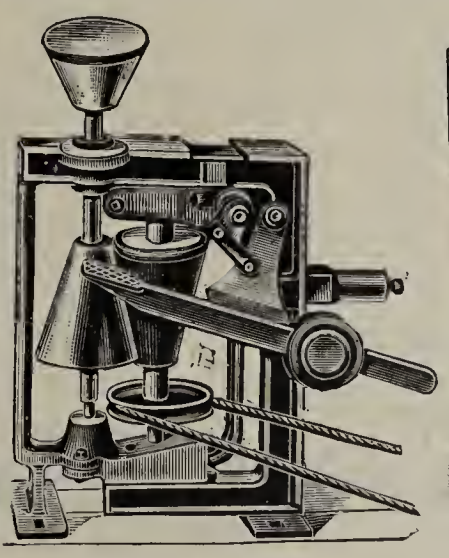
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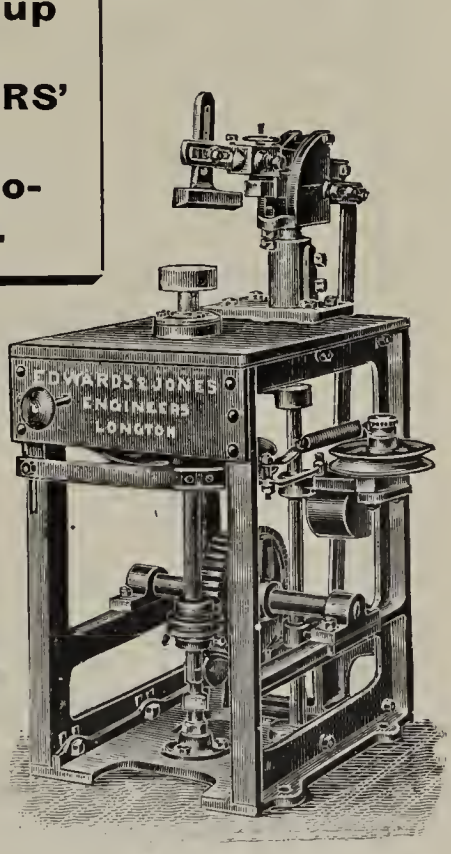


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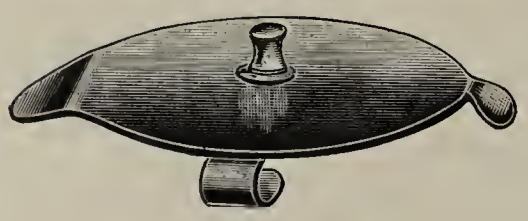
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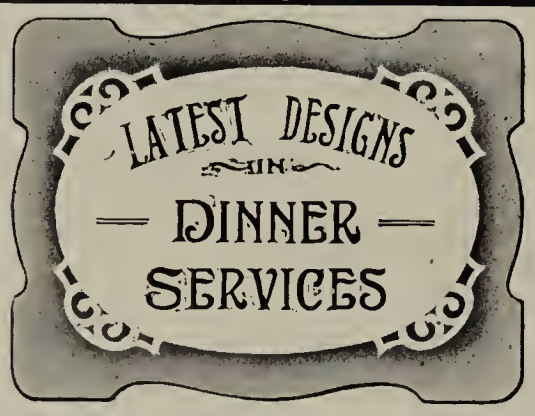
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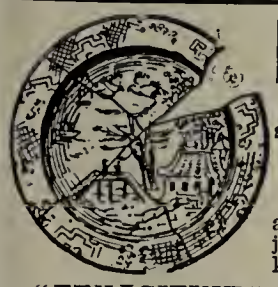
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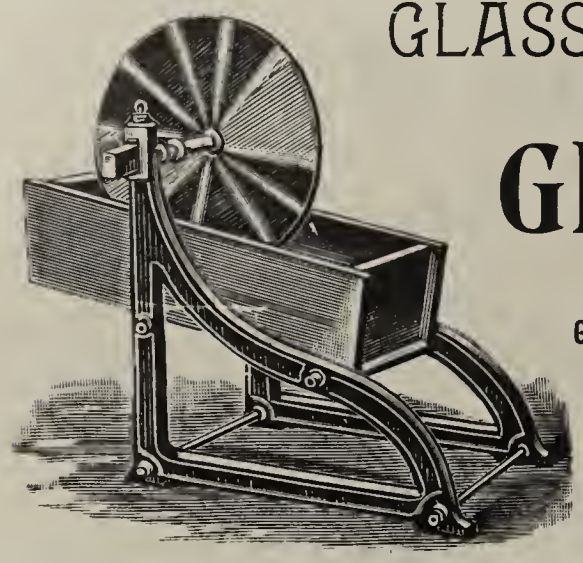
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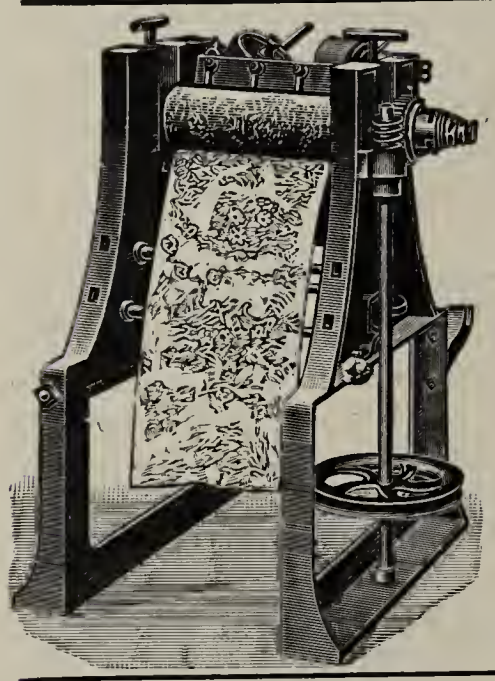


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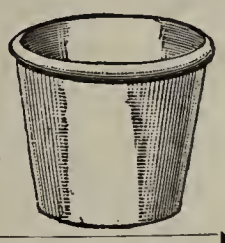
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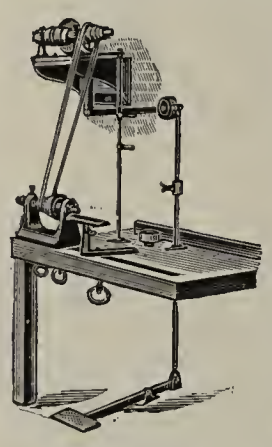
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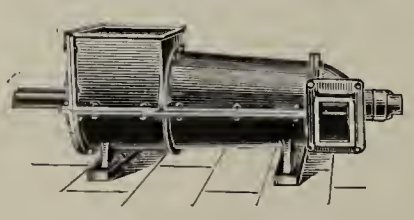


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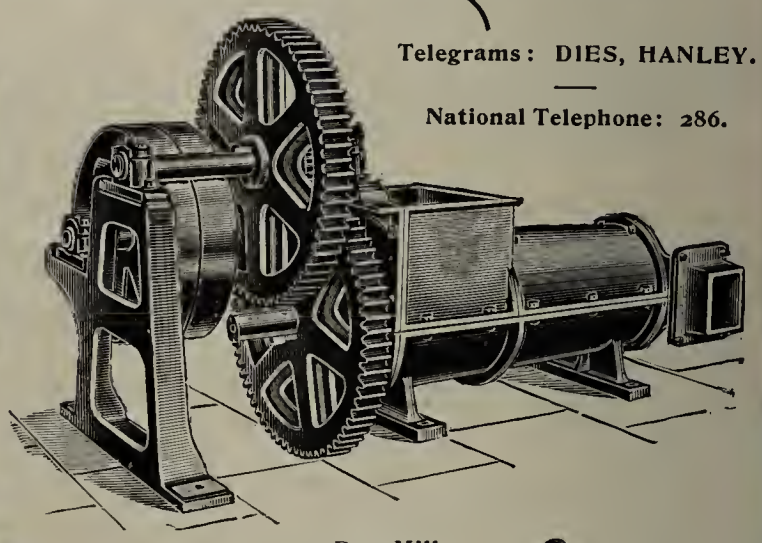
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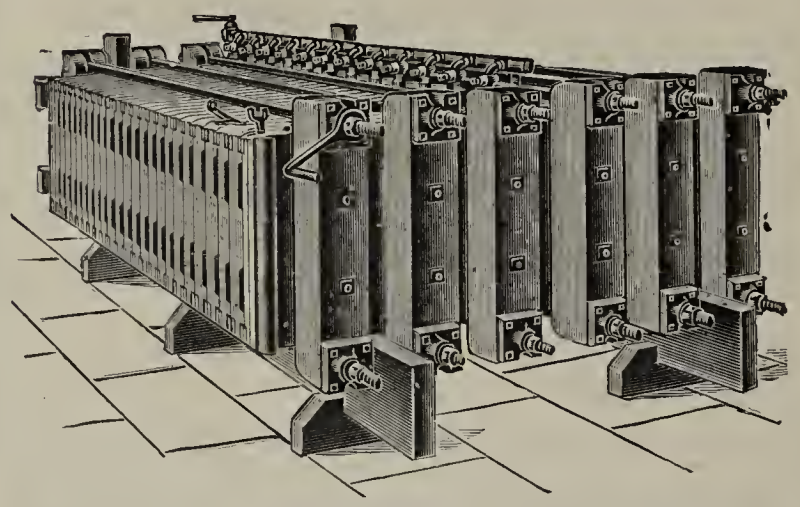
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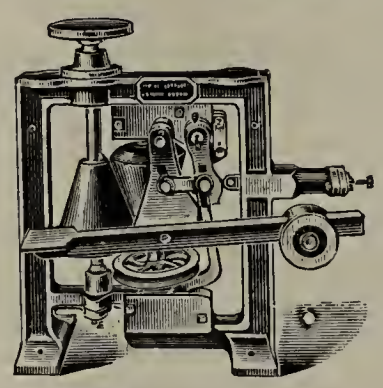


Pug Mill (without Gearing).



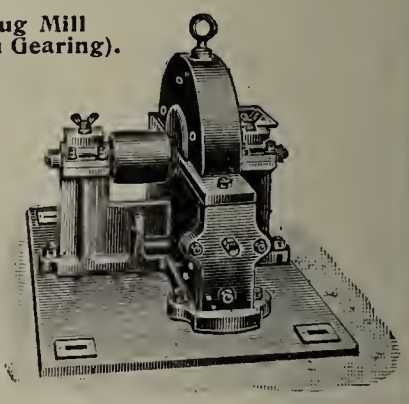


Filter Press.

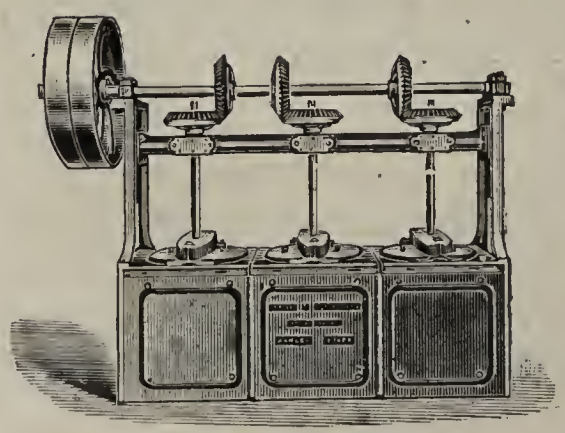


Throwing Wheel.

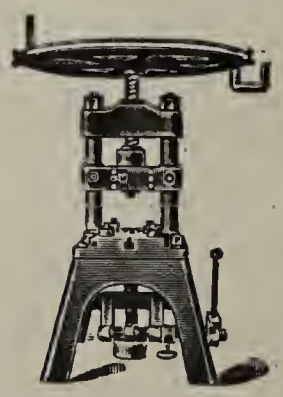
Pug Mill (with Gearing).



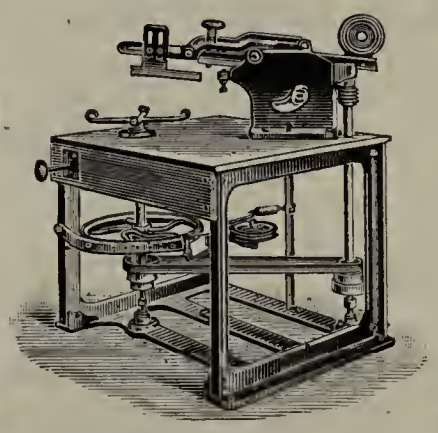
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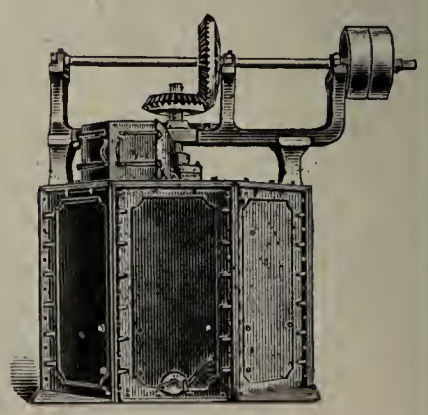
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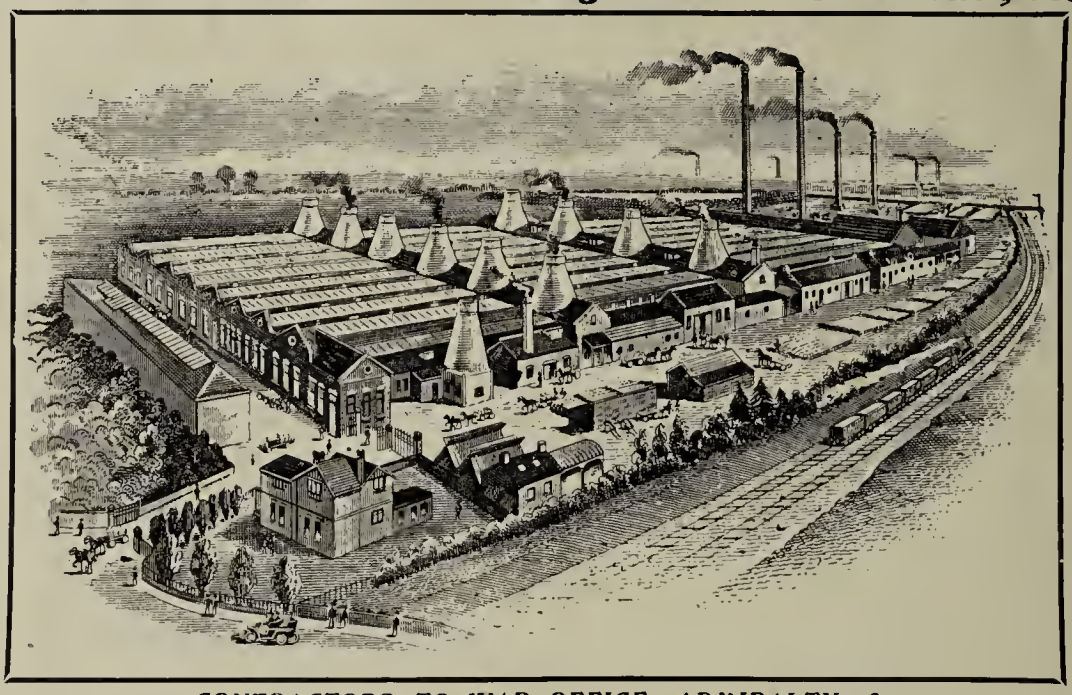
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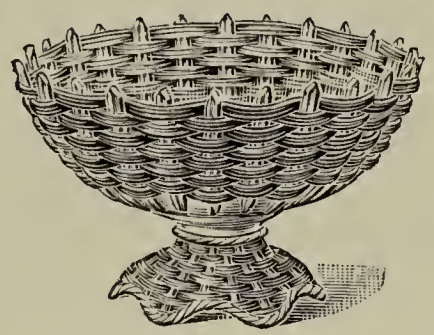
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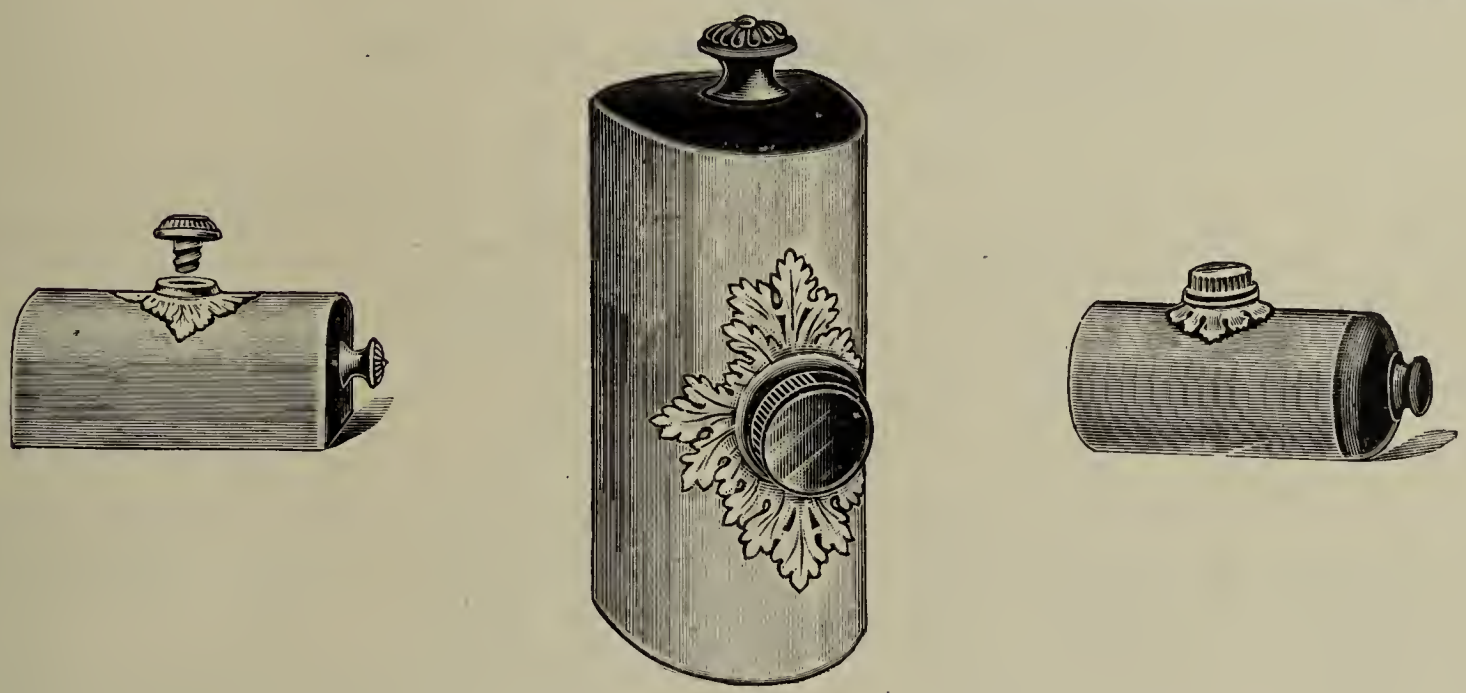
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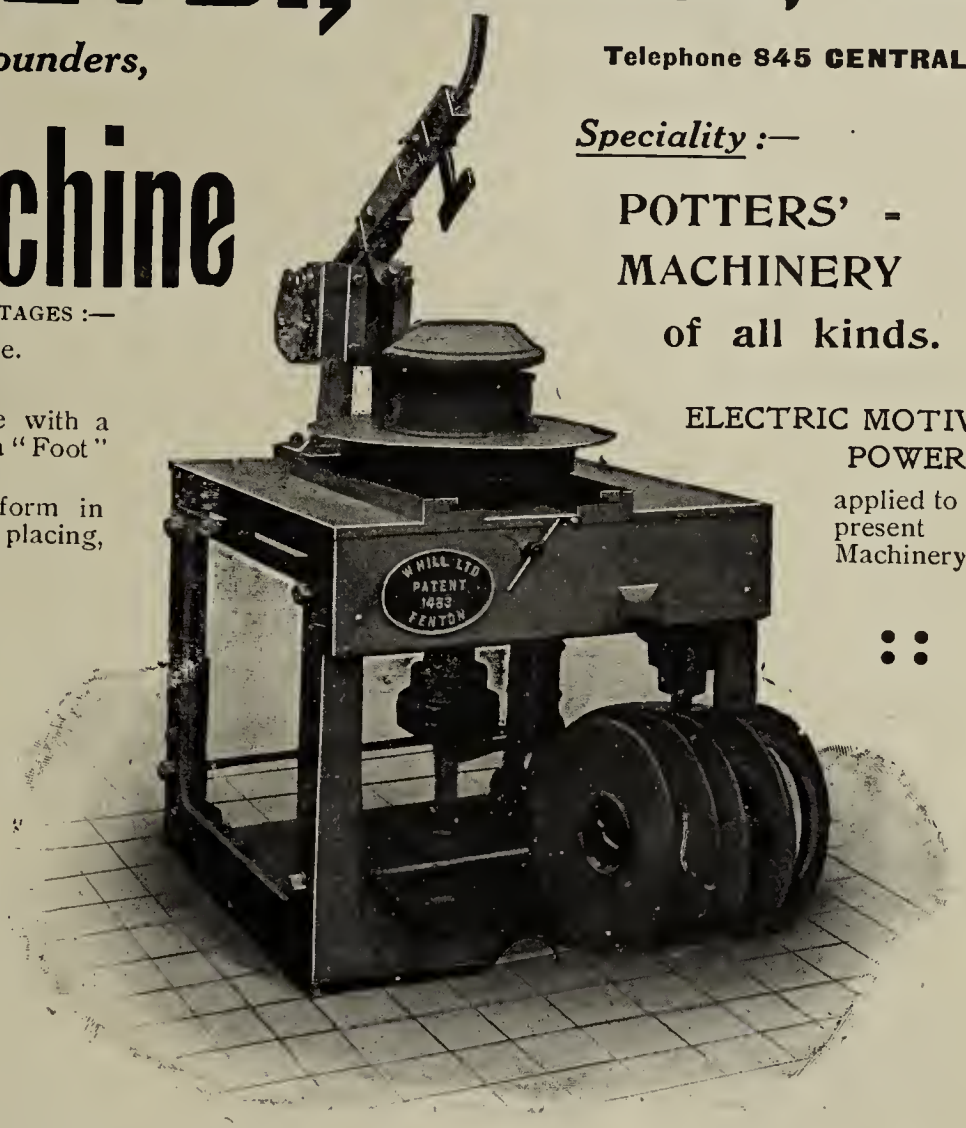
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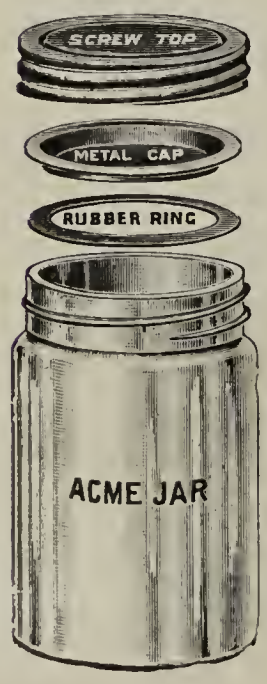
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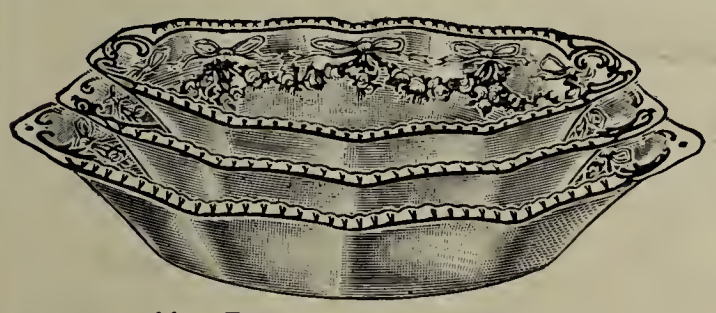
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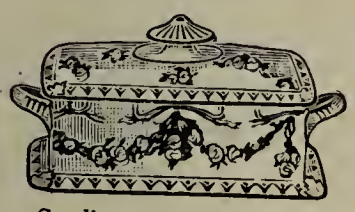


Triple Tray : Adam, 1635.



Egg Frames, 4 Cups, 1639.

This is a beautifully tinted lithographed design, so chaste that it must be seen to be appreciated.



Sardine : Adam, 1635.



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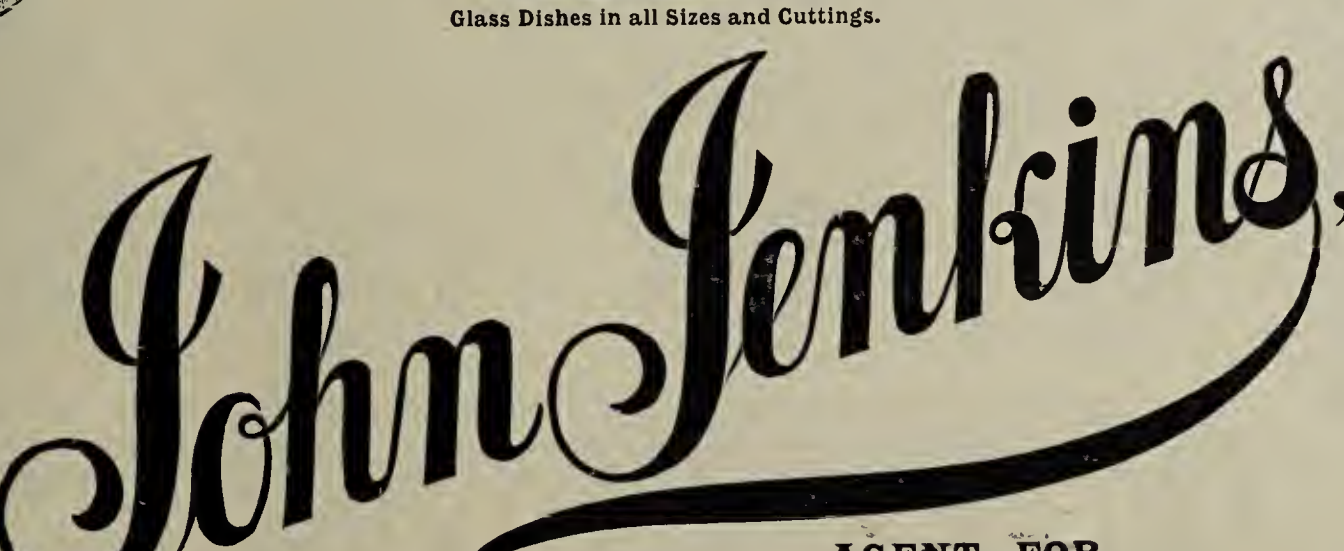
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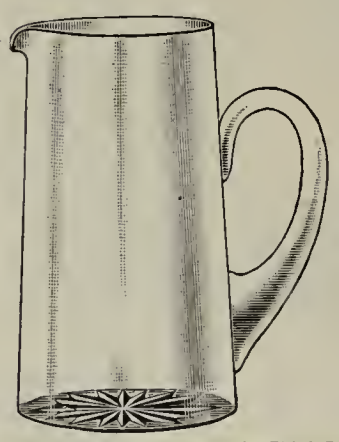
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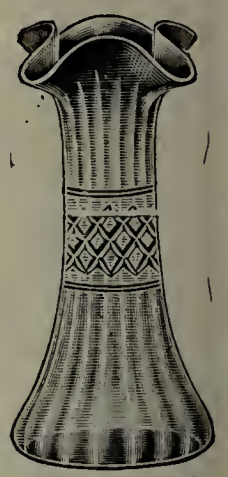
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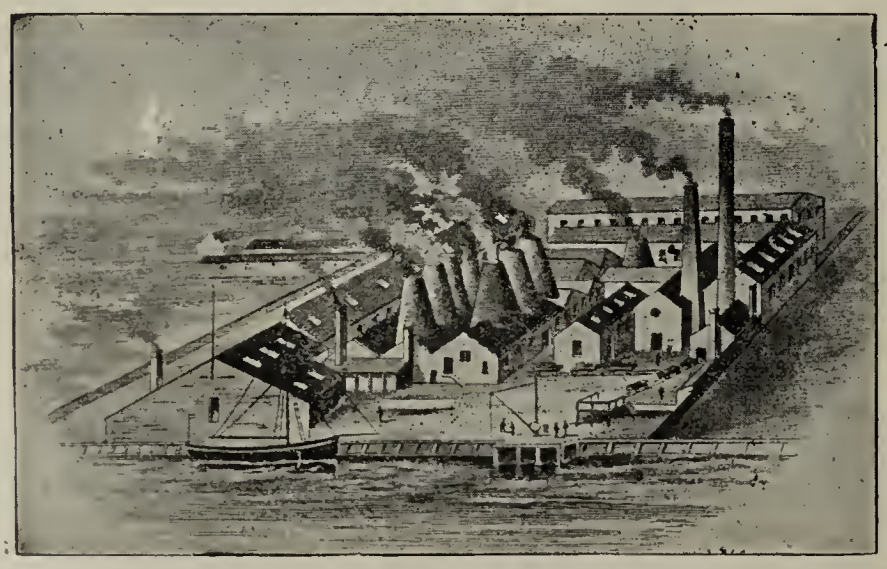
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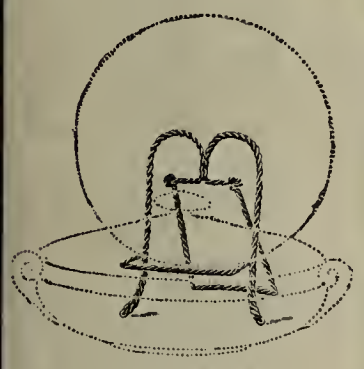
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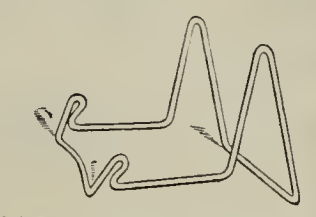
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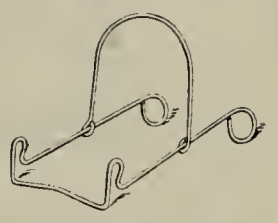


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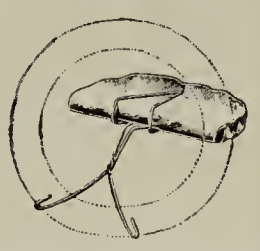
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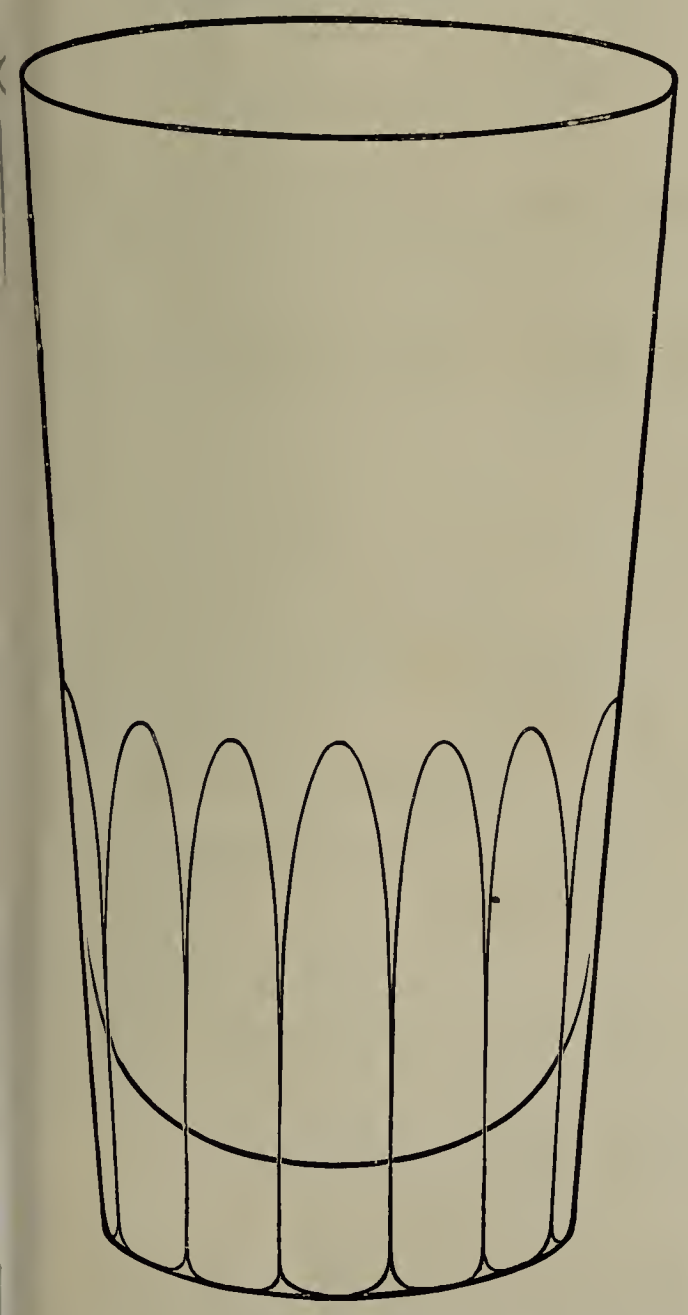
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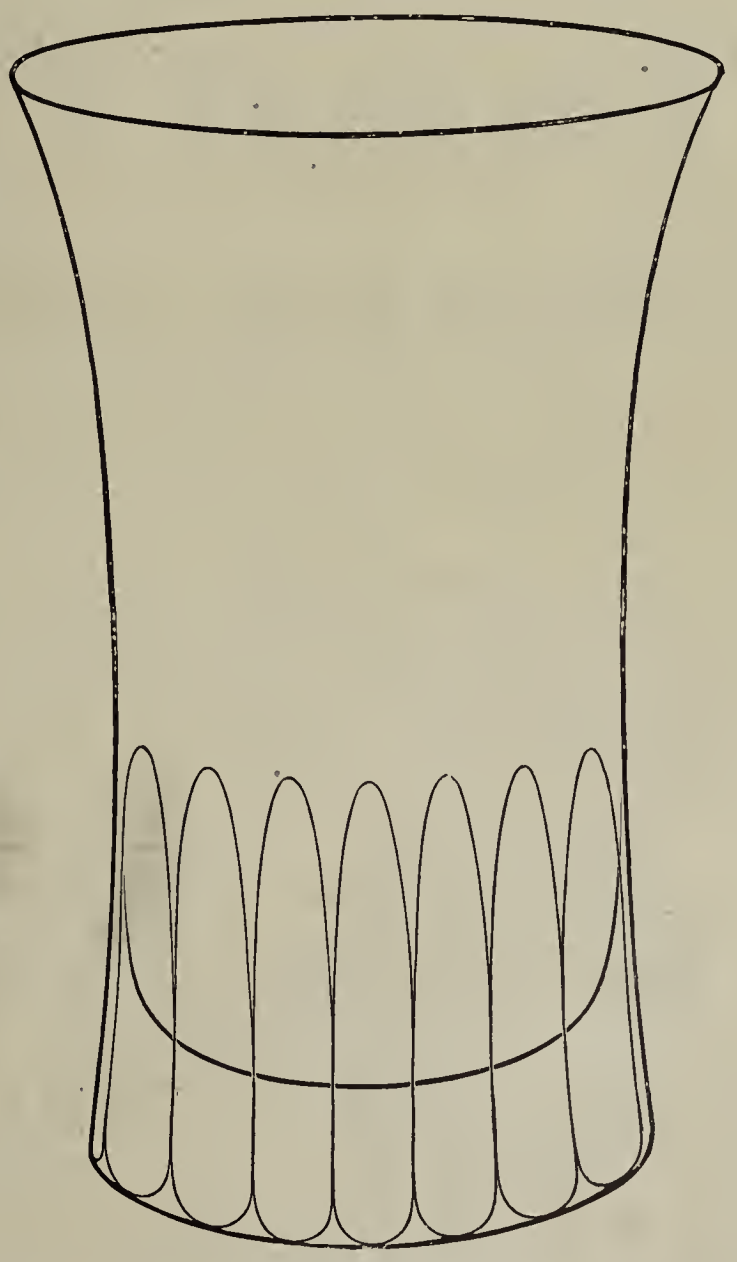
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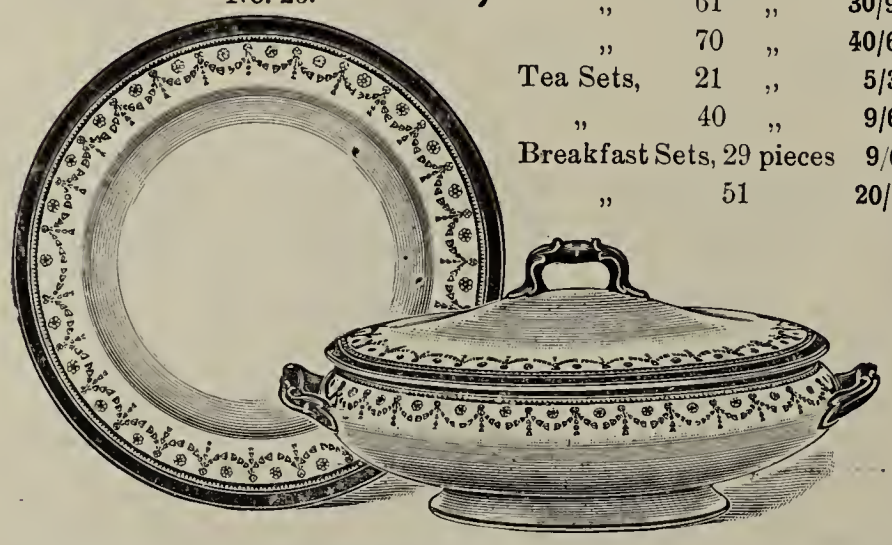
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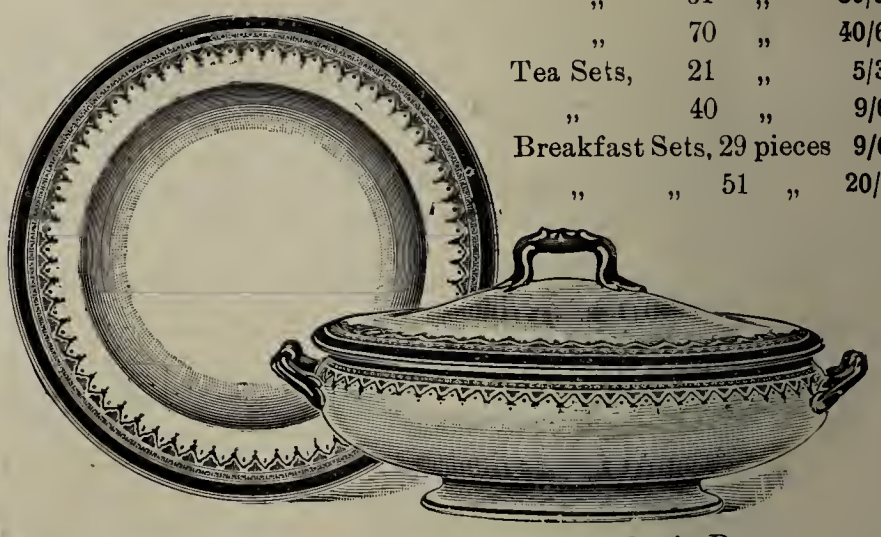


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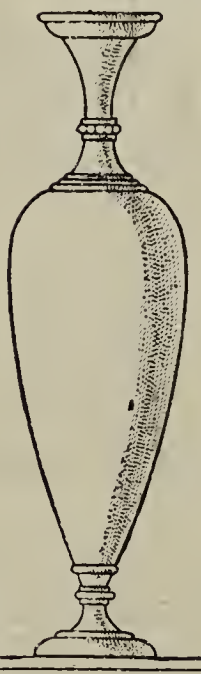
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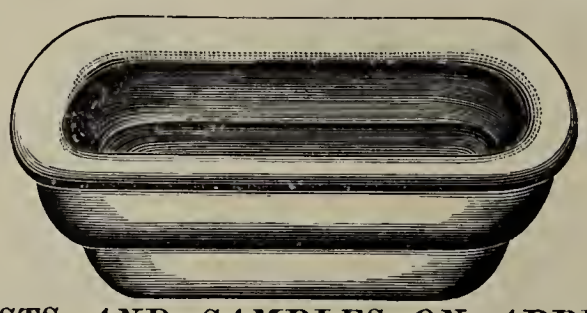
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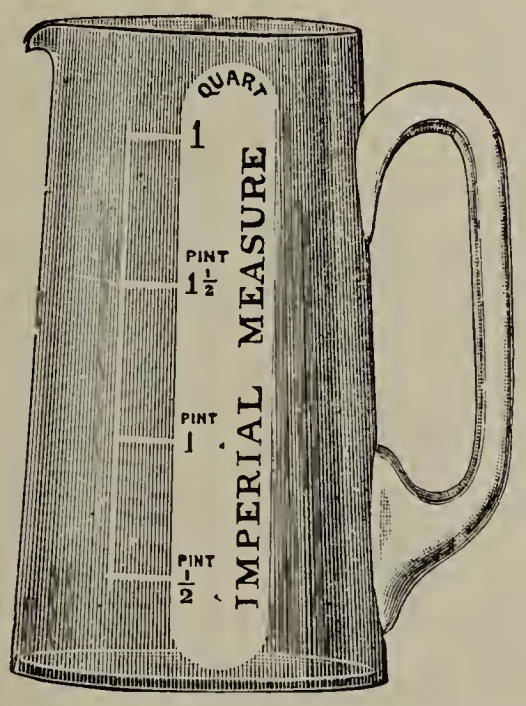


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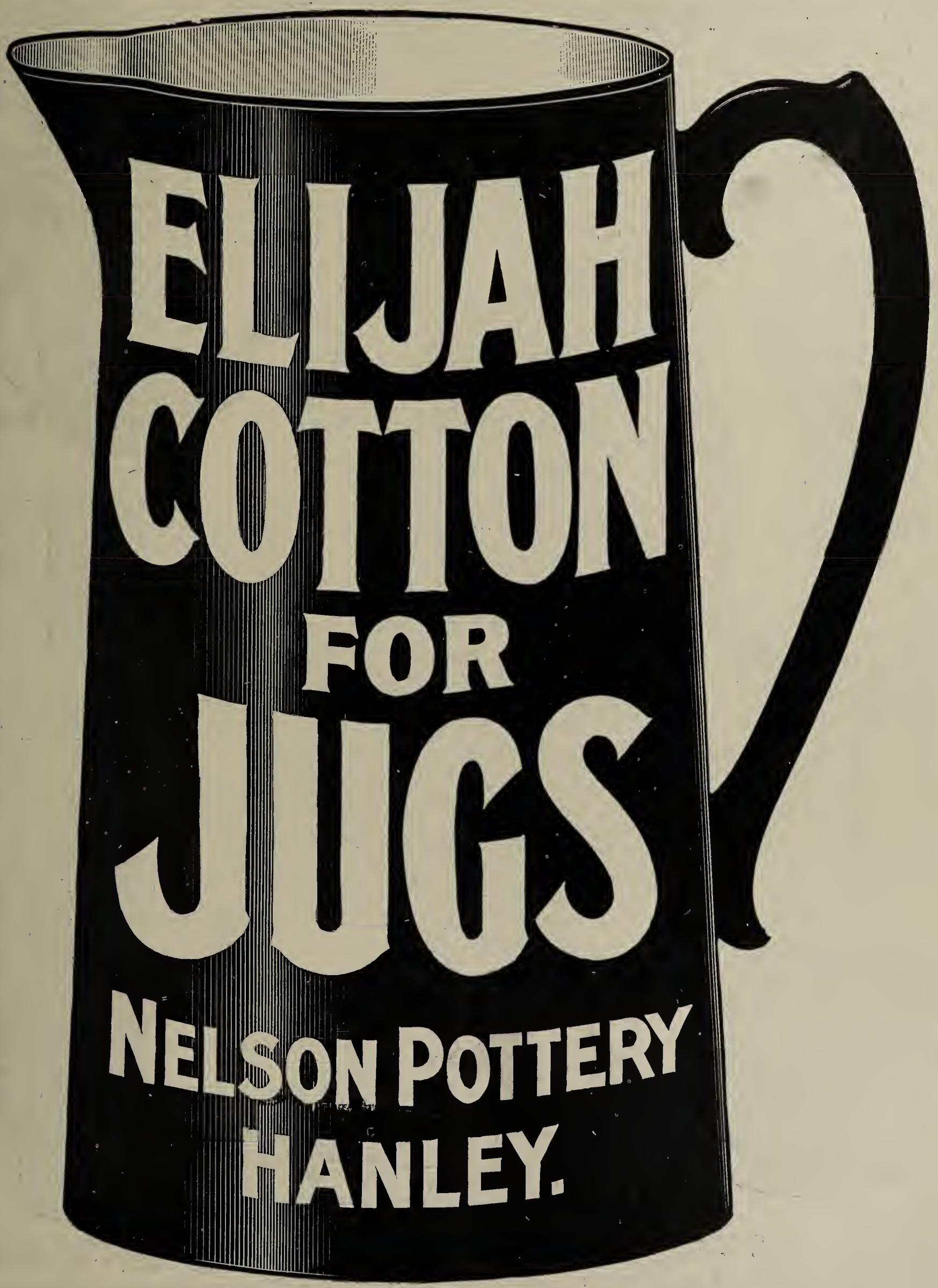
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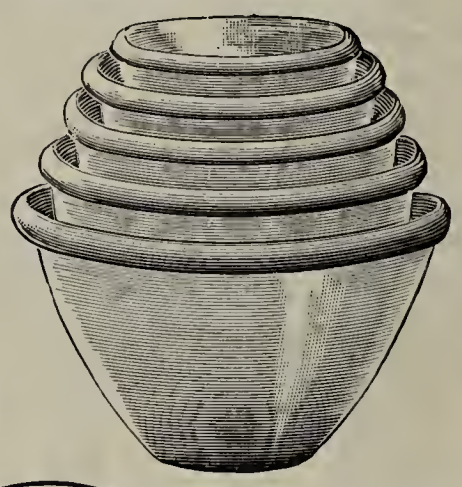
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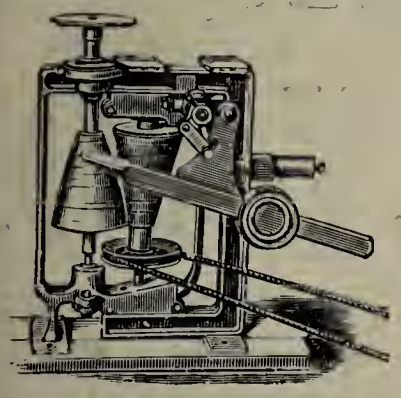
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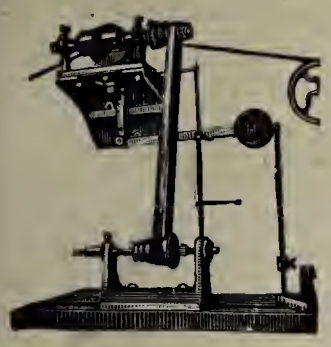
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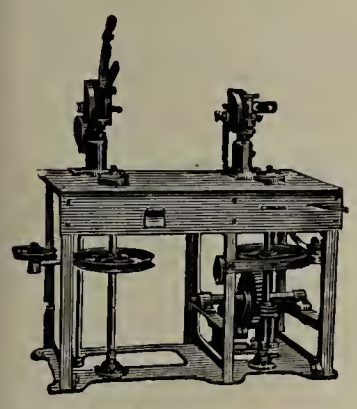
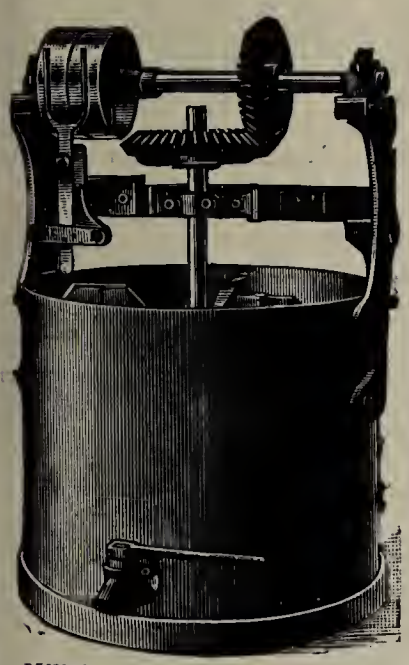
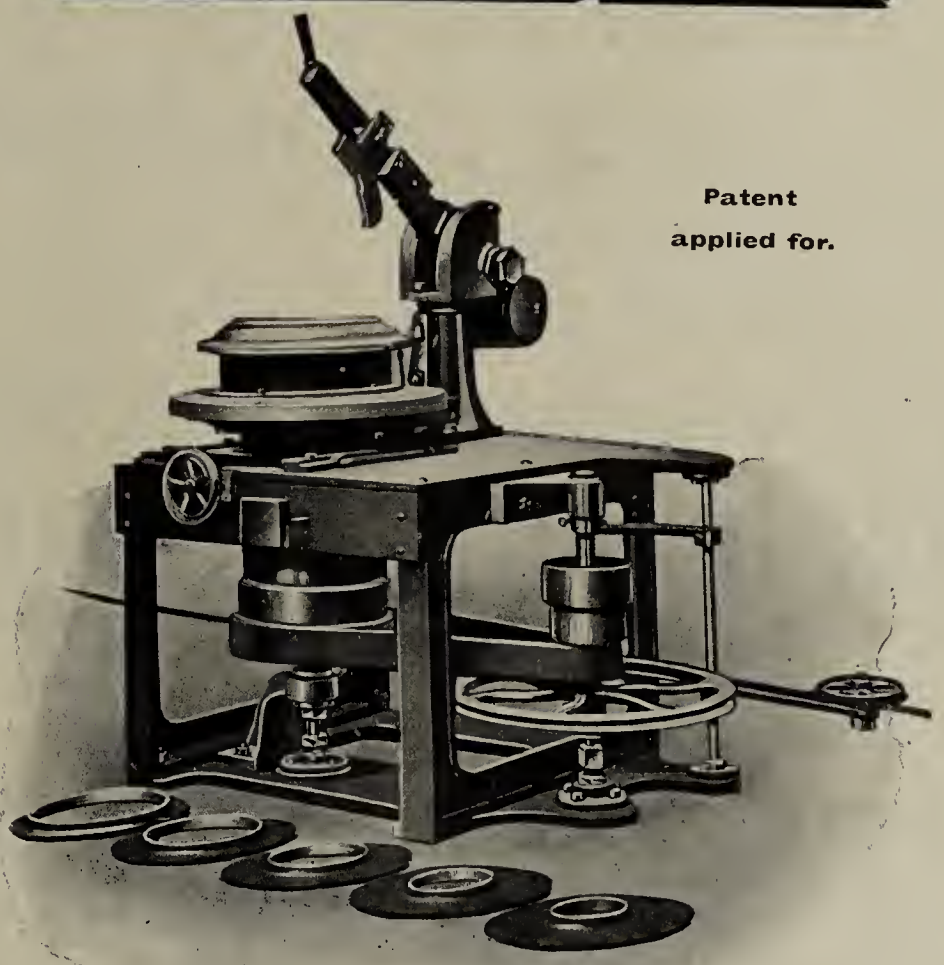


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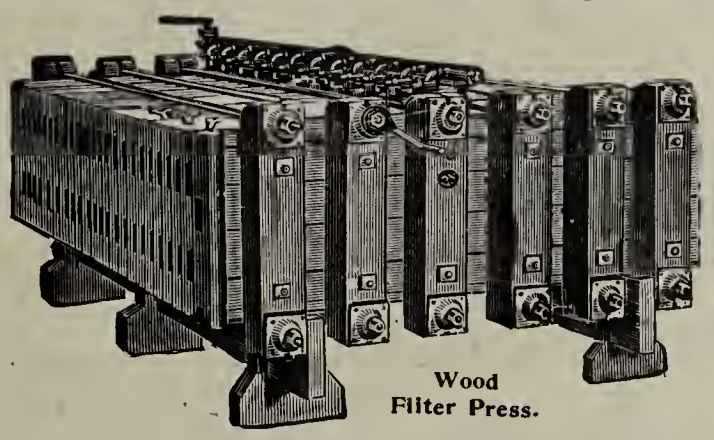


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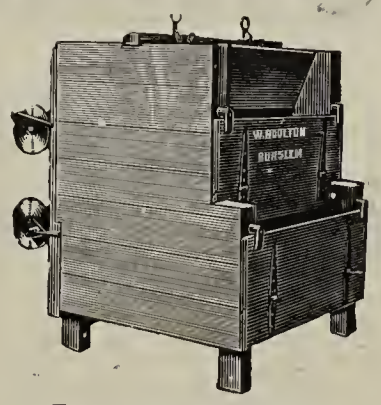


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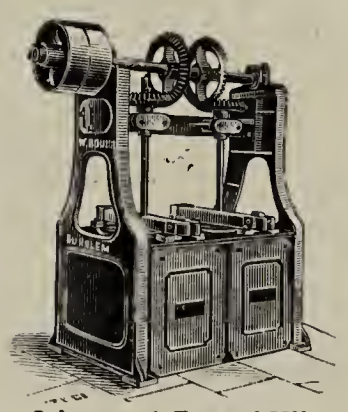
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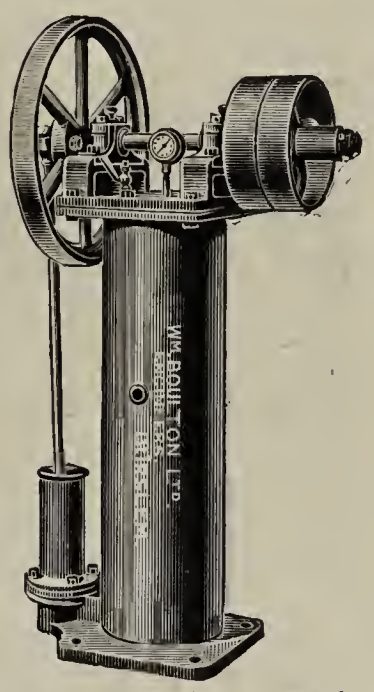
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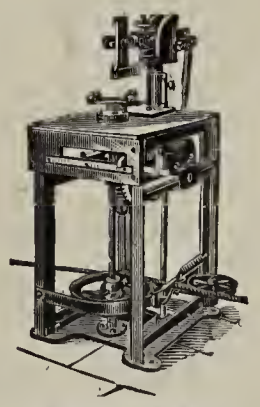
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Editorial Notes.

THE CHINA DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

IT will be seen from the report of the annual meeting in another column that the Association is justifying its existence by giving advice and, when necessary, legal assistance to its members. The headquarters have been removed to Leeds, as being more central; and the subscription has been reduced to 5s. per annum. The Association's finances are in a satisfactory position, and with the reduced subscription there ought to be a large addition to the list of members. There are many disadvantages that dealers have to fight against that can be removed by united effort which will never be overcome by any individual trader. When it becomes known that the glass and china dealer has a strong Association prepared to support him in his just claims, those claims will have respectful consideration.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

WE have been requested by the Board of Management to draw attention to the special effort that is now being made to place the Institution in a more satisfactory pecuniary position. At the general meeting on July 30, held for the purpose of electing annuitants, there were three candidates, but only two could be elected. It was pointed out at that meeting that the sum paid in annuities and relief was in excess of the amount of dividends received. The Board feel the necessity for increasing the invested capital, and are now making a special appeal to members of the trade all over the country to help them to put this deserving Institution in a strong position for usefulness. The members of the Board are but too well acquainted with the depressed condition of both the pottery and glass trades. But there are firms who have not suffered so keenly as others from that depression. If they can see their way to send donations towards this special fund, they will have the satisfaction of enabling this excellent institution not only to continue its present benefactions, but to meet other claims for assistance from distressed members of the trades. We appeal to glass and china dealers in all parts of the United Kingdom to join the Institution. It is intended to render assistance to such members of the trade as may become destitute through sickness or misfortune, and to the widows of members who may need assistance. It is doing good work now, but many additional members are required in order that its usefulness may be continued and extended. At present there are twenty-eight members or widows of members receiving annuities, £6,727 5s. 4d. has been paid by the Institution in annuities and temporary relief. In addition to the appeal made for special donations and increased effort to obtain members, the Board of Management have arranged for a grand variety entertainment to be given on Wednesday, Nov. 11, in the King's Theatre (one minute from Covent Garden Tube station). There is a very excellent list of artists (including Mr. George Robey and the Marriotts—mental telepathy) who have promised their services. The entertainment will be a good one, but what we want to emphasise is that the *object* of it is a good one, and one that should appeal to all members of every section of our trades. We hope they will respond—either by taking tickets for the entertainment,

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by sending a donation, however small, or by becoming members. The secretary, Mr. Algernon J. Prickett, 6, Thavies-inn, Holborn-circus, E.C., will be glad to hear from them.

THE NEW ARBITRATION COURT.

IN connection with the scheme for an Arbitration Court recently promulgated by the Board of Trade, a list has been published of those who have accepted the invitation of the President of the Board to serve on panels of chairmen, and on panels to be drawn from employers and from workpeople respectively. Speaking generally, not a single objection can be made to any of the names published. Lord James of Hereford, Sir Edward Fry, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, have already rendered great services to the country by acting as arbitrators in trade disputes. They are men whose quick mental perception and strong love of justice eminently qualify them for such positions, and not an exception has ever been taken to the ruling of any one of them. There are others in the published list who stand high in public estimation, but who have not yet had the experience of those we have named. It is matter for public satisfaction that we are now to have a permanent Court of Arbitration with such well-known, capable, and high-minded men as chairmen. The names in the panels drawn from employers and from workpeople are well-known public men, and may be relied upon to deal justly with any questions brought before them. We do not recognise the name, in either of the lists, of any person engaged in the industries we represent. The lists, we understand, are not yet complete, and doubtless the names of both employers and workers engaged in the pottery and glass trades will in due time be added. If the Court of Arbitration should be called upon to decide any question, or adjust any differences between employers and employed in our industries, it would be desirable that the court should include some person or persons with a thorough knowledge of the industries, but who, of course, are not parties to the matters to be adjusted. It is, however, rather singular that in the 33 names of employers and employed, who have accepted invitations to act as members of the court of arbitration, our industries should not be represented.

THE COLLECTION OF ACCOUNTS.

THE extended credit taken by retail dealers has for a long time been a source of irritation between pottery manufactures and their representatives. Without charging their agents with doing a risky business, manufactures frequently complain that those gentlemen are more anxious to obtain orders than to secure prompt payments. Everyone knows that trade has not been in a healthy condition for some time past. Dealers do not find their cash sales so large as they used to be, partly because the public as a whole is not spending money so freely just now, and partly because middle-class customers who used to pay cash are now asking credit. If suburban residents cannot get credit at one shop they are almost certain to get it at another not far away. Of course, if a dealer orders goods through an agent, at certain prices and on certain terms of payment, and the manufacturer delivers the goods on those conditions, the obligation is binding on the dealer to fulfil his part of the contract. The manufacturer is entitled to require the fulfilment of these obligations in order that he may meet his own. But there are cases when a dealer who is perfectly solvent suddenly finds that he needs some extension of time. The representative knows the dealer, and all the circumstances, which the manufacturer does not, and he (the manufacturer) gets uneasy, lest he should make a bad debt. Meanwhile the customer wants more goods, and if the representative sends down the order uneasiness and sometimes unpleasantness is created. Whatever explanations the agent makes, it is not easy to remove a feeling of mistrust, by post. Insurance companies will not insure against loss by bad debts, except on such stringent and irritating conditions as manufacturers cannot comply with. Could not the difficulty be met by the extension of the arrangement by which the representative, for an agreed higher rate of commission, will guarantee the manufacturer against loss by the sales he makes. This is done in a few cases here, but it is more generally practised in America. The agent comes into personal contact with the dealer, and, under the proposed arrangement, he would be additionally interested in both getting payment and selling goods, and thus the manufacturer would be doubly benefited. The agent would, of course, get the extra commission all round, and would be in a position to make an exceptional arrangement with a customer in an exceptional emergency, without irritating and, as far as the dealer is concerned, unpleasant correspondence with the works.

THE FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION AWARDS.

WE have not yet seen any report of the jurors nor any comments by them upon the exhibits. However, the list of awards in the British Section has been published. Though apparently not complete, it is a formidable document. It occupies fifty-three quarto pages, and contains the names of upwards of three thousand contributors and exhibitors from all parts of the Empire. The public bodies which have been awarded grand prizes or diplomas of honour range from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to small local institutes.

The awards are the grand prize, diploma of honour, gold medal, silver medal, bronze medal, and "honourable mention." The adjudicators do not seem to have regarded the Exhibition as a competitive one between the manufacturers and producers of the two countries, but at the time we write the awards in the French Section have not been published, so perhaps we shall hear something in this connection shortly. The following is a list of the awards in the classes which include the industries we represent, and we take this opportunity to congratulate the recipients of them.

CLASS 72.—CERAMICS, TILES, PORCELAIN.

Grand Prize.

THE WORCESTER ROYAL PORCELAIN CO., LTD. (E. P. Evans, managing director).—For the general excellence of their productions in fine porcelain. The award is made in respect of exhibits which include a fine group of scale blue vases, fine pierced vases with filigree gold finish, finely modelled porcelain figures, large china vases notable for their pottery and decoration, specimens of tea, breakfast, dinner and dessert services in fine porcelain, and a variety of vases and objects of art.

PILKINGTON'S TILE AND POTTERY CO., LTD., Clifton Junction, Manchester.—For the special excellence of their exhibits, which include tiles, faïence, mosaics, "Lancastrian pottery," artistic vases and other art forms, and for their new artistic effects in glazes and lustres.

Mr. W. HOWSON TAYLOR, West Smethwick, Birmingham.—For the artistic excellence of specimens of his "Ruskin pottery."

Diploma of Honour.

Sir E. H. ELTON, Bart.,' Clevedon-court, Somerset.—For his "Sunflower Pottery" or "Elton Ware," a unique production in artistic pottery in form and ornamentation.

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THE SCHOOL OF ART, Jaipur State, India.—For specimens of marble and porcelain carving.

Gold Medal.

Mr. W. L. BARON, The Square, Barnstaple.—For his Barnstaple art pottery, an artistic ware made and decorated by hand.

Mr. GEO. SCHENCK, Nursery-rd., Mitcham, Surrey.—For glazed tiles, plaques, architectural pottery, panels, busts, &c.

THE KANGAROO ISLAND CHINA-STONE AND CHINA-CLAY Co., South Australia.—For silica, felspar, china-stone, fire-clay, &c.

The **Silver Medal** is awarded to "GEO. KENT, LTD." We did not see their exhibit, we do not know their name, and it is not given in the index to the catalogue. Two other firms have been awarded silver medals in this class. This is evidently a mistake, as they exhibit carpets, rugs, and curtains.

The **Bronze Medal** is awarded to the INVENTORS AND INVESTORS CORPORATION, LTD., Chiswick, for their patent "S.Y.P." teapot and their patent "Instra" warmer.

CLASS 73.—CRYSTAL, GLASSWARE.

Grand Prize.

THOMAS WEBB & SONS, LTD., Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge.—For their exhibit of high-class and artistic English hand-made glass, including many rich hand-made specimens of the glass maker's ingenuity, and the finest examples of the glass decorator's art—rich cutting, engraved and "intaglio" and cameo work.

Gold Medal.

E. BREFFIT & Co., LTD., Castleford, Yorkshire.—For the specimens of the numerous varieties of bottles they make for mineral aerated waters and kindred purposes.

CLASS 66.—DECORATION OF HOUSES, &C.

Grand Prize.

PILKINGTON BROS., LTD., St. Helens, Lancashire.—The official list awards this prize to "The Pilkington Tile and Pottery Co." It should be to Pilkington Bros., Ltd., for their sheet and plate glass, rolled plate glass, wired glass, ornamental window glass and glass panels.

Diploma of Honour.

THE BROMSGROVE GUILD OF APPLIED ART.

Gold Medal.

THE BRILLIANT SIGN CO., LTD., 38, Gray's Inn-rd., London.—For artistic glass signs

CLASS 67.—STAINED GLASS
and CLASS 87.—APPLIED CHEMISTRY.

Grand Prize.

WENGERS, LTD., Etruria, have been awarded the Grand Prize in each of these classes. One was for the excellence of their colours and enamels prepared specially for the pottery and metal trades, and the other for perfection in productions for pottery, glass and metal enamelling. (These are gratifying additions to the company's awards at former international exhibitions—at Paris in 1878, at Limoges in 1902, at St. Louis in 1904, and elsewhere.)

CLASS 21 and CLASS 27.

The **Grand Prize** has been awarded in each of these classes to the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co., for various measuring and recording instruments and testing apparatus.

At the end of the official list there is an intimation that "the list of awards to collaborators in the British Section will be published at a later date." We are unable to explain this.

We hope to deal with the French awards in our next issue.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

SLACKNESS (?) IN THE CHINA TRADE.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—We hear daily reports as to the depression in the Potteries, but I am sure that some manufacturers must be much busier than is represented to be the case. Else, how is it that I am still waiting delivery of a simple china tea service ordered from sample in January last? My customers are meanwhile making shift with a service which I have lent them—whether I shall be able to sell it at full price when it comes back I cannot say. If not, the manufacturers ought to pay the difference as compensation for their want of attention.—I am, yours, &c.,

Oct. 27. RETAILER.

LEAD POISONING IN THE POTTERIES.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Early this month I received a circular letter from a London weekly paper advising me that they proposed to publish two long articles, in successive issues, dealing with "the subject of lead poisoning in the potteries, pointing out the evils arising amongst the workers in certain processes incidental to the manufacture of china and earthenware. . . . The articles, which have been specially written, make a forcible appeal to our readers to purchase only leadless-glazed ware. . . . We purpose to insert in our advertising columns a directory of shops where it can be bought." The circular then quotes the rates for inserting name and address in this "Directory," and invites "instructions for the two insertions and a remittance, as early as possible." The first article has appeared. There is nothing original in it. It consists of repetitions of the sensational accounts of the effects of lead poisoning that have been published again and again by persons posing as philanthropists. The public ought to know that these articles condemning lead glazed pottery are written in order to obtain advertisements from dealers who sell leadless-glazed pottery. This may be smart business, but it is neither philanthropic nor benevolent.—Yours, &c.,

Oct. 24, 1908. A PROVINCIAL DEALER.

THE REGISTRATION OF FIRMS BILL.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—It is most refreshing to see that the Registration of Firms Bill is being warmly taken up by trade papers. As for any assistance to be looked for from Chambers of Trade or Chambers of Commerce, such is not likely to accrue. The benefits to the small trader which will be secured are too manifold for any tangible support to come from either of these quarters. We have a sample of what the Chamber of Trade would do with the small trader, in its proposal to destroy one half of them by shutting them up during the only part of their business day when they can earn a living. Most English people would have thought that the present voluntary Act was running smoothly enough, without this unsolicited attempt to drive a spoke into its wheels. The attitude of Chambers of Commerce may be judged by the fact that they have shirked the Bill during the more than twenty years that it has annually been brought in. It is quite that time since I recollect the Bill being introduced by the late Sir John (then Mr.) Barran, of Leeds. Of course, it never went beyond first reading, and it was

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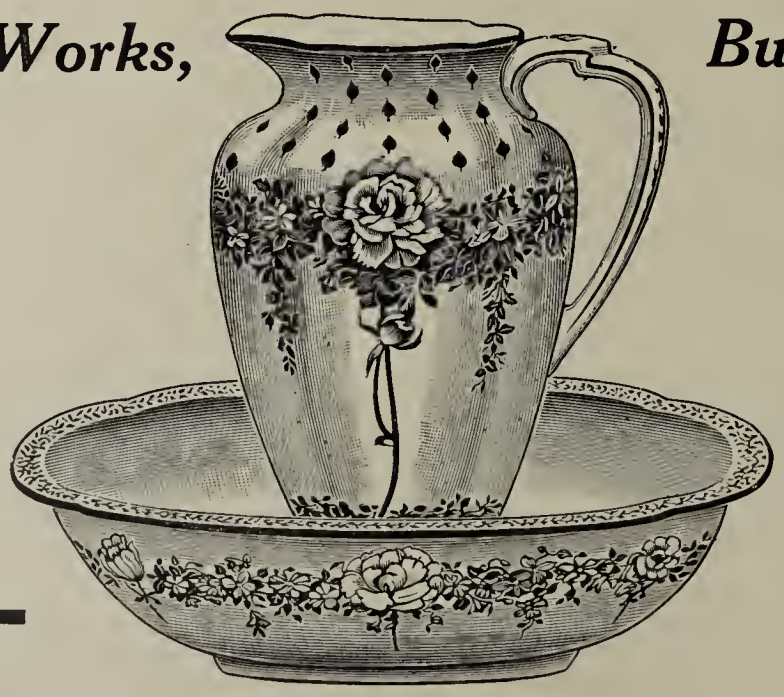
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MR. JAMES TUNSTALL.

If you are interested in Granite, write for Sample of my new **"FESTOON"** Shape.

treated similarly every year. On his death, and ever since, it has come in and gone out every year. I noticed it among the list of new Bills on the accession of the present Government, but so far no results. Only one inference can be drawn, viz., that any ministry, whether Radical or Tory, has so far been dependent on the votes of men who are either too proud or too afraid of the public knowing what business they are in, or even that they are in business at all. Under these circumstances it is evident that the Bill will have to be forced through by the small wholesalers and shopkeepers themselves, and this can easily be done by invoking their representatives in Parliament, through the agency of their various trade organisations. The second clause of the Act, now before me, simply says: This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1908. The date is italicised, and the Bill is still sand-ploughing, in its 23rd year; a sufficient proof of how favourably Chambers of Commerce regard it. It would appear that our retailers do not sufficiently study the underlying currents which cause them an immensity of injury, and which this Bill is intended to remove. The fierce competition which is grinding their profits to dust from multiple shops and anonymous traders, is frequently engineered by people who dare not let it be publicly known that they are trading at all. There are numerous people, whose riches have enabled them to move in society, who are engaged privately in trading against struggling retailers—and this Bill will compel them to clear out of either one rôle or the other. I know a shopkeeper in a provincial town who supplied a rich man with family groceries, and corn for his horses, a man who entertained the late Duke of Albany at his house, who never paid his grocer under twelve months' credit, and on whose death was discovered to have been sleeping partner in several competing shops. But the gravest aspect of this anonymous competition arises from the large number of undischarged bankrupts who are engaged in it. The "Gazette" does not show a tithe of discharges to adjudications, and the balance, naturally, are back in the ranks, gnawing the roots of those honest traders who are bearing the "burden of the day and the heats." I know a case now of a man who has been in a small, steady way twenty-five years. He drives three miles every morning at 5 o'clock to meet the milk train. One of his customers, who must be served at 7 o'clock in a stylish neighbourhood, is, to my knowledge, running a retail shop in another part, and, I am told, had a deficit of over £3,000 four years ago, paid no dividend, and has got no discharge.

A greater evil, which ruined many, was the fact that substantial men pose as partners, and, when things go wrong, are found not to be responsible, and this was the real reason why the Bill was originally framed. At that time the number of swindles perpetrated by merchants, whose real partners turned out to be men of straw, had grown epidemic. Beginners in the wholesale way may be ruined, and frequently are, very early in their career, through these cunning tricksters. It is to root out these predatory adventurers and impostors, that the Registration of Firms Bill is designed. There can be no doubt of its success if the retailers will be up and doing. Equally certain is it that the compulsory closing maggot, thanks to the strenuous efforts of the trade journals, may be regarded as having "died ere it began to bud." The Bill is very simple, and can be purchased for one penny.—Yours, &c.

WALTER BEAN.

174-175, Aldersgate-st., E.C., Oct. 27.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Unfair Trading."—We agree with you, it is not fair, but to stop it by legislation would be to introduce a greater evil.

"Salesman."—Your employer should make a little concession to keep a good customer. He need not admit liability by doing so.

"Special."—Your conditions are not reasonable, and we are sure no self-respecting maker would accept an order subject to them.

James H.—It is impossible to give an opinion on such incomplete information. If you can send more particulars, we will try and help you.

Buyer.—We know the manufacturers, but they make it to the order of one customer, whose design it is. They would not supply any other dealer.

Puzzled Dealer.—Two manufacturers supply exactly the same decoration. We do not know who applied it first, or who designed it. Most likely they both bought it.

"Subscriber."—The firm is not now in business. Their pottery, however, is still working. Send your order addressed to "The —— Pottery, ——," and you will get the goods.

M. B.—We do not profess to be experts in old pottery, though we are always pleased to assist correspondents when we can. "The Curio Club" is perhaps the best authority to advise you.

Canada.—Brownfield's Pottery, Ltd., is not now in existence. The patterns were sold in 1903. If any particular pattern is required we may be able to give the name of firm who purchased same.

D.—We can assure you that the firm whose name we gave appear in the Official Designs List as proprietors of the registered design mentioned. You might ask them how they explain this, and write us again if you still are unsuccessful.

R. L.—You would do well to take some pains to match your customer's goods. "Matchings" may not yield profit, but they help to keep old customers. We know many dealers who have cards in their shops, "Matchings and repairs undertaken."

M. C.—After a very exhaustive search we at last find that no such registered number as that you give has ever been given to an article of glass, china, or earthenware, one of which we suppose your flower-pot in question to be made of. Evidently you have copied the number incorrectly.

T. B.—The glass dish you send has a registration mark on the bottom, but only the letters "Regd." are decipherable. The figures which should follow are too indistinct to be read. If you have access to other dishes of the same pattern you may find one in which the registration number is distinct. If you send that number we can help you.

L. X.—We again beg to inform you that all expedition is used in replying to correspondents, and that it is simply impossible to give information by return of post. Many times, with all our knowledge, answers have taken weeks to obtain, and this we consider far more satisfactory than a quicker reply to the effect that we are unable to give information asked.

H.—Almost every china manufacturer makes saucers of the shape you send us, which we take to be "Worcester shape." Our advice is that you refer to the pages of our "Gazette," and write to the advertisers therein for quotations. The only description you need give in asking for prices is: Breakfast cups and saucers, Worcester shape, with crest or border in black on glaze.

Striking Glass-blowers Strike Blows.—In connection with a strike at a North London glassworks, two young glass-blowers quarrelled with an imported French workman. Blows were struck, and a summons and cross-summons resulted. Holding the evidence insufficient, the magistrate dismissed both summonses.

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NEW STYLES, - - -
NEW FORMS, - - -
NEW DECORATIONS

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In all Lines.

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Middleport Pottery,

BURSLEM.

Show Rooms always open.

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NEW ZEALAND—28, FORT STREET, AUCKLAND.

AUSTRALIA—51, PALING'S BUILDINGS, SYDNEY.

Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

Baker & Co., Ltd., of Fenton, are entering more largely upon the production of fancy decorated ware of good quality, to meet the demand in the various markets in which they are engaged. On a recent visit to their manufactory I inspected two of their latest productions, the "Etruscan" dinner ware, and the "Aerial" toilet ware, and I was much impressed by the beauty of these. The "Etruscan" dinner ware, shown on the right in the illustration, is refreshingly new in form, and it is very neat and pleasing in its decoration. It is modelled throughout and is suitable for the Canadian, U.S.A., and other markets. The ware is decorated in several styles. One of the most attractive of these is the "Eton" style, as shown, the different articles looking very pretty in the H-green colour, handsomely cut up in gold. Equally pretty is the "Bramble" style of decoration, printed in pencil, which is one of the firm's standard colours, and which came out uniformly in the various articles seen. The "Etruscan" dinner ware is also to be had in litho-transfer decoration, and in this it looks very effective. The "Aerial" toilet ware, which is illustrated with the "Empire" pattern, is also a good shape, and it is tastefully decorated. It is to be had in plain printed, and enamelled designs; and also in litho-transfer patterns. The production of these two novelties—the "Etruscan" dinner ware and the "Aerial' toilet ware—indicate an advance in decorative style on the part of Baker & Co. In addition to the specialities mentioned this firm have many varieties of toilet and dinner ware which are of good finish and moderate in cost. For instance, the "Orlando" dinner ware, "Ophelia" pattern, also illustrated, is a good selling line. The firm have a nice range of decorated jugs, fancy tea-pots, flower-pots, triple trays, &c., in many styles of decoration. They have a very effective range of patterns in fancy painted and sponged-ware. A considerable quantity of hotel and ship's ware is made in their manufactory.

James Sadler & Son, Ltd., Wellington Works, Newport-st., Burslem, are manufacturers of teapots in many shapes, plain and decorated. They have their London showrooms at 5, Hatton-garden, E.C., where their representative, Mr. W. Asprey, has a full line of their samples including a number of new ones for the season. He is showing tea-pots in jet, rockingham, samian, walnut, and ivory bodies, plain and decorated. The latest novelty is the patent "B.A." teapot. This is a simple arrangement for brewing tea on hygienic principles. The aim is to extract all the virtue from the leaves without allowing the infusion to become affected by "tannin." There is a perforated division made of the same body as the pot, and extending from nearly the top to the bottom. The tea is put in one side only, the side nearest the handle, and when the pot is filled with boiling water, the clear tea is poured off while all the leaves are retained in the teapot. It is a perfect strainer, with no screws to adjust, and no rubber or metal to spoil the flavour of the tea. The "B A." teapot is made in jet and gold decorated with lilies of the valley, in panels with green ground. The "Royal" shape in ivory and white has floral decorations traced in gold in many patterns. The "Queen" is a good shape in ivory with many floral patterns. The same shape is decorated in Japan patterns. The Wellington shape, in several sizes, has embossments with hunting scenes—white on sage green and samian. The same decorations are shown on the "Oban" shape. The "Dresden" pot in jet, samian, and mottled is decorated in gold on coloured grounds. The



BAKER & CO., LTD., FENTON.

"Wellington" shape looks well in dark green—a solid colour. Mr. Asprey is showing a quaint novelty in a large teapot with two spouts. The spouts are fixed just so apart that two cups can be filled with one pouring. The pot has a tab in front to facilitate lifting. These two-spouted teapots are made in two sizes, 9 pints and 12 pints.

Blyth Porcelain Co., Ltd., High-st., Longton, are represented in London by Mr. C. J. Pratt, and their showroom is at Gamage Buildings, 118, Holborn, E.C., very near Holborn Circus. I had the pleasure of meeting their managing director, Mr. Victor Forester, at the London rooms a short time since. A number of new samples had just reached the rooms, and these were nicely set out and were under discussion at the time Mr. Forester entered. I congratulated him on the steady improvement made in the productions of the company, and he said they had kept that constantly before them for some time past, and he thought they had been fairly successful. The samples they showed me bore testimony to that, for they were commendable from every point of view. The body of the company's "Diamond China" is of excellent quality, and has acquired a good reputation in the trade, while the new shapes and ornamentations for the coming season are very

pleasing. The principal lines are tea and breakfast ware, and the samples shown cover a wide range in shape, decoration, and price. There are some high-class patterns amongst them, but it is not so much the aim of the Blyth Porcelain Company to supply the most expensive varieties as to provide a nice selection of pleasing decorations, on good shapes, at moderate prices. There is a selection of samples now on show in London that answers all these conditions. Mr. Forester says they have been making very considerable improvements in, and some additions



THE BLYTH PORCELAIN CO., LTD., LONGTON. [*Photo. by "The Pottery Gazette."*

to, their plant. They have introduced labour-saving and time-saving machines and arrangements that have greatly accelerated their output and given them an advantage in the matter of prices. The most attractive of the new teas is the "Ena" shape, a very pleasing cup to handle, as well as to look at. We give an illustration of a number of pieces in the "Ena," from which the shape of the tea cup and of the cream will be better understood than from mere verbal description. The cup is a really graceful form and one that suits many decorative treatments. There are samples of the shape in many decorations shown in the rooms. The decoration we illustrate is a new artistic treatment in an exceptionally delicate design. (The works number is 5031.) This same decoration on the "Ena" shape is shown on all china for table use. In addition to cups and saucers, there are teapots and stands, marmalade dishes and trays, cress dishes, hotwater jugs, sugars and creams, honey pots, sweets, on the same shape, and decorated in many patterns en suite. The teapot in the "Ena" shape is a particularly graceful form. The other novelties include some new colourings which are both delicate and effective. The company are running light dainty patterns at present, in place of more showy decorations. The "Ena" shape is shown with dark blue band and gilt, and also with neatly printed patterns inside the band. Looking at the samples generally, the collection is a good one, and the multiplicity of patterns is so great that all tastes are catered for. Dark green bands and gold, and light green bands and gold are acceptable variations on the familiar blue bands, and in the same style in all respects but colour. A full range of "Queen's white" is supplied in "Diamond China."

Mr. John Jenkins, 32, Ely-place, Holborn Circus, E.C. (late Shirley & Peake), manufacturers' agent and importer of glass ware, is now ready with his new goods for Christmas and the New Year. He has always on hand a large stock of Bohemian crystal cut glass in such variety that he claims to be able to suit all tastes on demand. A look round his showrooms (which are always open) will show that this statement seems quite justified. But to make sure of pleasing his customers, he has added some new lines in the latest and most artistic forms and decorations. He is a specialist in table glass—especially plain and cut flint glass. Trinket sets are amongst his leading lines, and he is showing in his rooms several in good cut crystal glass, with stoppered scent bottles, and glass trays in good shapes. He shows a great variety of patterns of



MR. JOHN JENKINS' CRYSTAL CUT GLASS.

wines, decanters, spirit bottles, tumblers, water jugs, glass dishes, candlesticks, and trinket sets. He has many suites of table glass, richly cut in a variety of tasteful patterns. We give an illustration of a few pieces of one of these suites, in a good cut pattern. He is showing

samples of cut glass dishes, very pretty shapes, with pleasing decorations. In miscellaneous glass goods, Mr. Jenkins has several special shapes, made expressly for him and from his own designs. He has some cut glass toilet sets in stock, which can be supplied at once. Indeed one of the things he prides himself in is that he keeps a stock in London of most of his lines, and can, therefore, promise speedy delivery. Another advantage he has is that he can supply his customers either with assorted selections from stock, or complete packages. He is agent for Furnivals, Ltd., for earthenware, and for Hammersley & Co. for china, and he keeps a full line of the samples of each firm.

Swinnertons, Vulcan Works, Hanley, have their London rooms at 106, Hatton-garden, and are represented by Mr. H. Field. They have a large assortment of samples, toilet ware being their strongest line. They have shapes and decorations to suit all tastes in good medium class sets. The new shapes and decorations are full of variety, and are in accordance with modern taste. The "Assella" shape has a useful and graceful ewer and an oval basin with end tips as handles. The "Gem" shape is in one of the most popular styles, a well-modelled, graceful jug and deep round basin, without embossments. The plain surface invites a large variety of printed patterns. There are many pretty printed floral designs on this "Gem" shape, one of which is shown in our illustration. The "Radio" toilet shape is a new and pleasing production, both as to shape and decoration. The company show some pretty lines in dinner ware, of which the "Pembroke" is one of the best. The vegetable dishes are oval in shape, and have many neat printed decorations in flown blue and canton. The "Empire" dinner ware is shown in various patterns printed and enamelled. The selection of tea ware is a good one in which there are many pleasing shapes in inexpensive printed decorations and gilt. The tea ware is very light, and is nicely modelled. The company have export goods suitable for all markets, and have many special shapes and decorations for the export trade. They keep very heavy stocks and are prepared to give smart delivery. They supply mixed crates, containing toilet ware and dinner ware, tea ware, and jugs assorted to suit customers.



MESSRS. SWINNERTONS: "THE GEM."

Mr. J. W. Beswick, Gold-st. Works, Longton, is a manufacturer of useful domestic ware in great variety. He makes goods of the popular class, both as to appearance and price. He aims at giving good value, and, though he does not manufacture the highest grades, he has some very good lines. His special lines are dinner ware, tea and toilet ware, badged ware for clubs, restaurants, and institutions, china, jet, and rockingham. He also manufactures some attractive medium class lines in art ware. He makes a large assortment of flower-pots in majolica art colours and in printed and ground laid patterns. He is producing hand-painted vases in shaded grounds in the modern styles of ornamentation. He is well known for his jugs, and produces many excellent embossed patterns on good useful shapes. We illustrate two new pattern jugs, the "Trent" and the "Acme" shapes. They are both good embossed patterns with painted decorations added. From a large number of pleasing flower-pots we illustrate one, "The Princess" shape, a two-handled vase with embossments, supplemented by printed floral decorations. We also give an illustration of a new toilet service, the "Acme" shape, with embossed ornamentations and neat conventional floral decorations added. The ewer is a tall one, and the basin is deep, and decorated inside and out. The "Acme" is supplied in shaded art colours and various printed patterns. Mr. Beswick has purchased the old-established business of Bridgett & Bates, china manufacturers, King-st., Longton. The business will be carried on as usual under the old name, Mr. Bates being retained as manager. Mr. Beswick specialises in flown blue ware and in hot water jugs. He publishes a full list



MR. J. W. BESWICK: ACME SHAPE.



TRENT.



PRINCESS.



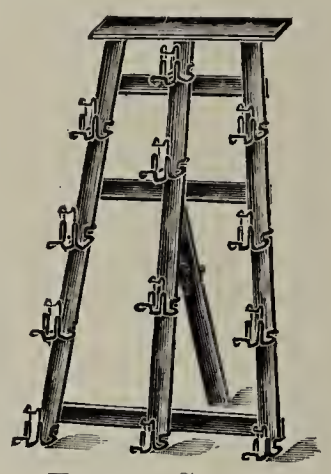
ACME SHAPE.

MR. J. W. BESWICK, LONGTON.

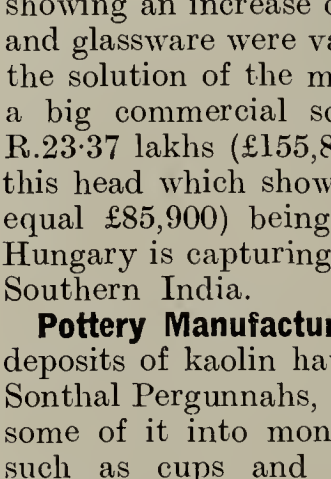
of prices, which he will send to any actual dealer in pottery and glass.

Henry Alcock & Co., Ltd., Cobridge, Staffordshire, have removed their London showrooms to No. 31, Ely-place, Holborn-circus, E.C., only a few doors from their former address. They have acquired an excellent room, with good head light and plenty of space. The room has been fitted up expressly for their use, with convenient and ample shelves all round, and useful, attractive stands in the centre. The shelves and fittings are in white enamel, and all the accessories are in good taste. For the present their London business is under the care of Mr. T. Hughes, from the works, and that gentleman showed me their new room and new goods a few days since. They are manufacturers of dinner, tea, and toilet ware, and fancy table ware in semi-porcelain, and they have a large assortment of samples at their new rooms. Good shapes and neat patterns characterise all their new pieces. There is a large range of teapots and art pots in various decorations. In dinner ware they show some neat cobalt and green bands and gold. The "Cecil" shape is a very attractive new toilet service, with pretty decorations on the six panels. The company's spiral fluted ware in white is still selling, and there is a full line of samples on show.

The Anglo-Belge Glass Association, 13, St. Andrew-st., Holborn-circus, E.C., are the makers of the tea set stand which we illustrate. It is a safe and convenient medium for displaying at one view every article in a forty-piece tea service. To a buyer in the trade a single piece of any set is quite sufficient to show him the shape and decoration, and to enable him to decide whether to buy it or not. The retail dealer, however, has to submit his wares to buyers who cannot make up their minds from partial details. A lady wants to know all about a tea set before she buys it. It is not sufficient to show her a tea-cup and saucer, and say "forty pieces in this pattern are 32s. 6d." She would probably ask what are the pieces? And most likely she would want to see the lot. Ladies like to know what they are buying, and some dealers get over the difficulty by making a sort of pyramid of all the pieces in a set, and thus showing them literally in a lump. The "Gloria" tea set stand shows every piece in a full set at one view. The illustration of the stand alone shows that it is made of wood in the form of an easel. The bread and butter plates and cups and saucers are supported by wire clips so securely as not to be affected by vibration. The other illustration shows a stand (a larger size, though) fully dressed with the forty pieces, and shows how useful it is for displaying the shape and decoration of a tea service, either in the window or show-room. It will be noticed that the stand itself is not seen. It seems to us to be a very useful accessory to china dealers, whose trade is improved by a good window display frequently changed. The stand fully dressed as shown can be lifted in and out of a window and placed in any position in the shop without removing the pieces. The "Gloria" stand is also made to hold a twenty-one piece set, and smaller stands on the same principle to hold six cups and saucers and plates, and three cups and saucers and plates respectively. If required the stand can be supplied to hold breakfast sets. A patent has been applied for.



STAND SHOWING 40 PIECES.


EMPTY STAND.

Empire Notes.

Indian Glass and Pottery Imports.—The imports of earthenware and porcelain into British India during the year ending March 31, 1908, were valued at £281,476, showing an increase of 8·3 per cent. The imports of glass and glassware were valued at £963,452. India is no nearer the solution of the manufacture of glass and glassware on a big commercial scale, and the imports increased by R.23·37 lakhs (£155,800), or 19·3 per cent., an item under this head which shows a marked expansion (R.12·89 lakhs. equal £85,900) being glass bangles, with which Austria-Hungary is capturing the internal markets, particularly in Southern India.

Pottery Manufacture in India.—For many years large deposits of kaolin have lain dormant at Mangalhat in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, but a firm in Entally are now turning some of it into money in the shape of porcelain goods, such as cups and saucers, plates, ink-pots, gallipots, insulators, toys, &c., and the result of their enterprise is said to be very promising. The productive power of the works has been greatly increased by the installation of machinery from Germany, which, we believe, is capable of turning out daily nearly 1,500 cups and saucers of fine make and finish, against 125 per day, which was the best a staff of about fifty workmen could do under the old system. Such is the power of modern machinery. But, says the "Indian Trade Journal," the firm do not depend upon machinery alone for results. They realise the value of attractive finish which even high-grade machines cannot always give, and they have imported two Japanese specialists in the art of porcelain painting and ornamental work. In time, no doubt, these Japanese workmen will find that the artistic seed they are sowing will bear fruit among their Bengali pupils, who in turn will take a more or less active part in spreading it throughout the manufacturing centres of India. The result will probably be that as time goes on India may not only supply her own pottery, but be in a position to export suitable supplies to neighbouring countries. At all events, the field for pottery work in India just now would appear to be a fairly large one, as the imports of that commodity in 1907–08 amounted to R.42,22,143, as against R.38,99,824 during the previous year. As it is possible to manufacture practically all kinds of pottery and earthenware in India, it is quite possible that in the not distant future these import figures may be considerably reduced.

SOME CHINA SHOPS IN SCOTLAND.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

EDINBURGH.

EACH time I visit Edinburgh I have a feeling of regret—I am sorry I have seen it before. I always envy the man who, being fond of the picturesque, comes up out of the Waverley Station and looks upon Princes-street for the first time. I walked along that famous thoroughfare within a few minutes of my arrival in the city about a month ago. If you want to know what a combination of nature, art, and industry can produce in the way of scenic effect, go to Princes-street. Though the finest shopping street in Scotland, and perhaps in the United Kingdom, there are shops on one side only; the other side is tastefully laid out as beautiful gardens, in which, in addition to the "Scott Monument"—a majestic structure—there are statues to Livingstone, Adam Black, Professor Wilson, Allan Ramsay, and Sir J. Simpson. These gardens slope down into a wide and deep valley, once, I believe, the site of a loch, at the bottom of which runs the railway. At one end of this valley is the Waverley Station, quite unseen from Princes-street, though it is the largest railway station in the United Kingdom—larger than Liverpool-street, London. Several wide bridges connect Princes-street with the hill on the other side of the valley. Immense buildings are ranged in terraces one above the other on the side of the hill, while the fine old castle crowns the summit of it. The principal part of newer Edinburgh is built in squares. Four wide streets run parallel with the valley, Princes-street, George street, Queen-street, and Heriot-row. These are crossed at right angles by other wide streets, Castle-street, Frederick-street, Hanover-street, &c. There are many handsome shops in Princes-street, and if the china and glass trades do not furnish the largest business premises there, they certainly supply some of the most interesting.

JOHN FORD & CO., glass and china manufacturers and merchants, 39 and 40, Princes-street, have a handsome front that is in itself an indication of the high-class trade they do. The large plate-glass window, framed in light colour, picked out with gold and with the Royal coat of arms over the centre prepares the visitor for the beautiful interior. The arrangement of the choice wares in the window is perfect as an artistic display. Every piece shown is the best of its kind. An elegant entrance leads into a highly ornate showroom, in which useful and ornamental porcelain and crystal wares are most tastefully set out. Fine china by the best British and Continental manufacturers is supplemented by the superlative crystal glass for which the company has so long been famous. The business was founded nearly a century ago (about 1815) by Mr. William Ford, who was succeeded by his nephew John Ford, and that gentleman was succeeded by his son, Mr. Wm. Ford, who in 1877 took into partnership his son-in-law, Mr. William Ranken, and in 1880 his only son, Mr. John Humphrey Ford, was also admitted as partner. Mr. Ranken is now the surviving partner, so that the business has remained under the control of the same family from its foundation to the present day. The line of succession is likely to be continued, for Mr. Ranken's son is now associated with him. Mr. Ranken, senior, was out at the time of my visit, and it was his son who kindly showed me round the premises. The display of crystal glass is magnificent, and is remarkable for the clearness of the metal and the beauty of the decorations. Those who can appreciate British hand-made flint glass will find it here to perfection. The firm held the Royal Warrant as manufacturers to Queen Victoria, and they have received the same honour from H.M. King Edward VII. and H.R.H. the Prince of Wale . They number many of the best families in Scotland and England amongst their customers, and have an extensive export trade in addition. The situation of their premises is one of the best in Edinburgh. Visitors staying at the principal hotels, as well as residents in the suburbs, of necessity pass Ford & Co.'s window when enjoying what is admitted to be one of the most pleasant promenades in the city. Although their business is chiefly in the higher classes of goods, they stock good medium grades in interesting variety. Most of the forms and patterns in rich glassware are their own registered designs.

CHARLES JENNER & CO., Princes-street and South David-street, have an extensive glass and china department of their general stores. They have a handsome block of buildings, with a fine frontage to Princes-street, exactly opposite the Scott Monument, and extending a considerable distance in the rear, with larger frontage to South David-street. The premises are notable on account of an octagonal tower at the corner of the two streets. It is upwards of 100 feet high, and is in the Renaissance style and ornamented with statuary. The firm was founded in 1837 by Mr. Charles Jenner, brother of the famous physician, Sir William Jenner. The business was at first limited to drapery goods, but as it increased, the tendency of modern times was followed, and many other branches were undertaken. Now, the firm are not only drapers and milliners, but they are house furnishers, dealing in furniture, hardware, hosiery, jewellery, perfumery, china and glass, and many other household requisites. It is said to be one of the largest retail stores in Scotland, a position it owes almost entirely to the energy and strong personal character of its founder. Later developments, no doubt, have been due to the exceptionally fine position in the most fashionable part of the city. I was introduced to Mr. Forbes, the manager of the glass and china department. He is thoroughly conversant with our trade, and showed me round his department, of which he has reason to be proud. The firm do a high-class trade, and have on show a large selection of the very best porcelain, earthenware, and glass goods. With such a large connection as a house of this magnitude must necessarily have, they do largely in good medium class pottery and glass. The assortment of these goods is as varied as it could be, and caters for all tastes in the most liberal manner, and yet the most costly dinner, dessert, tea, and breakfast services are shown in abundance and ticketed with the names of the makers. They are showing many reproductions of old time forms and ornamentations, including early Crown, Derby and Spode ware. The "old" and "new" are shown side by side with pleasing effect. The prices of services and sets are quoted, with the announcement that any piece can be supplied separately. This is an advantage of dealers who hold large stocks. The stock of superior crystal table services is equally large and varied. The firm's trade extends far beyond the limits of Edinburgh, and they announce that all country purchases are delivered carriage paid.



ROBERT MAULE & SON, 146, Princes street, have a large corner block of buildings, with very imposing frontages, at the end of the street. They call this their "West End Emporium," and I understand they have another establishment, but I did not visit it. The Princes-street house is appropriately called an "Emporium," for it is a centre

for the distribution under one roof of practically all personal and domestic requisites. Each department contains a very complete assortment of all goods included in it. I can only speak of the glass and china department, where I found an up-to-date stock of good qualities, and at prices which give the customer good value. A large roomy basement is devoted to goods in our trade, and they are shown judiciously. The manager of the department, Mr. J. Lyons, is a Staffordshire man, and thoroughly understands the goods he handles. Like all other "stores" or "emporiums," he shows a large variety of medium class and cheaper lines, but he does a good trade in high-class wares as well, and makes what may be called a good "West End" display in both china and glass. The firm has been established about forty years—not a long period for the building up of such an immense business. The glass and china department is one of the youngest of the many branches, but it seems to be flourishing, and, under the management of Mr. Lyons, it should make good headway.

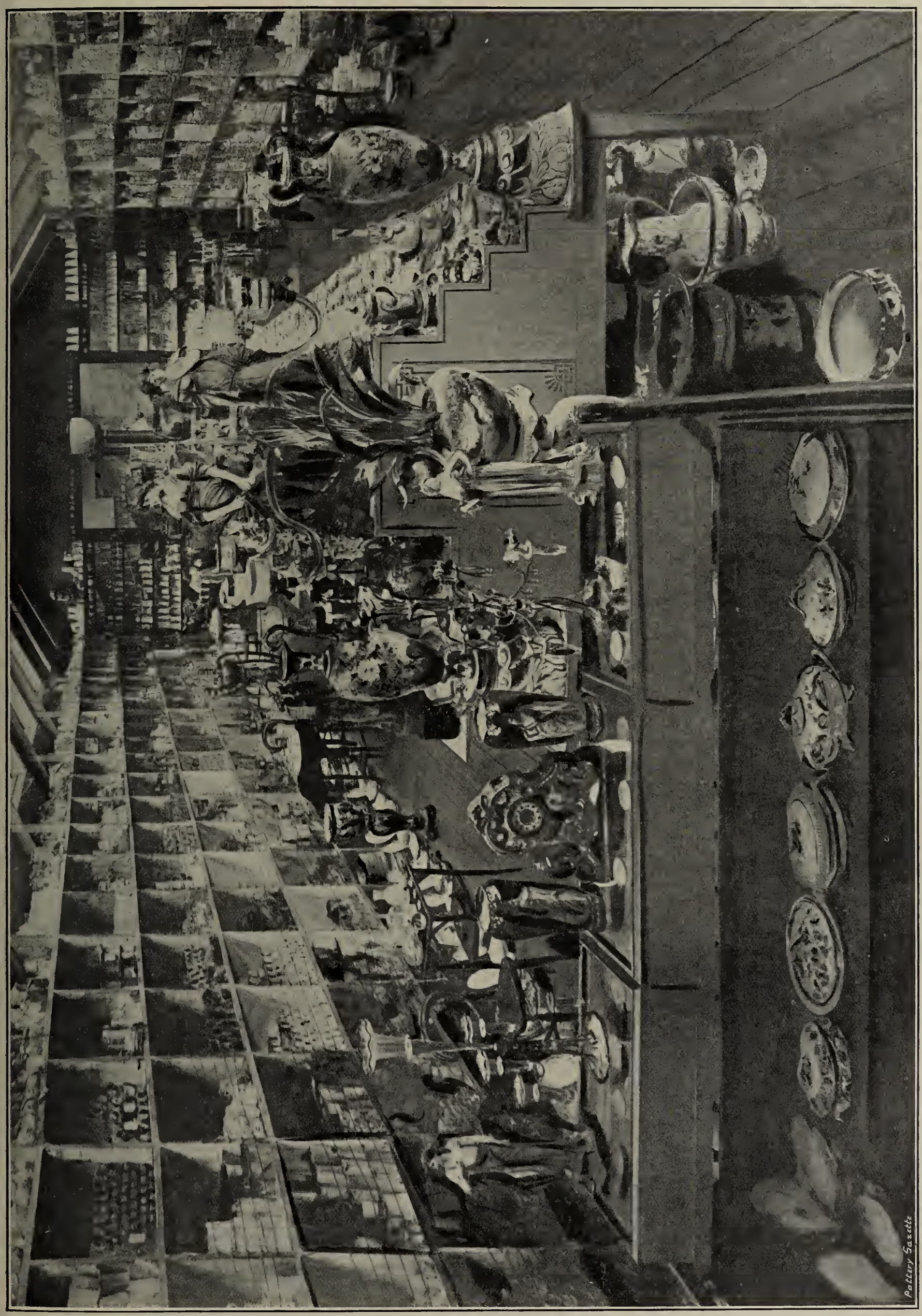
George Baxter & Son, 60, South Clark-st., have been established as wholesale and retail glass and pottery dealers for nearly half a century. The business was founded in Canongate, but in 1886 it was removed to larger premises, Nos. 10 and 11, George IV. Bridge. I remember the last-named because of the very large window space they had fronting George IV. Bridge, and extending a long distance in the rear. A few years ago they removed to their present premises in South Clark-st., where they have a large stock including all grades of useful and ornamental pottery and glass. Mr. Baxter was not in when I called, which I regret, as I should have been pleased to have had a word or two about their former premises. The firm have an extensive and widespread connection, and send goods to nearly all parts of Scotland. They use a novel form of address card. It is circular, and on one side is printed in blue the familiar decoration on a "willow pattern" plate. On the other side there is the name and address of the firm, and a few words about their business are printed in gold, and with a gold line where the inner rim of the plate would be. I hope to see Mr. Baxter when next I call.

John Donald & Co., glass manufacturers and china and earthenware merchants, Bristo Port, Bristo-place, Edinburgh, hold a very prominent position in our trade, having, perhaps, the largest stocks of any house in the city. The business was founded about sixty years ago by Mr. John Donald, who was the head of the Clyde Pottery Co., Greenock. He was an energetic man of business, and he soon established a good distributing trade, both wholesale and retail. He was assisted in the management of it by his nephew, Mr. J. Donald Benion, now sole partner, and it is due to his tact and enterprise that the business of the firm made such rapid strides. Mr. Benion was not content with trade that came to them in the ordinary way. He sought it in new channels, and secured orders for large institutions. Whenever contracts were advertised, he tendered, and obtained many for the army, hospitals, asylums, shipping companies and corporate bodies. The wholesale business of the company is an extensive one, their travellers calling regularly upon retail dealers within a large circle. Dealers can obtain practically everything they want from Messrs. Donald & Co., with the advantage that they have the productions of nearly fifty different manufacturers of pottery and glass to select from, and with the further advantage that the goods can be delivered at once. Manufacturers cannot always guarantee immediate despatch, as some pieces in a set may have to be made. Wholesale dealers like Donald & Co. *can* guarantee quick despatch, because they sell from stock. They, in fact, keep stock for all their customers, sending it home when required. To do this they have always on hand immense quantities of everything in pottery and glass required for household purposes. I was shown round their wholesale department, and naturally expressed my surprise at the quantity of goods I saw. It was in answer to this that the nature of their business was explained to me. The firm are large importers, and do a big business in case goods. But they have a splendid retail business as well, and I am inclined to think it is the more important, at any rate, it is the more interesting branch of the two. If I was astonished at the magnitude of their wholesale stock, I was more so at the character of their retail department. Bristo Port—though there is nothing objectionable about it—is not exactly the fashionable promenade that Princes-st. is, yet the goods displayed in Messrs. Donald & Co.'s window are as high-class as any in Princes-st., or in any London shops. They have a splendid corner position, and fine window displays for their retail customers on one side, while on the other side are the offices and warehouses. The entrance to the shop is at the corner, and it is surmounted by the Royal arms—for John Donald & Co. are manufacturers by appointment to His Majesty King Edward VII.—and they number amongst their customers some of the best families in Scotland. The outside of their premises is not an index to the interior. The door opens into a beautifully fitted shop—I must call it a shop, though the term is somewhat derogatory. It it filled with the most choice productions in glass and porcelain, all of the latest and the best. This is but one showroom out of several. We give an illustration of part of their large saloon. The photograph from which we reproduce this included the whole saloon, but we are compelled to give part only. To have reduced the whole to the size of our page would have given a very poor representation (we have left out both the right and left sides). The room is 85 ft. long and, as will be seen, it is admirably arranged. It is not an accidental trade that necessitates such large premises and such ornate showrooms. They do have customers attracted by their fine goods shown in the windows, but the bulk of their private trade is a connection built up by the satisfactory execution of orders. It is the same in all businesses, great and small, aim at pleasing your customers, meet their wishes in every way possible, and you will not only keep them, but they will send others.

*** Our notice of the Edinburgh shops will be completed next month.—Eds. P.G.

Dunfermline.

It is a very pleasant journey by rail from Edinburgh to Dunfermline, with interesting places nearly all along the route, but we pass them so quickly that unless a friend conversant with the district gives us notice of what we are coming to, we see but little of them. Lord Rosebery's magnificent estate, Dalmeny Park, was pointed out to me at one end of the Forth Bridge, and after the bridge was passed other beautiful places were named, which I do not remember so well. Dunfermline's claims to antiquity are undoubted, its record going back nearly a thousand years. Malcolm, King of Scots, and Margaret his queen, did much for the town. They influenced the building of the Abbey there in 1070, and in 1072 Margaret established a line of passenger boats across the Firth of Forth, which was called the "Queen's Ferry." We call the place by the same name to-day, only we make one word of it. Dunfermline has a population of rather more than 25,000, and thanks to the munificence of its most famous native, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and other benefactors, it has exceptional facilities for the mental and physical betterment of its inhabitants. In addition to its historical buildings it has first-rate



PART OF PRINCIPAL SALOON : JOHN DONALD & CO., EDINBURGH.

educational institutions, reading rooms, baths, gymnasium and public gardens and parks. About three years ago, Mr. Carnegie bought a place of great local interest and picturesque beauty, Pittencrieff House, Glen, and Park. "The Glen," had been famous for years, and as it was in the market, Mr. Carnegie gave £45,000 for the estate, and handed it over to a body of trustees for the use of the inhabitants of his native town for ever. He also endowed the trustees with £25,000 per annum, "to be used in attempts to bring into the monotonous lives of the toiling masses of Dunfermline, more of sweetness and light; to give them, especially the young, some charm, some happiness, some elevating conditions of life, which residence elsewhere would have denied." But I shall be asked, what has all this, interesting though it is, to do with the china and glass shops of Dunfermline? It has much to do with one of them at any rate. Kirkgate is a street leading down a hill side from High-street to what is called "St. Catherine's Wynd," at the foot of which is the entrance to "The Glen."



MR. S. HODGSON, DUNFERMLINE.

MR. S. HODGSON, wholesale and retail glass and china dealer, has a shop at the foot of Kirkgate, the last building before entering The Glen and Park. The Carnegie trustees widened the "Wynd" by removing some old buildings, and Mr. Hodgson rebuilt his shop and warehouses, so that the approach to The Glen and Park has been considerably improved. Mr. Hodgson had an extensive piece of ground behind his shop, and upon that he has built a large block of warehouses. His shop front is a handsome one. I confess I was amazed to find such a smart shop, with a double front—that would be no disgrace to Oxford-street—at the foot of a rather steep and not very wide street leading, as far as I could see at first, to nowhere in particular. I understand it all now. When I called, Mr. Hodgson was at home having dinner. One of the assistants telephoned to him that I was there and he replied asking me to wait ten minutes and he would be there. I looked round the ground floor, and he arrived within the time. He is a smart business man, not yet middle aged, and full of energy. He has been all his life in the trade, having learned the business with his uncle in Stirling. Fourteen years ago he came to Dunfermline and bought this business, which had then been established 50 years. It had been allowed to go down, and the stock was so poor that he cleared it all out, and began with new goods throughout. He has acquired a good connection in town and neighbourhood, and does a large wholesale trade in medium and cheaper goods. The goods shown in his front window are all high-class, amongst others, I saw samples of Wedgwood, Doulton, Minton, Worcester, Crown Derby and Coalport. The window represents the class of ware displayed within. Already Mr. Hodgson has done a good trade with European, Colonial, and especially American visitors, for whom "The Glen" has great attractions. Exactly opposite his shop door there is the famous old Abbey. That has always been sufficient attraction for thousands of visitors. With the additional attraction of "The Glen and Park," Mr. Hodgson's shop is certainly not out of the way of trade, as I at first thought it was. The frontage is rather limited, but the interior

after a few yards, becomes wide and extends some distance in the rear. We give an illustration showing a portion of the ground floor, taken from the front. One of the back windows is shown at the end of our view, while the other one is on the left, but not shown. The front shop, and, as will be seen, one side of the long show room, are fitted with handsome plate-glass cases for the more expensive goods, while the ample shelves on the other side contain a large and varied assortment of glass, china, and earthenware goods of all kinds. There is no crowding anywhere, every piece being shown to advantage. There is a lofty basement extending under the whole of the premises, used as a warehouse and storerooms. The rooms on the upper floors are also used as stock-rooms. There is a large and comfortable office on the ground floor on the left of the position from which the photo was taken. An electric lift conveys goods or passengers from top to bottom of the building, and the premises throughout are lighted by electricity and heated by hot-water pipes. Mr. Hodgson has made the business himself, for when he purchased it there was little but the premises, the connection having been lost. He has an immense stock, and is laying himself out for a much higher class of trade than was done formerly. With the famous old Abbey immediately opposite, and the beautiful Pittencrieff House, Glen, and Park within a stone's-throw of the back of it, Mr. Hodgson's shop must of necessity come under the notice of the thousands of visitors which they attract to the old Scottish borough.

The Misses Crawford, 15, Guildhall Hall-st., Dunfermline, have a very fine show of china, glass, and earthenware in a not very large shop. It is, however, very nicely and conveniently fitted, and they make an attractive window display. The family have had a china and glass business in the borough for upwards of forty years. They had a shop in High-st. some short time ago, and were unfortunately burnt out. The shop they are in was the only one they could obtain at the time, but they seem to be settling down in it. They keep some of the best goods, but for the greater part they do a medium-class trade. Dunfermline is an industrial centre, and one of the principal seats of the damask linen manufacture in the United Kingdom. There is, therefore, a large working-class population, and the Misses Crawford have a stock suited to their requirements. They have a good connection, many customers having dealt regularly with them for years. These have followed them to their new address, which is evidence that they have been satisfactorily served. They show a nice variety of shapes and patterns in dinner sets, tea sets, and toilet ware, and they are certainly good value for the prices attached to them. The miscellaneous stock includes a good selection of fancy butter-dishes, rose-bowls, jelly-glasses, fruit-trays, cheese stands, teapots, and jugs, flower-pots, vases, and a number of specialities suitable for wedding presents, &c.

Mr. Andrew Adie, 23 and 25, Chalmers-st., is an ironmonger and oil merchant, but he keeps a good stock of pottery and glass of the useful kinds. He makes a fine show with some special lines in dinner and tea ware at very reasonable prices, and an excellent selection of toilet ware and kitchen goods. He has a large variety of tumblers and table-glass generally, and an assortment of vases, clock sets, and other ornaments.

(*To be continued.*)

Unmanufactured Clay, to the weight of 470,199 tons, and valued at £494,263, including 30,613 tons of fire-clay, valued at £26,147, was exported from the United Kingdom during the first three quarters of the present year. Both quantity and value are below the average for the corresponding periods of the last three years.

BRITISH CHINA CLAY PRODUCTION.

PART III. of the Home Office Report on the British Mines and Quarries in 1907, dealing with output, has just been published, and supplies the following figures, those for 1906 being given in brackets for comparison.

China clay and china stone conveyed by rail and sea from Cornwall:—Shipment from Charlestown (61,510 tons), 65,905 tons; Falmouth (3,119), 4,326; Fowey (472,433), 521,734; Newquay (6,737), 6,960; Par Harbour (77,803), 116,328; Penryn (504), 670; Pentewan (13,658), 11,608; Penzance (3,865), 3,681; Plymouth (Millbay Docks) (25,363), 30,404; Plymouth (Sutton Harbour) (4,412), 4,047; Porthleven (4,664), 6,324; Wadebridge, Padstow Harbour (1,034), 1,008. Sent to inland towns from the Cornwall and Cornwall Minerals Railways, G.W.R. (6,530), 8,878. Total (681,632), 781,873.

Potter's clay sent from Poole by sea and rail in 1907 and the preceding year (Return by Board of Customs):—British and foreign ports (52,573 tons), 55,986 tons; by railway (4,000), 50. Total (56,573), 56,036.

Potter's clay exported to foreign countries from the port of Teignmouth in 1907 and the preceding year (Return by Board of Customs):—Belgium (12,458 tons, £9,693), 11,777 tons, £9,027; France (459, £328), 910, £640; Germany (3,260, £2,540), 5,700, £4,628; Netherlands (3,690, £2,954), 2,065, £1,652; Italy (2,965, £2,462), 1,792, £1,423; Norway (870, £486), 1,245, £757; Portugal (1,000, £843), 798, £705; Russia (300, £300), 870, £785; Spain (1,268, £1,146), 2,808, £2,320; Sweden (740, £643), 300, £150; Gibraltar (54, £54), nil. Total to foreign ports (27,100, £21,449), 28,265, £22,087.

Potter's clay exported from the port of Poole in 1907 and the preceding year (Return by Board of Customs):—Austria-Hungary (830 tons, £664), 510 tons, £408; Belgium (730, £514), 820, £592; Denmark (710, £568), 480, £384; France (1,175, £940), 1,283, £1,026; Germany (2,287, £1,269), 4,365, £2,691; Netherlands (3,815, £3,052), 3,965, £3,172; Russia (420, £290), 510, £406; Spain (nil), 590, £236; Sweden (4,760, £3,144), 4,677, £3,143; Channel Islands (20, £6), 160, £18. Total to foreign ports (14,747, £10,447), 17,360, £12,076.

Glass and China in Bavaria.—The British Consular Report for 1907 says although sale prices went up from 5 to 10 per cent., no margin for increased profits was left on account of higher prices for raw materials. A number of glass works in the Bavarian Fichtel Mountains, which manufacture exclusively coloured glass beads, have had to close on account of the depression of the Indian market, India being one of the chief countries to which such Bavarian glass beads are exported. The Bavarian china factories are reported to have done extremely well in 1907, their production being of increased artistic value, and the export to the United States was greater than ever. The American financial crisis at the beginning of 1908, however, made itself keenly felt in this particular industry. The value of Bavarian glass and china exported to the United States in 1905, 1906, and 1907 amounted to £328,500, to £379,200, and to £311,800 respectively. The china industry in Northern Bavaria has not been able to fulfil all its orders, partly on account of strikes and of deficiency of workmen, coal, and water. Owing to strikes, higher wages, deferred orders, and the prohibition of Sunday work, it was impossible in 1907 to supply anything like the quantity of cheaper lamp glasses required. There is now very little business done with the small shops owing to the competition of large stores.

POTTERY AT THE "IDEAL HOME" EXHIBITION.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

THE Lord Mayor, attended by the Sheriffs, opened the "Ideal Home" Exhibition at Olympia on the 9th ult. It was organised by a London newspaper, in order to display under one roof "the best of everything in the making, the equipment and the improvement of the modern dwelling-place and its surroundings." The Exhibition closed last Saturday evening. Almost every industry has some part in the building up of an "Ideal Home"—either in the construction, decoration, comfortable equipment, or in the supply of useful and convenient accessories—and all were more or less represented. The ground floor of the Hall was full of exhibits relating to the construction, furnishing, lighting, heating, decoration, and sanitation of the house, and to music, amusements, food, hygiene, and cleaning. The annexe was laid out as a garden, and there were many exhibits connected with garden, agricultural, and horticultural life; while the galleries were full of interesting exhibits, amongst which were specimens of furniture, painting, and needlework from the Royal Schools at Sandringham. The object of the promoters was to demonstrate how life in the home can be made less laborious, more beautiful, more economical, more comfortable, and therefore more healthy. Space will not allow us to notice more than the few exhibits furnished by the trades we represent.

DOULTON & CO., LTD., Royal Doulton Potteries, Lambeth and Burslem, had a very handsome stand with open frontages to two avenues. Their exhibits proved beyond question how indispensable pottery is to any home, and, furthermore, that in an "Ideal" home the suitability of the pottery is a matter of the first importance. Health being the first consideration, the company give prominence to their improved sanitary fittings and arrangements. They made it quite clear that baths are not now luxuries for the well-to-do only, but necessities for all classes. They exhibited three separate bathrooms, with fittings suitable for three different classes of residents. One was a superb room with expensive fittings and with the most improved and most comfortable accessories. The second was elaborate but less costly, while the third was what we may call a popular bathroom, with cheaper fittings and in other respects suitable for a small private house. In this last, neatness, comfort, and convenience are combined with economy. The company exhibited specimens of dinner ware, tea and breakfast ware, toilet ware, and other useful domestic pottery. Then, having shown how pottery contributes to the health, comfort, and convenience of the home, they show how pottery makes the home beautiful. They do this by exhibiting art ware from their Burslem studios and from their Lambeth art potteries. There were side tables and shelves containing decorative wares suitable for "Ideal Homes." A glass case contained a choice collection of "Rouge Flambé" vases. A large china vase painted by Hancock with groups of cattle, with rich raised and chased gilding. Other cases contained specimens of "salt-glazed" stoneware, "Lambeth Faïence," "Silicon Ware," painted panels, tile pictures, flower-pots and pedestals in "Doulton" ware, and countless other beautiful yet inexpensive ceramic contributions to an ideal home. We give an illustration of each side of the Company's attractive exhibit.



DOULTON & CO., LTD., LAMBETH AND BURSLEM.

T. & R. Boote, Ltd., The Patent Tile Works, Burslem, ad a beautiful stand. The whole structure is in their wn glazed artistic tiles. The large painted panels in ront of the stand are splendid examples of figure-painting. 'he frames of the paintings are themselves fine specimens f the artistic possibilities of tiled work. This exhibit nside consists of various examples of the many and artistic ses to which tile and faïence decoration can be applied. 'here are tiles for floors of halls, kitchens, shops, &c. losaics for entrance halls, and richly decorated tiles for arious purposes, such as fireplaces, friezes, and furniture. 'here are hand-work friezes and panels for the walls of ntrance halls and public buildings, as well as plain glazed iles for kitchens, larders, and sculleries. The principal xhibit is a beautifully fitted up lavatory and bathroom, 'ith a special and particularly effective decoration of oses on light tiles. For lavatory and bathroom purposes othing can be cleaner, healthier, or more durable than

Foreign Notes.

A Venetian Hotel Order.—A British Consular report just received from Venice, states that a British firm has succeeded in obtaining the order for the supply of all the chinaware required by a large new hotel there, by quoting all charges to destination and assuming the responsibility of having the goods delivered at their own risk at the hotel.

Jules Lang & Son, 16, Bury st., E.C., have gained a gold medal at the Local Industries of Normandy Exhibition, held at Treport, and a silver medal at the Franco-British Exhibition. They are finding their glass factory at Eu, near Dieppe, France, a great success. It has been twice rebuilt, owing to increased business, during the five years in which it has been in their possession.



Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth and Burslem.

azed tiles. Messrs. Boote have shown with their strous colours and exquisitely painted decorations that thing can be more beautiful. Specimens of mosaic vements were shown. In these the company are knowledged specialists. Their work may be seen in any important railway stations, infirmaries, and other blic buildings. (*To be continued.*)

The Exports of Austria-Hungary during the six months ding June 30, 1908, included the following items. The ures for the corresponding period of last year are given brackets for comparison. The unit of weight is 100 ogs. (220·4 lbs.), and of valuc 1,000 kroner (24 kroner uals £1) :—China clay, w. 744,393 (691,847), v. 2,978 766) ; earthenware, w. 385,449 (337,187), v. 13,118 2,379). This includes porcclain, w. 76,002 (73,189), 9,257 (8,843) ; hollow glassware, w. 317,178 (317,169), 17,867 (17,970).

Association of Enamellers.—The principal German and Austrian enamelling firms decided on Oct. 15 to found a European Association, which will come into operation on Jan. 1 next. At the same time, an amended export price-list was drawn up for approval, and an interim increase of 5 per cent. on the net selling prices was decided upon in order to remedy the existing disproportion between costs and sale prices.

The Association of German Glass Manufacturers.—This Association, whose offices are in Dresden, at present numbers 802 manufacturers of hollow glass, pressed glass, and other glasswares. It is also affiliated to several other manufacturers' associations in Germany, and the Austrian Glass Manufacturers' Association, for mutual protection against strikes, boycotts, and trade disputes generally, as well as against the practice of enticing men from their employment by the offer of higher wages.

European Bottlemakers' Syndicate.—It is probable that the European syndicate that has acquired the patent rights of the automatic bottle-making machine will shortly be enlarged, since negotiations are reported to be in progress for the admission of the French and Belgian bottle-makers, the proposal being to allocate an output of 3,000,000 bottles per year to these countries. The first automatic bottle machine in Austria, with an output of 20,000 bottles in twenty working hours, will shortly be at work, and at present nine of these machines are in use, or approaching completion, in Germany.

The German Pottery Industry.—The French Vice-Consul at Nuremberg reports that during the past ten years the porcelain and chinaware industry has made great progress in Germany (and especially in the Wunsiedel and Selb districts), due partly to the steady increase in orders from abroad. In 1897 the exports of German porcelain did not exceed 32 million marks, but in 1907 they attained a value of 71 millions—that is to say, the trade has more than doubled in ten years. On two occasions during this period of prosperity, however, the industry had to face hard times on the first occasion from 1901 to 1903, and then from the end of 1907 up to within recent times. The first crisis was due to a slump in prices, but the second has been caused by a decline in exports, though prices have remained steady, thanks to the influence of the cartelled factories. The value of the exports has fallen from 34·11 million marks during the first half of 1907 to 31·79 millions during the corresponding period of 1908, i.e., a drop of 6·8 per cent. The U.S.A. alone took 1,100 tons less than in 1907. Within the last two or three months, however, export trade has begun to recover, more orders coming through from America especially, but the situation of the home market still remains tense. Shares in porcelain factories also tend to rise again in value, in spite of the probable drop in dividends which may be looked for this year. In 1907 dividends already showed an average drop of 2½ per cent. on 1906. Since the beginning of 1908 22 companies have issued balance sheets; 16 of these, representing a total capital of 19·38 million marks, compare the results of 1907 with those of 1906 and show, during 1907, an average dividend of 10·50 per cent., as against 14·03 per cent. in 1906. This drop is due to the losses suffered by some of these firms; seven, on the contrary, have distributed the same dividend as in 1906, but in 1908 most of these companies expect to secure less favourable results. One redeeming feature of the situation is that no new factories are being opened, and since January last, as a matter of fact, only one factory has been opened at Schirnding, with a modest capital of 85,000 marks. This reserve should assist to bring about a recovery of business.

THE SCARCITY OF STONEWARE CLAY.

IN the October number of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, under "Notes from the Potteries," a great scarcity of hard purple stone and Rio Grande boneash was recorded, and now stoneware manufacturers are once more complaining of the difficulty of obtaining supplies of S. Devon stoneware clay. Hitherto little attention has been paid to the matter, it being considered there was but slight cause for complaint, but that the subject had been seized upon by the potters simply as another opportunity for indulging in their inveterate habit of grumbling, in which they have excelled for so many centuries, for in the South Devon clay district potters have the reputation of having been grumblers from the beginning. The old West Country rhyme runs, "Cruwys, Crocker and Copplestone, when the Conqueror came were all at home," and whatever the other two of the illustrious trio did to while away those good old times, Crocker was busy making "clome" crocks, good serviceable fire-proof crocks, warranted to cook direct on the fire, and, doubtless, besides crock-making he was grumbling. For it is evident that Crocker was a "crocker," and that he could and did grumble as all crockers grumble; witness the crest of the ancient and honourable family of Crocker, who bear the punning device of three croakers, or ravens. That the scarcity complaints, at least as far as stoneware clay is concerned, are not merely "croakings," is now acknowledged by those most concerned, and the conviction that something must be done has settled into a fixed determination to do something, but what to do for the best seems rather difficult to decide.

That the stoneware manufacturers of Scotland, London and elsewhere, have been uneasy for some time on the "stoneware" question has been shown by a letter on the subject which appeared some time ago in the columns of the POTTERY GAZETTE and by the frequent visits that have this year been paid to Devonshire by stoneware manufacturers in the hope of hustling things on a bit. In some quarters enquiries were made as to the prospects of obtaining stoneware clay on land known to be in the market and as as to the cost of working, &c.; this probably hurried matterd more than anything else could have done. The result of the visits disclosed the fact (for there was no attempt at concealment) that the pits were giving very little stoneware clay. That the delay in delivery so often due to the difficulty of fixing a suitable craft, was now owing to the merchants not having the clay to send, and at present, although the stock of blue-ball mining clay is large and with fewer orders from Staffordshire, shows every likelihood of becoming very heavy, the stocks of stoneware clay are smaller than ever they were, and oversold at that. Household clay is exceedingly scarce too, and considerable inconvenience is said to have been caused by delays in deliveries, but the great trouble is the scarcity of those clays known to potters by any or all of the terms "top," "stiff," "cutty," "pipe," "thirds," "medium," "stoneware," "siliceous," "Devon white," "drain," or "draining."

New fields have been opened up for the working of this clay, but, somehow or other, the manufacturers have not taken kindly to the output from these pits, and it is a sign of the times that this month has seen the return from one of the new districts of a "set" to dig over the old ground, left about twelve months ago, and pick out as much good clay as possible from the old workings. Arrangements are being made in another direction to clear still older workings in a similar fashion. Working out these small patches of clay, especially by a hand crane, raising only 5 cwt. at a time, is at best but slow work, and large pits are being cut as near as possible to the old clays to supplement the supplies with a quality said to be superior to the new and only a shade inferior to the old clays. By judiciously mixing the old and new clays it is hoped that when the old clay is really and finally finished, the potter will have been unconsciously "educated up" to the new clays, of which if there is not an unlimited quantity there are scores upon scores of broad acres yet untouched. Many consider that something similar to this could with advantage have been done years ago, and that land lately or not yet opened up should have been cut, and the clay mixed with the old clays, so that in buying clays, instead of an exceptionally good cargo following an exceptionally bad one, by sending the best of the old clay and the best of the new, an improved clay of more uniform quality could have been supplied without taxing the resources of the old clay pits too heavily. Formerly, when, as at the present time, the

supplies of blue ball exceeded the stoneware clay the men were shifted to cut white clay, being equally expert with the digger, or spade; but now quite a number of miners are unable to cut a ball of white clay. Several large pieces of heading and waste clays are being shifted, although in some cases the stuff to be removed will take several months' work before the stoneware clay can be got at. On one works a very useful, well-planned "gravitation road" has now been built, and can be seen in full work, the weight of a loaded wagon bringing up an empty one. This cheapest of all power works side by side and in conjunction with the endless rope and endless cost of the electric, the wagon reaching the bottom of the quarry by the "gravitation road," and thence up the bank by electricity. Of course this inclined-plane business is not particularly new, in fact, it seems to have been adopted in connection with the building of the Pyramids and similar public works, but it is very efficient and nothing could be cheaper. The removal of a quantity of overburden is no guarantee that good stoneware clay will be found, but it at least discloses what there is to be secured, good or bad, by open work.

Open working for stoneware has another great advantage, viz., that when a good-sized quarry has been worked at say a depth of 70 ft. below the original heading, the ordinary clay pits can be sunk at the bottom of the quarry to another 70 ft., and although most of the clay from such pits may be broken, there is always the chance that good clay may be met with, for there is little doubt that stoneware clay is to be found at a very much lower level than that at which it is usually worked, just as the "blue ball," mined at 80 ft., has been bored at 150 ft. But good stoneware clay has been found at a much less depth and in fair quantities in some of the open pits, after clearing out the rubbish from old pits, showing that sometimes several feet of stoneware clay had been left. The principal thing to be thought of in clay-pit digging when nearing the end of the pit is, not how to go on, but how to come back, and, rather than have the pit fall in, the last few batches are left; the same applies to foresides, and it is almost impossible to take as much as one would wish, but open work, by going to the bottom of things and pits, takes the lot. This "bottom" clay when worked will prove a valuable addition to "stoneware" supplies, and considering the many hundreds of pits that have been sunk, even allowing a fair percentage for those that may have been worked out thoroughly, the quantity of this clay must be considerable. It may be urged that many pits are worked through the stoneware, and left off in broken clay, and here again the open pit furnishes most interesting evidence, for on clearing the bottom of broken clay of the old pits, lower strata of stoneware clay have been found beneath.

The open working of stoneware clay has its disadvantages; it is said to expose the clay too much, and that these large quarries catch enormous quantities of water, and there are other objections none of which it is intended to consider now. Enough has been written to show that there is more stoneware clay in the old works of S. Devon than is dreamed of by some people, and although the getting is slow it goes on steadily. It may be some little time before the present demands can be supplied, but it is comforting to reflect that however bad trade may become the stoneware clay cutters of S. Devon should have their winter's work assured to get sufficient clay for back orders, and also what is equally important to well stock the cellars in anticipation of spring orders from the clayman's very good friends the jam jar firms.



EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SEPTEMBER.

The Pottery Trades.—Employment in the pottery trade was bad in September—worse than a month ago, considerably worse than a year ago. In Staffordshire it was bad, short time being general. It was also bad at Bristol. In Glasgow it was bad and worse than a month ago. It was fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne and in Devonshire, and good at Portobello and Kirkcaldy. With earthenware makers in South Yorkshire employment continued bad, and much short time was worked. It was dull with makers of china at Longton, but showed some improvement on the previous month. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was quiet at Manchester, bad at Gateshead and at Glasgow.

The Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass trades was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 7,682 workpeople in the week ended Sept. 26, and paying £9,158 in wages, showed a decrease of 3·5 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 5·5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. The decline was entirely in the glass bottle branch, and principally in Yorkshire. As compared with a year ago there were decreases of 9·8 per cent. in numbers employed and of 7·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being most marked in Lancashire and in Scotland. Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol; fair at Castleford and Dublin and in the North of England; moderate at Leeds and in Scotland; slack at Barnsley; bad at Mexborough and Wakefield; and very bad in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers at Leeds employment was moderate. With flint glass makers employment was fair on the whole. With cutters it was slack. Employment with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was slack. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was dull. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate, and showed a decline on the previous month, short time being general. Employment with decorative glass workers at Manchester was quiet. Employment with London glass blowers showed a further decline.

Table showing the number of persons employed in the glass trade, and the amount of wages paid them on pay-day in the week ending Sept. 26:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass Bottle	4,935	£5,983
Plate Glass	705	896
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,778	1,944
Other Branches	264	335
Total	7,682	£9,158

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid them for week ending Sept. 26, 1908:—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	754	£870
Yorkshire	3,957	4,749
Lancashire	676	775
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,212	1,496
Scotland	754	960
Other parts of United Kingdom	329	308
Total	7,682	£9,158

Porcelain and Glass to the weight of 169 tons and valued at £2,977 were imported at Corunna during last year, chiefly from the United Knigdom, Germany and France The figures show a slight increase.

Legal.

Buying Bankrupt Stocks.—In the City of London Court, on Oct. 2, before his Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., an important trade action was disposed of in which Waller & Co., 50A, Plough-court, Barbican, E.C., sued A. E. Green & Co., 17, Coleman-st., E.C., accountants, to recover the sum of £9 damages for wrongfully neglecting or refusing to accept a tender in reference to a sale of china and glass. Mr. Addington Willis, who appeared for the plaintiffs, said that the action had been brought as a test case, and under somewhat peculiar circumstances. A very large business was done in the selling of bankrupt and salvage stocks by private tender instead of by public auction. It was customary for auctioneers and chartered accountants to send invitations to various firms inviting them to buy bankrupt stocks with a view to realising estates. Then the various firms who had tendered held a meeting at the offices of the accountant. The ordinary practice was then that the tenders were opened by the accountant and that the highest bid was accepted. In the case now in dispute, the highest bid was not accepted, and the plaintiffs were complaining about that. In July last the defendants issued an invitation to tender in respect of a china and glass business at Hendon, the shopkeeper having failed. It was necessary to realise the stock and the defendants invited the plaintiffs, amongst others, to tender. On the form of invitation were the words, "We cannot bind ourselves to accept the highest or any tender." When the defendants opened the four tenders submitted, they said that the tender of Mr. Percy Wynn, South Park-rd., Wimbledon, was the highest, and he was declared the purchaser. That was a mistake and the mistake arose in this way. The plaintiffs made an offer for a particular lot at £90 2s. 6d. Mr. Wynn tendered for goods valued at £189 5s. 2d but he offered to buy those at a discount of $52\frac{1}{2}\frac{8}{40}$ per cent. Judge Lumley Smith said that the fraction was enough to appal anybody. Mr. Willis, continuing, said if the fraction was worked out Wynn's offer was really £89 18s. 3¼d., with an infinitesimal fraction besides. As plaintiff had offered £90 2s. 6d. their tender was obviously higher than Mr. Wynn's, and they ought to have been declared the purchaser. The mistake was not discovered until a little time afterwards, and then the plaintiffs went back and pointed it out. The defendants, however, would not alter the matter, and what the plaintiffs now complained of was that it was not fair dealing, and that they had been damaged. They had to send to Hendon to inspect the goods before tendering, and it was the invariable custom in such matters to accept the highest bidder. The reason why accountants always stipulated that they would not necessarily accept the highest or any tender was to protect themselves against any impecunious bidder, and that was all. Mr. Andrews, member of the plaintiff firm, was called, and he said that they bought job lots in very large quantities from time to time, and he did a large business in that way. The defendants at the meeting said that Mr. Wynn was the purchaser because he was the highest bidder. Judge Lumley Smith said that he could understand that one reason was because tenders might be so low that they could not accept any. Mr. Andrews said that he had never known the highest tender rejected in connection with any sale by private treaty. They had lost about £10 by the transaction. Judge Lumley Smith said he wanted to know on what the plaintiffs based their action. Mr. Willis contended that there was a contract on the defendants' part in their letter of invitation, to sell the goods to the highest bidder. Judge Lumley Smith, without calling upon Mr. Hart, who appeared for the defendants, said he must find for the defendants, as the cause of action was entirely unfounded. It was really a claim by the plaintiffs for not selling to them the goods in question, or not contracting to sell them. The plaintiffs having received a printed letter of invitation went to see them because they thought that they might buy the goods. There was no contract to pay the plaintiffs' expenses at all. The plaintiffs went to view the goods on their own account. Anybody could have done the two sums at the meeting when Mr. Wynn was declared the successful purchaser. The plaintiffs allowed the defendants to do the figuring, and the defendants made a bona-fide mistake. Mr. Green declared Mr. Wynn the purchaser. What his motive was in declaring Wynn the purchaser could not now be gone into. Rightly or wrongly, he came to the conclusion that Wynn was the purchaser, and all the others acquiesced. After the goods had been sold to Wynn the mistake was discovered. That would not alter the fact that Wynn had been declared the purchaser. The clause which the defendants had inserted saying that they did not undertake to sell to the highest or any purchaser, had been put in, in his view, to meet the very case which had arisen. The clause left the defendants a perfectly free hand in the matter. The plaintiffs had contended that accountants' custom was to take the highest bidder, but he did not think that overruled the matter. It was no doubt a very annoying thing for the plaintiffs, because they had been put to some trouble and probably might have made a little money out of it. There was no legal liability on the defendants in the circumstances.

Sending Goods at Owner's Risk.—In the City of London Court, on Oct. 16, a case of some importance to the trade was heard before his Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., in which the Great Eastern Railway Co. sued Mr. T. E. Baxter, 29, Grove Hill-rd., Camberwell, to recover the sum of £2 18s. 10d. carriage of china and glass from Ipswich to Grove Hill-rd., Camberwell. The claim was admitted, but the defendant made a counter-claim for £7 10s. for damage done to the goods. Mr. Brandon, counsel for the railway company, said their answer to the counter-claim was that their goods were carried at owner's risk. Therefore no liability attached to them for any damage that might have been done, although the railway company denied having done any damage. Mr. Baxter said he did not send the goods at owner's risk at all, neither did he authorise anyone to sign an owner's risk note on his behalf. He did not deliver the goods personally to the railway company's carmen. His wife and son saw to that. The owner's risk note now produced was signed by his son, who, however, had no authority to do so. Mr. Brandon said that unless neglect or default could be shown on the part of the railway company, the owner's risk note exempted them from risk. Baxter, Junr., was called, and he said that he had not authority to sign the contract note, and that when he signed it he did not know that it was an owner's risk note. He presumed that it was an ordinary consignment note. The paper was brought to him and he signed it. In cross-examination, witness said that he saw all the goods go away. He did not read the contents of the owner's risk note, but a copy of it was left with him. Mrs. Baxter was called and she said that she was asked to sign the owner's risk note, and that she declined to do so, because she did not want to put her signature to anything that she did not understand. Nothing was said by the railway company's carmen to the effect that the consignment note was a special contract limiting their liability. Mr. Brandon said the plaintiff's son had signed the owner's risk note in which was the following sentence :—"In consideration of your receiving and forwarding the undermentioned goods, not properly protected by packing, and of the consequent saving to me of the cost of packing, and of the reduced weight of the consignment, and of any advantage which I derive therefrom, I agree to relieve the Great Eastern Railway Company and all other companies or persons over whose lines the goods may pass, or in whose possession the same may be during any portion of the transit from all liability or for loss or injury of the same, except upon proof that such loss or injury arose from wilful misconduct on the part of the company's servants." Judge Lumley Smith said it was now suggested by Mrs. Baxter that she had been misled. Usually the railway company charged more for taking the goods at company's risk. Mr. Brandon said there was no alternative rate now. Formerly railway companies wanted certain goods to be properly packed in crates, and that frequently cost a lot of money. Instead of their having to pay that for packing the railway company now took goods at the same rate, but at the risk of the owner instead of the company. In the case in question the company were satisfied that the goods would not carry safely on the railway unless they were properly packed and for that reason they declined to take the goods except at the risk of the owner. George Spinks, carman in the service of the railway company at Ipswich, said he told the plaintiff that they would not carry the goods except at the risk of the owner because of the way in which they were packed. Mr. Torkington, who appeared for the plaintiff, said it would now be necessary for him to allege wilful misconduct on the part of the railway company because of the way in which they had damaged nearly all the goods entrusted to them by the plaintiff. Mrs. Baxter was re-called as well as her son, and they said when the goods arrived at their destination they looked as if they had been "in the wars." Judge Lumley Smith said he must hold that the plaintiff was bound by the owner's risk note signed by Baxter, junr., and for which his father was liable. The company reserved to themselves the right to refuse to take china and glass amongst other goods, and they were relieved from all liability unless wilful misconduct could be proved. There was nothing proved against the railway company except that the goods had been damaged. That might have resulted from insufficient packing or negligence, but there was no evidence of wilful misconduct. Judgment must be given for the railway company on the claim and counter claim. Apparently people would sign anything, but they must protect themselves. It was no doubt very annoying to the plaintiff, but the company had behaved very well about the matter.

Canadian Pottery Imports.—During the three months ending June 30, 1908, the value of the earthenware, china, and granite ware imported into Canada was as follows :—Great Britain, $317,608 ; United States, $50,005 ; Germany, $55,011 ; other countries, £69,086 ; total, $491,710. Only the import from the United Kingdom shows an increase

FAMILIAR FACES IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

MR. THOMAS DAVIDSON, J.P., GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

ONE of the best-known firms in the North of England pressed-glass trade is that of George Davidson & Co., the Teams Glass Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne. I was instructed to go down to Gateshead and seek an interview with the principal. It is some years since I was on the Tyne, as the firm have a fine showroom in Holborn, London, and I occasionally look in to see their samples there. I noticed many changes in the old town since my last visit—most of them improvements. There is a long decline leading from the High Level Bridge down to the Teams Glass Works, and on my last visit I had to walk the distance. Gateshead, however, has now commodious electric cars that run you down in a few minutes. Many of the houses on the road have been rebuilt, and the whole place has improved in appearance. Mr. Davidson, who had been advised of my intention to call, gave me a very hearty reception. This is nothing unusual in the North, for they are always very hospitable; but Mr. Davidson was particularly genial, and I soon found that was nothing unusual for him. It is natural to him. I explained the special object of my visit. Though at first he was disinclined to be "interviewed," he ultimately consented to give me some particulars of his career. I already knew something of it from other sources. What I knew, what he kindly told me in answer to my questions, and some incidents I have gathered since my visit, I purpose to weave into narrative form.



[*Photo. by Valentine & Sons, Dundee.*

MR. THOMAS DAVIDSON, J.P.

Mr. Thomas Davidson was born in Gateshead in 1860, and is the son of a glass manufacturer. I remember his father well. It was he who founded the business. He also was born at Gateshead, and was locally educated. After engaging in quite a different business for some years, he decided on a little speculation, and in 1868 he bought four acres of land at The Teams and built a glassworks on it. He started with a few workmen, but soon added to their number. The business increased by degrees, and has continued to do so until it now finds employment for several hundreds of workers. Mr. Davidson, Sen., had an exceptional capacity for business, and, being very popular with his fellow-townsmen, he became an active servant of the public. He was a Town Councillor for many years. In 1883 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the borough, and in 1886 he was chosen as Mayor. In this capacity he presented an address to Royalty, and took part in the opening of the Newcastle Royal Exhibition. He was re-elected Mayor for the following year, and in his official capacity attended the Jubilee celebration of Her Majesty Queen Victoria in London, and was present at the memorable service in Westminster Abbey. In commemoration of the Jubilee, Mr. Davidson presented £100 to the Imperial Institute. Though of a retiring disposition, few men were better known in the borough, and none was more respected. He decided that his two sons should be trained to the glass trade, and they were early in life taken into the office at the works, where they not only had the advantage of their father's supervision, but were placed under the tuition of experts who were associated with him in the business.

The younger brother, Thomas, the subject of this sketch, was educated first at a local school and then at Bedford County School. At the works he was quick to grasp the details of the business, and, not being content with the practical knowledge he was acquiring, while still very young he commenced the study of the theoretical, and particularly the chemical, sides of the industry. He attended at Messrs. Pattinson's, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, for a course of tuition in analytical chemistry. Unhappily, his elder brother died in 1878, and as he had for some time relieved his father by taking a prominent part in the conduct of the business, this duty devolved upon Thomas, though he was then but little over eighteen years of age. In consequence of his father's health and his public duties, the full management of the glassworks practically rested upon him. He himself told me of the long hours of duty this entailed upon him. I remarked that he "must have found this very trying to one so young." "Not a bit of it," he replied. "Hard work, and plenty of it, never came amiss to me—I was happy in it." Mr. Davidson is full of energy now, and I can easily understand what he was at that time. I am, however, not left to speculation on the subject, for I have since learnt that he was famous as a football player, and was remarkable for the vigour with which he played the game. There is no doubt that his athletic training not only gave him the robust physique he now possesses, but has contributed largely to the strong mental vigour he displays to such advantage. He is full of energy, and displays a wonderfully quick perception, a very necessary qualification for one who has to deal with the fluctuations of the industrial problems of to-day. Hesitation is often dangerous in dealing with labour questions. Mr. Davidson gives me the impression that he possesses a firm, resolute will, with tact to exercise it judiciously. He was always fond of the industry, and took a pride in mastering thoroughly all the details of it, both on the productive and on the commercial sides. He devoted all his energies to improving the methods of production and in developing the business in every possible way. He was associated with his father in introducing greatly improved plant and appliances, and with considerable advantage to their trade. They were manufacturers of all kinds of pressed glass, in marble, flint, opal, and coloured goods generally. Then, as now, buyers were always clamouring for novelties, and so pressed-glass manufacturers required to be constantly introducing new patterns. This was an expensive matter when a pressed pattern had to be applied to sugars and creams, butter dishes and covers, covered sugars, dishes—round, square, and oval, and several sizes in each. Though not a skilled worker himself, Mr. Davidson, like his father, has a fertile brain, and many of the firm's most popular patterns were due to suggestions from his father and himself. He was

quite at home in the production of new colours, and the "Primrose" suite, one of the most successful of the firm's numerous coloured lines, owes its origin to him.

His father died in 1891, and from that date Mr. Thomas Davidson has been the sole proprietor of the works, and for years past he has studied to supply good designs in many effective colours. With their modern plant and appliances, the firm are now able to produce goods rapidly, in almost endless variations of patterns, and in greatly improved metal. The flint goods they are now making have a remarkable brilliancy, and are very popular in the trade. Like other pressed glass makers, they were impelled by foreign competition to be continually improving the quality of their glass, the character of their designs, and their means of production. Mr. Davidson has always been quick to adopt the newest and most improved methods of working, and many appliances in use on their works are his own invention. His ambition is to keep his manufactory perfectly equipped. He was favoured with a visit some time ago by Mr. D. Ripley, president of the United States Glass Co., of Pittsburg, U.S.A., who expressed his admiration of what he saw at the Teams Glass Works. This must have been very encouraging to Mr. Davidson, seeing that Mr. Ripley controls the largest pressed-glass manufactory in the world. Mr. Davidson speaks with pleasure of the good understanding that exists between himself and the workpeople. It is well known that the arrangements for adjusting differences between employers and their workpeople in the pressed-glass trade are working well, and, of course, George Davidson & Co. are bound by those arrangements as other manufacturers are. But, apart from those judicious arrangements, there is a feeling of personal respect on both sides between Messrs. Davidson & Co. and their employees which is creditable to both. The personal regard in which the principal is held accounts for this. Like all physically strong men, Mr. Thomas Davidson has a very tender heart. A short time ago I heard it remarked by one who knows him well, "He thinks a great deal more about the welfare and comfort of others than of his own." I find he is a strict disciplinarian on the works, but I am also told that he is always accessible to any workman who has a legitimate complaint to make, or who is in any sort of trouble. At the same time, he insists on the rules and regulations in force at the works being strictly carried out. The employees know this, and the managers of departments have little trouble with them.

Naturally, Mr. Davidson has been devoting his energies all these years to the improvement of the business of his works, and he has met with considerable success—as he deserved. But I find he has at the same time had another object in view, and he has been consistently working for that also—that is, the improvement of the glass trade generally. In this he has been associated with his brother manufacturers in the district. That he enjoys their confidence is evident in the circumstance that he is the chairman of the "North of England Pressed Glass Manufacturers' Association." This association has not been in existence many years, but I understand it has proved itself of great advantage to the trade in facilitating arrangements with the workpeople. The original association was formed in 1889 on the initiative of Mr. Davidson himself. He was chairman all the time it was in existence, and no one regretted its dissolution more than he did. A lover of peace himself, he has a strong opinion that it is to the advantage of any trade when manufacturers act harmoniously on those general trade questions by which all are affected. When any serious difference arises between the workmen and the manufacturers, there is a joint conference between representatives of the employers' association and the men's union, at which the whole facts are discussed, and so far all differences have been amicably settled, without reference to anyone outside the industry. This joint conference only meets as required, and it proves itself of very great benefit to the trade. When it does meet, Mr. Davidson takes the chair. I learnt all about this association in answer to my question as to whether the relations between employers and employed in the North were friendly. "Oh, yes!" said Mr. Davidson, "we get along very well"; and then he told me what helped them to do so.

Mr. Davidson has always been too much engrossed in his business to devote much time to public life, though he takes his full share of duty as a Justice of the Peace. He has been a member of the School Board and of the Gateshead Board of Guardians, but has never taken any active part in political matters, though he takes great interest in them. Not knowing his opinion on the question, I exercised a little diplomacy, and quietly said, "I suppose you have your own views on Protection, Mr. Davidson?" That was enough; I need not have hesitated. "Well, I am just red-hot on Tariff Reform," he replied. "It is monstrous that goods should be admitted here free, to compete with our own manufactures, from countries that charge us from 40 to 60 per cent. on manufactured goods we send to them. Most certainly there should be a duty on imported manufactured goods that compete with our own. If we had imposed such duty twenty or five-and-twenty years ago, we should have kept our glass trade." Mr. Davidson says the free importation of foreign glass table-ware has quite ruined the taste of the public. They would not pay the slightly higher prices for good British glass when cheaper goods from abroad were offered them, and now the public generally regard price before quality. A substantial duty on foreign pressed glass would have kept much of it out of British markets, and the cheaper grades of good British glass would have had a chance. He blames British wholesale dealers for encouraging foreign competition. He says certain British factors who regularly sent British novelties abroad and had them reproduced at much lower prices did more than anyone else to ruin the British glass trade. If it had not been for dealers who wanted to cut out their competitors in prices, we should not have lost so much of our trade.

In spite of the importation of cheap Continental glassware, the North of England glass manufacturers have greatly improved the quality of their productions. Mr. Davidson has himself contributed not a little to that improvement. The productions of his own firm to-day are greatly superior to those of twenty years ago in every respect. The designs are more tasteful, the metal is brighter, and the goods are more carefully finished. As far as the Teams Glass Works are concerned, this improvement is due to the ceaseless personal supervision of the principal, Mr. Thomas Davidson, who for some years past has himself "mixed the batch"—as the preparation of the metal is called. He has the assistance of clever mould-makers and capable foremen who have laboured with him to produce higher-grade goods at moderate prices, and with considerable success.

I can quite believe Mr. Davidson when he says he has been too much absorbed in his business to devote much time to politics, for a manufactory such as he controls must make heavy demands upon him. Busy men sometimes resort to politics as a mental change, and the busier a man is as a manufacturer or a trader, the more energetic he becomes as a politician. I felt sure that a man so full of vitality as I could see Mr. Davidson was, must have some energetic relaxation from the cares of business. He is not the man to go home and rest. In his case, I am sure, mere "rest" would not be recreation. I found that he plays golf, is very fond of shooting, and

or some time has taken great interest in the training of horses. He is not a "racing man" in the ordinary ense of the term, but he is a great admirer of a good nd fast-running horse. I understand that he has often een successful, and that on one occasion a horse of his won an important race. Horse-racing, however, has been is hobby, never his pursuit. He has thoroughly enjoyed t,. but without permitting it to distract his attention rom the serious business of his life.

Mr. Davidson is a kind and considerate employer, and s held in great respect by all in the offices, the warehouse, nd the glasshouse, and is always anxious to secure the onvenience and the comfort of all his employees. I may dd that he has not been unmindful of himself when at he works. He has a very quiet and comfortable private ffice with a pleasant outlook. It has more the appearance f a homely sitting-room than an office, though it has the onvenient accessories of both. Some of these are strikngly characteristic of their owner. The pictures on the valls are eloquent evidence of the filial affection and warm-hearted friendship of the man who placed them here. There is a full-length portrait in oils of his father, nd a remarkably good likeness it is. Near to it hangs a mall oil painting of a pretty country churchyard. As a icture it is interesting—but it is more than a picture to Mr. Davidson. One little spot in it he pointed out to me s the grave of his grandfather. There are other oil aintings. They are creditable executions, and as works f art are well worth the position given them. But Mr. Davidson prizes them chiefly because "they were painted y my old friend John George Sowerby." Those who ave been as long in touch with the North of England ressed-glass trade as I have, will understand all that is neant by those words as spoken by Mr. Davidson. A loor leading out of this private office opens into another osy but smaller room—a sort of comfortable bed-sitting oom. "Very eonvenient," said Mr. Davidson pleasantly, 'when I want, occasionally, to spend a night at the vorks." There are not many glass manufacturers so nthusiastic over their business as to stay all night on he premises. I was surprised to learn that Mr. Davidson s a bachelor. A gentleman so solicitous for the welfare of thers, so kind-hearted, and who retains such tender eminiscences, would make a model husband—but that is private matter which does not concern a journalist.

Mr. Davidson is well known by name all over the world, ut he is one of the most prominent and one of the most espected personalities in the pressed-glass trade of England.

GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS.

Suggestions to Retail Dealers.

(specially contributed.)

THE retail dealer in glass and china has not so many opportunities of making a special bid for trade as the draper has. It is, therefore, all the more desirable that he should make most of such an opportunity when it does present itself. This happens at least once a year—and to all dealers—that is, at Christmas time. Many dealers in rovincial towns seem to realise the possibilities of a hristmas trade more quickly than London china and lass dealers do. But even provincial dealers, with some ew exceptions, do not get all the advantages from it which ney should secure. Drapers and fancy-goods dealers ater for "bargain-loving" customers more successfully nan china dealers do. Why is this? Christmas affords n opportunity of attracting customers that should not ot be missed by enterprising sellers of pottery and glass. Women love "bargains"—let them have them! If you want to get a name in your town for supplying pretty and useful goods at reasonable prices, place an attractive selection of goods in your windows at Christmas, and call them bargains. It you have never tried a special Christmas display, try one this year. Begin to-day, Nov. 2, by announcing your Christmas sales. I say *sales* because you should have two, and both should be well advertised. From to-day, and across the top of your window in letters as large as your space will admit of, say :—

Twelve Days' Sale.

November 16 to November 28.

Clearing Stock to make Room for Christmas Novelties.

Bargains Seldom Met With.

During these two weeks place in your window a tea set, a dinner service, a dessert set, and some ornamental and fancy goods, that you can sell at low prices, and with them some current lines at paying prices. Have neat, legible priced tickets on each. In the second week add the line,

Sale Ends on Saturday Night.

From the 1st to the 5th of December have a white blind drawn down your window, and on it the announcement in large black letters :—

Come and See our Christmas Novelties.

Monday Next and After.

Useful, Artistic, and Ornamental Presents, all at Reasonable Prices.

During these five days keep your shop door open, and you will do your usual trade, but you will have a chance to arrange your window attractively. If you have an electric installation, place in the centre of your window a large piece, a figure if possible, holding a couple or three lights, one on each side, and one on the top. Ther, arranged round it on the window board, and on glass shelves at the sides and back of your window space, place samples of ornamental and fancy ware (with a few grotesques in the front). A pretty tea set, some glass water sets, flower pots, art vases, bijou vases, loving cups, plaques, heraldic ware. You will, of course, select goods most suitable to the class of buyers in your district. This can only be determined by local knowledge. What would be useful and appropriate in one district, would be useless in another. A wide-awake tradesman will be sure that his novelties for Christmas will suit the taste and the pockets of his customers. Take care to avoid overcrowding. It is a greater mistake to place too many than too few goods in a shop window. Goods lose much of their attractiveness when placed too close together. This is as true in Bond-st. as in Whitecross-st. Even if you have a small window, do not overcrowd it. If you have two windows, place china, earthenware and parian in one of them, and glass ware for use and ornament, with fancy pottery in the front, and jet and Rockingham at the back of the other window. If you have but one window, you must be guided by your discretion as to arrangement, but under any circumstances it would be folly to overcrowd it.

U.S. Customs Decisions.—Cooking and serving dishes of white china, coloured brown on the undersides, are not decorated, such colouring being for utilitarian purposes, and are dutiable as undecorated china at 55 per cent. ad val., on importation into the U.S.A. Pressed opal-glass bottles are not included under Tariff No. 100 as "porcelain, opal and other blown glassware," but under Tariff No. 99 as "plain green or coloured, moulded or pressed . . . bottles," and are charged at different rates according to cubical contents, but in no case less than 40 per cent. ad val.

SOME GLASS AND POTTERY WORKS IN SCOTLAND.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

I HAD recently an opportunity of visiting informally, that is to say, without any sort of notice, some of the potteries and glass works in Scotland. If I had gone North with the intention of visiting the manufactories, the calls I made would doubtless have been attended with more satisfactory results. But I did not know myself that I should call at any particular works until I found myself in the neighbourhood of them. If my coming had been pre-arranged, I could have counted on meeting with one at least of the principals.

However, I was courteously received everywhere, and in one or two cases, if my time had permitted, the courtesy would have been extended to hospitality. But seeing that I had planned to make a tour including about a dozen important towns (including Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness; and Glasgow, and that I *did* it), it will be understood that I had to make my visits short ones. As I have said, those made to manufactories were accidental, and they did not number more than half a dozen. One of these was made in Edinburgh. Walking along the front of the beautiful gardens which lie between Calton-hill and London-road, I decided to call on

THE EDINBURGH AND LEITH FLINT GLASS COMPANY,

whose works are at Norton-park at the end of London-rd. Glass making is said to have been introduced into Scotland in 1610 by Sir John Hay, at Wemyss, in Fife. It became an industry of some importance in many parts of the Kingdom, Edinburgh being very early celebrated, as it is to-day, for the finer branches of the manufacture. The glass trade in Scotland has been subject to many fluctuations, and in recent years there has been a great falling off in the production. This, however, has been in quantity and not in quality, for the Edinburgh and Leith Flint Glass Company is still manufacturing the finest hand-made flint table-glass. The proprietor, Mr. A. D. Jenkinson, is one of the best known and most highly respected manufacturers in the city. He is, I am sorry to say, too ill to attend to business just now, and Mr. Jenkinson, Jun., was unfortunately away when I called. I, however, had a short interview with the manager, Mr. Robertson, who kindly took me into the show room and round some portion of the works. These are admirably equipped throughout, and work was proceeding briskly during my stay. These and other flint glass works have been described at length in the POTTERY GAZETTE several times, and most of our readers are familiar with the interesting spectacle seen inside a glass house when the workers are busy round the furnace. The flint glass trade has suffered depression as other trades have, and there are now fewer workers employed in the industry than there used to be. It is an old tale, that this is the result partly of cheaper labour and longer hours worked abroad, but principally because foreigners have long adopted the more expeditious, and, therefore, much cheaper, method of blowing the metal into moulds, instead of fashioning the goods by hand, as I saw them doing. Blowing into a mould makes the glass more brittle, so that if cheaper to buy there is no saving in the end. The company make none but the finest quality flint table-glass, and they adorn it with the most perfect cutting, engraving, and etching. The company have many exceptionally expert engravers in their employ.

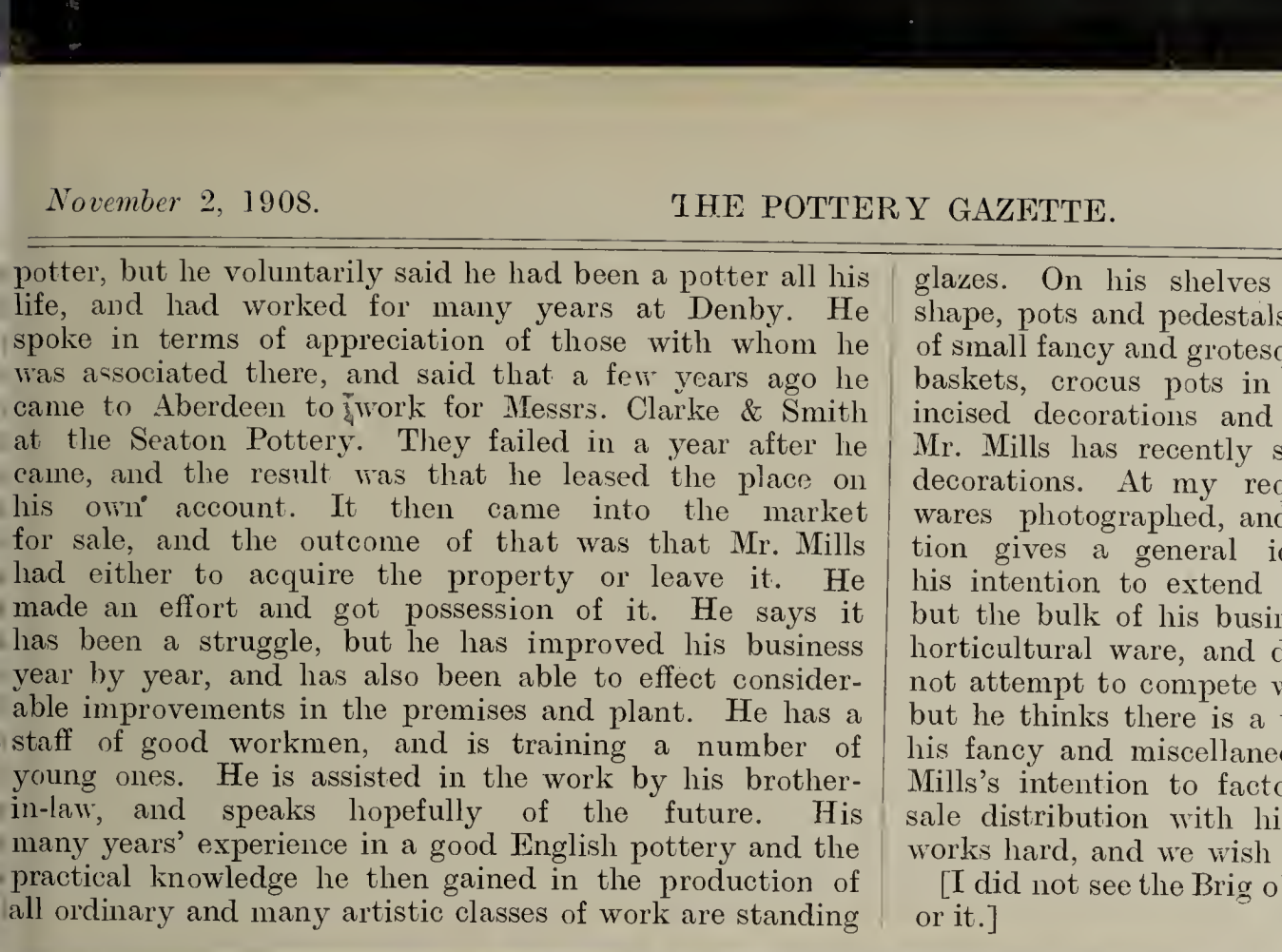
Not many manufactured articles combine utility and art in a greater degree than British hand-made cut glass, and it it is a pity the public do not appreciate it at its full worth I watched an intelligent skilled worker fashioning a light sweet-dish with handle, and when he had completed it, I said, "I am sorry there is not a greater demand for your beautiful work." "If we could keep out the cheaper foreign goods there would be," he remarked, and then added, "We want tariff reform, and we shall have it before long." I could see he took pride in his work. He spoke enthusiastically of some beautiful productions in the Edinburgh Exhibition. The company have a high reputation for the purity of their metal, and for the delicate character of their table glass-ware generally—particularly for their plain light wines. They are represented in London by Messrs. Green Brothers, 49, Hatton-garden, E.C., who have a large selection of the company's beautiful productions, always on show.

I spent a short time in Aberdeen. There are many places of interest in the famous "Granite City," but I understand it is considered incumbent on every visitor (for business or pleasure) to see two of them, "The Bridge of Don" and "The Bridge of Dee" (I am in London now, and so I write in English. In speaking of those historical structures on the spot one has to say "Brig o' Don" and "Brig o' Dee"), and as I was mixing pleasure with my business I determined to see them. The electric tram service in Aberdeen is a very good one, and I found that a car runs from one bridge to the other. On looking at the map, I decided to finish my calls, which were all in the central streets of the city, and then to take a car out to the "Bridge of Don," intending to ride thence to the "Bridge of Dee." The car went no further than the Bridge of Don (which was soon reached), and I had a pleasant walk along the beautiful southern banks of the famous river, and enjoyed a good view, under favourable climatic conditions (it had been raining for some days), of the interesting old "Brig o' Balgownie," built about 1310 A.D. It has one sharp-pointed arch, and is a quaint structure otherwise, and, seen from where I stood, between it and the new Bridge of Don, it looked most picturesque, with its background of wood and quaint old buildings. I went back to the tram terminus to take a car to the other bridge, but as there did not happen to be one starting for some minutes, I walked on a little, and saw something of old Aberdeen. Looking over some fields I saw smoke curling up, and, to my astonishment, there was a pottery oven. There really was no reason why there should *not* be a pottery on the outskirts of Aberdeen, but I was not expecting one. I made what a backwoodsman would call a "bee track" for the smoke, and soon came upon what I found was

THE SEATON ART POTTERY.

I wandered round the premises, and then into one of the yards, where I was met by a workman, who naturally inquired what I wanted. I said I should like to see the proprietor, and he went off to fetch him. Meanwhile I had a good look at the place. As a "Pot Bank" it perhaps would not count for much in Staffordshire, but it was very interesting all the same. It is not large for a pottery, but evidently very old, and there are indications of recent additions and improvements. The messenger returned and said if I would follow him he would take me to Mr. Mills. I did so, and found him busy at the wheel "throwing" pots! I made the rather trite remark that he had not greatly improved upon the potter's wheel of the ancients. "No," he replied, "only in the methods of operating it." At his request I waited till he had finished the work he was engaged upon, and then he took me to his office and handed me his card, "Arthur Mills, Seaton Art Pottery, King-street, Aberdeen." After what I had seen I needed not to be told that Mr. Mills was a practical

potter, but he voluntarily said he had been a potter all his life, and had worked for many years at Denby. He spoke in terms of appreciation of those with whom he was associated there, and said that a few years ago he came to Aberdeen to work for Messrs. Clarke & Smith at the Seaton Pottery. They failed in a year after he came, and the result was that he leased the place on his own account. It then came into the market for sale, and the outcome of that was that Mr. Mills had either to acquire the property or leave it. He made an effort and got possession of it. He says it has been a struggle, but he has improved his business year by year, and has also been able to effect considerable improvements in the premises and plant. He has a staff of good workmen, and is training a number of young ones. He is assisted in the work by his brother-in-law, and speaks hopefully of the future. His many years' experience in a good English pottery and the practical knowledge he then gained in the production of all ordinary and many artistic classes of work are standing



Mr. Arthur Mills, Seaton Art Pottery, Aberdeen.

him in good stead now. He is an energetic, enterprising man, and seems on the way to revive the fortunes of a very old-established pottery. I never knew a pottery situated with such pleasant surroundings. There are fields and open country all round, and the works are within a short distance of the tram terminus, the sea, and of the beautiful river Don. It seems strange to find a pottery there, but, of course, the secret of it is—the clay is near. In the early and best days of the Seaton Pottery they made only brown flower-pots, vases, pans, jars, and basins. Mr. Mills makes these still, but has gradually added many other things. The local demand is principally for ware of the character named, and, of course, that must be met. But in meeting it new lines have been added from time to time—fern stands, butter jars, poultry requisites, glazed terra-cotta ware, Rebecca jars, and fancy pieces in biscuit for amateur painters; Majolica barrels, tobacco jars and covers, and flower pots, and several other fancy lines, some mottled, and others in coloured glazes. On his shelves he has large vases artistic in shape, pots and pedestals, umbrella stands, and a variety of small fancy and grotesque pieces, such as trays, handled-baskets, crocus pots in the form of elephants, art pots incised decorations and crinkled edges in many sizes. Mr. Mills has recently supplied some effective splashed decorations. At my request, he had a group of his wares photographed, and the accompanying reproduction gives a general idea of his art pottery. It is his intention to extend the manufacture of fancy lines, but the bulk of his business at present is in flower pots, horticultural ware, and domestic glazed goods. He does not attempt to compete with manufacturers in the South, but he thinks there is a wide field for the distribution of his fancy and miscellaneous lines in Scotland. It is Mr. Mills's intention to factor pottery and glass for wholesale distribution with his own goods in the North. He works hard, and we wish him the success he deserves.

[I did not see the Brig o' Dee, and Mr. Mills is responsible or it.]

Cochran & Fleming, Glasgow.

Cochran & Fleming, Britannia Pottery, Glebe-street, are manufacturers of ironstone-china, porcelain-granite, and general earthenware. Pottery manufacture has been carried on in the neighbourhood of Glasgow for the past two hundred years, and at the Britannia Pottery for seventy years. The present pottery was built about fifty years ago—at an interesting period in the industrial life of Glasgow—when the development of the Clyde opened up new markets for Scottish manufactures. I paid a visit to the pottery recently, and was favoured with a brief interview with Mr. Fleming, junr. The extensive premises have a fine frontage to Glebe-street, and consist practically of a large square, the four sides of which are formed by the offices, showrooms, warehouses, and decorating rooms, while the works are in the centre. No firm stands higher in the estimation of the citizens than the famous pottery manufacturers of whom Sir James Fleming is the principal. It will be remembered that the honour of knighthood was conferred on Mr. James Fleming on the King's birthday in 1906, and the distinction was welcomed not only by his large circle of friends and business acquaintances in Scotland, but by all connected with the pottery trades generally. He has done much to develop the production of artistic pottery and of art work generally. For nearly a quarter of a century he has been chairman of the School of Art, Glasgow, and it is freely admitted that the success of that school has been, to a great extent, due to his influence. This was acknowledged on the evening of the day of his knighthood, when he was given a public reception in the Fine Arts Institution, Sauchiehall-street, organised by the executive of the School of Art. It was a graceful yet fully deserved compliment. The Britannia Pottery is well equipped in every department, and the convenience and comfort of the workers are studied all

through the works. The decorating rooms, where a large number of females necessarily spend so much time, are clean, light, and healthy. In the particularly fine showrooms are samples of the numerous classes of ware produced by the company. These range from neat but inexpensive stock patterns to highly decorated enamelled and gilt dinner services. Samples are shown of dinner, tea, and toilet ware in great variety and a number of choice dessert services.

The firm apply artistic decorations to useful domestic ware, as well as to vases, flower-pots, plaques, &c., and in this way they are contributing to the improvement of the public taste. They do a good export trade, for which their pottery is well situated, as they can deliver goods to the vessel's side by their own carts. The general features of manufacture are much the same here as at other well-appointed factories, but I may say that labour-saving and time-saving machines and methods are employed wherever possible. Amongst the many specialities are ship and hotel ware, sanitary ware, and hospital sundries. Although my visit was unadvised it was an interesting one, and I have to thank Mr. Fleming, junr., for his courtesy.

(To be continued.)

THE ENGLISH CERAMIC SOCIETY.

MEMBERS of the English Ceramic Society assembled in large numbers on Oct. 24 in the Hanley Municipal Secondary School for the purpose of hearing a lecture by Dr. Emil Weber. Mr. W. Jackson presided. The subject of the lecture was "THE LIQUEFACTION OF CLAY BY ALKALIES AND THE USE OF FLUID CLAY IN THE CERAMIC INDUSTRY."

Dr. Weber said that when they employed clay for different purposes in pottery, they preferred in most cases the highly plastic, fat, or rich clays to the less platic, poor, or lean clays. Recent investigations had proved that the plasticity of the different kinds of clay was very probably founded upon the presence of colloidal substances, organic as well as inorganic. The explanation of plasticity might be found in the peculiar combination of various substances with the water and the original clay-substance, but the plasticity was not connected with the chemical composition. We could take it for granted that the plasticity, if it was indeed dependent on gelatinous colloids, could be done away with if the gelatinous colloids passed into solution. With certain clays this transformation could be effected by simply altering the reaction, and so it was possible to transform a tempered plastic clay into a liquid without any addition of water, by merely adding small quantities of alkali. Like all other colloids, the colloids of clay reacted very easily with additions of electrolytes. By the addition of alkalies clay slips became thinner, consequently it must be possible to make an absolutely fluid clay slip from mixtures of clay with the comparatively small quantity of water, in which the plasticity was absolutely removed. With this fluid clay certain new technical effects were to be obtained, often in a very simple manner, so that an improvement in the process of manufacture of certain ceramic products was guaranteed. The liquefaction of clay slips was not always simple. In general, one could say: The richer or the more plastic the clay is—that was to say, the more colloids it contained—the easier it reacted with alkalies. One could readily and surely produce an easily-flowing liquid substance with a minimum of water. Referring to the use in the ceramic industry of changing a soft plastic ceramic substance into a liquid, Dr. Weber said this was sufficiently well known in the manufacture of pottery—porcelain and earthenware—but matters were different in those branches of the industry which manufactured larger objects of great thickness—sanitary goods—and in a still higher degree in the manufacture of fireclay goods. The casting of large pieces with clay slips containing but little water in suitable plaster moulds, instead of, as hitherto, forming them with the hands, had only been tried a few years. It had been shown that the large pieces made by casting were very often superior in quality to hand work as well as in simplicity and cheapness of production by which a considerable saving in the manufacturing had been made. Many of the raw clays used by the fireclay industry possessed favourable combinations of inorganic and organic colloidal substances, as to give when suitably treated a perfectly fluid dense substance. It was not possible to lay a rule down for the refractory clays in general, but each kind of clay needed individual treatment and analysis. Having referred to certain special phenomena which occurred with many kinds of clay, the lecturer said a good useful slip should contain the lowest possible amount of water. This minimum very nearly corresponded with the amount of water present in the plastic body used for pressing, throwing, and hand-work in general; that was about 15 or 20 per cent. The slip should not only be liquid but remain in this condition a certain time when at rest. Then there would never be irregular contraction and cracks in the cast article. The water and the alkalies contained in it could be removed very quickly by electro-osmose. Referring to the alkalies, by which influence the liquefaction of the colloids occurred, he said which of these alkalies should be used, and the quantity, must be found out for each clay separatoly according to its composition. Heat also was a factor. In addition to the alkaline substances employed for liquefying the slip, a vigorous mechanical treatment of the clay was essential. He then proceeded to explain a mechanical contrivance for the casting process which he had devised after a great deal of experimental work. He pointed out that the most important part of the apparatus was the vertical stirring machine. In this apparatus, the lecturer said, it was possible to prepare cheaply and quickly all dry clays and clay mixtures which were to be liquefied for the different purposes in the ceramic trade, and the fluid slip contained in general no more water than bodies worked in the plastic state. Slips made from clay or mixtures of clay with other materials might be used for many different purposes in the ceramic industries. They were especially suitable for the manufacture of large and strong articles, such as crucibles and sanitary goods. Any article for which it was possible to make a plaster mould could be cast in this way. Gypsum was the most suitable material for the casting moulds. What articles could be profitably manufactured by the casting purocess? A characteristic advantage was in cases where making by hand was difficult owing to the limited binding power of the clay, and articles could easily be made in any desired strength. Casting could also be used even with lean, non-plastic substances, which could not be worked by hand with safety. In consequence of the complete disintegration of the binding clay in making the slip, casting furnished a uniform dense piece free of all form defects. The casting itself required no special ability or skill, so that unskilled labourers could do it. Even if the pecuniary saving resulting from the use of the casting process were of no particular significance, the casting was preferable since it produced a denser ware of better quality. This referred especially to those fireclay pieces which were not only exposed to heat but also to the destructive effects of melting alkalies, acid vapours, &c., by which a porous, less dense brick was, of course, more quickly spoiled than bricks made from a denser body. In Germany about fourteen manufactories had worked for four years with his process; in Austria three manufactories were employing the process, in Sweden two, in Belgium one, in America one, and in France, Italy, and Russia negotiations were in progress for the introduction of the process.

Dr. Mellor said he had always been somewhat backward in taking up that colloid theory because there were some facts which could not be explained by it. Dr. Weber had thrown a little light on the subject when he said that clays which had sulphates associated with them might not react in the way characteristic of clays containing colloid matter. This was a very good answer to some facts, but not to all. Every clay had its own characteristic. Some liked alkalies, some liked them very much, and some could be coaxed into liking them, and Dr. Weber had probably more experience in coaxing these clays than any man in the world. Accepting, of course, the colloid theory, it seemed to him that a clay could do much more if it was liquefied than if it was gelatinised.

After several questions had been asked and answered, Mr. R. H. H. Jones proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer. They ought, he remarked, to take a keener interest in the technical side of their work, and perhaps Dr. Weber's excellent paper would be a stimulus to the members of the Society to become more keenly interested in the classes which were held under the supervision of Dr. Mellor. Mr. S. A. Green seconded, and the vote was heartily accorded.

The Polite Hawker.—Costermongers as a class are said to be very rude in their language and behaviour, but we heard recently of one who proved a glorious exception to this rule. This particular representative of the hawkers' trade was driving a donkey-cart laden with cheap crockery along a lane, when, at a sudden turning, the donkey shied at a young and pretty lady who came rapidly round the corner, with the result that the cart upset, and a good deal of the crockery was smashed. The poor lady was horrified, and waited, in some fear and trembling, for the torrent of abuse to which, to some degree at least, she felt the occasion was entitled. But this particular costermonger was a gentleman in his manners, and all he did was to say to the lady, in the most conciliatory and friendly manner possible, "Never mind, lady; after all, even Balaam's ass was frightened of an angel!"

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Nicholls' China and Glass Stores have been opened at 169, High-st., Stoke Newington, N.

Wills & Simmons, china dealers, &c., have removed from 21, Orchard-st. to 445, Oxford-st., W.

Mr. Adams, china and glass dealer, &c., has opened new premises at 23, Hoe-st., Walthamstow, E.

Mr. R. Randall, china and glass dealer, &c., has taken premises at 114, Seven Sisters-rd., Holloway, N.

Mr. J. Needleman, glass merchant, has relinquished the business at 60, Clarence-rd., Lower Clapton, N.E.

Mr. T. B. Williams, china and glass dealer, has opened premises at 5, Market-parade, High-rd., Leyton, E.

Dean & Clare, china and glass merchants, have relinquished the business at 676, Lea Bridge-rd., Leyton, E.

Etgart & Co., glass merchants, have removed from 49, Central-st., Old-st., E.C., to 110 in the same thoroughfare.

Leon Marcus & Co. have removed their Cosmopolitan China Stores from Bury New-rd. to 310, Gt. Cheetham-st., Manchester.

Watson & Son, 13, 14 and 15, Minster-st., Reading, are holding their annual sale of china, glass and earthenware during November.

James Best & Sons, of Stoke-on-Trent, inform us that they are the sole agents for the Great Halviggan China Clay Co., Ltd., mentioned in our last issue.

Mr. William Dale, of 20, Winstanley-rd., New Ferry, Cheshire, senior member of the firm of William Dale & Son, earthenware and glass merchants, of Clevedon-square, Liverpool, left estate to the value of £7,945.

Bankruptcy Statistics.—Nine china, glass, and earthenware dealers were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1908. Twice that number were gazetted in the corresponding period of 1907.

Kinghorn Bottle Co., Ltd.—Private company, registered in Edinburgh with capital £1,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to carry on the business of bottle, glass, stone, and earthenware manufacturers, and to acquire and establish works for that purpose.

Mr. Frederick Holland, 91, Mostyn-st., and Westminster-buildings, Lloyd-st., Llandudno, has acquired the business of Joseph Wiley & Son, china and earthenware merchants, hitherto carried on at 91, Mostyn-st., Llandudno, which he will carry on in addition to the Lloyd-st. business.

J. H. Weatherby & Sons, Ltd.—Registered capital, £1,000 in £1 shares. Objects, to adopt an agreement with J. H. Weatherby, sen., and to carry on the business of manufacturers of earthenware, porcelain, china and other articles, &c. Private company. The subscribers are J. H. Weatherby, sen., S. M. Weatherby, and J. H. Weatherby, jun. Registered office, Falcon Pottery, High-street, Hanley.

F. G. Bussell & Co., Ltd.—Registered capital £3,000, in £1 shares. Objects, to acquire the business carried on by H. T. Robinson and F. G. Bussell as "F. G. Bussell & Co.," at High-st., Castle-st., and College-green, Bristol, and at Charles-st., Cardiff, and to carry on the business of dealers in eartheware, china, porcelain, glass goods, &c.

Pottery and Glass Benevolent Institution.—A variety entertainment in aid of this institution will be presented at the King's Theatre, Covent Garden, W.C., on Nov. 11, 1908. Leading London artistes have already kindly promised their services. Tickets may be obtained at the office of the Institution, 6, Thavies-inn, Holborn-circus, E.C., where a plan of the theatre may be seen.

Unemployed in the Potteries.—In the course of the discussion in the House of Commons on the relief of the unemployed the Prime Minister said, while it was not possible to give a trustworthy estimate of the number of unemployed, distinguishing between the "skilled" and the "unskilled," the districts most affected were the Clyde, the North-East Coast of England, and the Potteries.

Mr. Thomas Jarvis died on Oct. 18, at his residence, at Redruth. Deceased, who was about seventy years of age, for a considerable number of years carried on a large business as a wholesale and retail glass and china merchant at Redruth, Camborne, and elsewhere, and was widely known throughout the county as a very successful business man. He leaves a widow and grown-up family to mourn his loss.

L. & J. Sayer, 21, Queen-st., Ipswich, have one of the oldest shops in the trade in the town. For some years they have combined general hardware with glass and china, but they now devote their attention entirely to china and glass, and we are pleased to learn they find it to their interest to do so. Our belief has always been that when a dealer understands his trade, and devotes intelligent energy to it, a profitable business may still be done in pottery and glass alone.

Oh, Those Newspapers!—One of them in the north has a heading "Tragedy in the Potteries," and says, "A terrible affair is reported from Wordsley near Brierley Hill (Staffs.)." Then follows an account of the particularly outrageous murder of a woman and the attempted suicide of the murderer. But why discredit "The Potteries," with the crime? Reporters and sub-editors should know something of topography. Apparently some of them do not know much.

The Rapid Magnetting Machine Co., Ltd., 18, The Crescent, Birmingham, are exhibiting at the Electrical Exhibition, Manchester, four types of magnetic separators, including the separator for dealing with potters' dry material, and also that for dealing with slip, glaze, &c. These separators have aroused considerable interest on the Continent, and the firm have been favoured with an order from so far afield as Mexico, whilst recently they have been favoured with a repeat order from His Majesty's Government.

Dangerous Trades.—The drafts of the new regulations recently issued from the Home Office, and which class the "tinning of metals" and "vitreous enamelling" as dangerous trades, do not appreciably affect our industries. The regulations do not apply to work in connection with the manufacture of stained glass, nor to the manufacture of any wares enamelled with glazes and colours containing less than one per cent. of lead. The regulation as to vitreous enamelling comes into force on Jan. 1, 1910.

Garrater Syndicate, Ltd.—Registered capital, £1,000 in £1 shares. Objects: to take over from G. J. Abell the benefit and obligations of an agreement between the said G. J. Abell and C. E. A. Moore, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in jars, bottles, carboys and the like, stoppers, safety clips, fasteners, labels and other methods of sealing, fastening, labelling or marking of any description, &c. Private company. Registered office: 5-6, Corn-square, Leominster, Herefordshire.

Fire at a Scotch Pottery.—On Oct. 13, a fire broke out in the works of Shanks & Co., Ltd., sanitary engineers, Barrhead. The building in which the fire originated was used as a store for fireclay goods, and also for the manu-

facture of porcelain enamel. It measured eighty feet by thirty feet, and was two storeys in height, with attics. The outbreak was discovered about eight o'clock, and in the course of an hour the whole erection was a total wreck. The damage is estimated at between £2,000 and £3,000.

Mr. H. Mudford, china and glass merchant, has consented to be Mayor of Tiverton for a fifth successive year—a record for the borough. The late Mr. J. S. How, more than half a century ago, was mayor for four years in succession, and that was a record until Mr. Mudford's re-election last November. Mr. Mudford has placed his time, talents, and means at the services of the burgesses, and has been loyally supported by his wife. During Mr. Mudford's now long term of office the borough has prospered exceedingly.

Lead Poisoning from Water Pipes.—Several cases of lead poisoning have recently been caused in Yorkshire by the consumption of soft water which had passed through lead pipes. In one instance water taken from one of the local service pipes, which are of lead, was found to contain one-tenth of a grain of lead per gallon. One-ninth of a grain had been known to cause lead poisoning. Consumers of water have been advised to draw off a reasonable quantity from the taps before using it for drinking purposes. Is it possible that any of the lead-poisoning cases in the potteries could be due to a similar cause ?

The Trade Marks Act.—At a meeting of the Law Society on Wednesday (held this year in Birmingham), Mr. M. J. Riley, of Manchester, in the course of a paper on "Some Notes on the Trade Marks Act of 1905," referred to the "crowded state of the records," and said that after thirty-three years of registration law and the accumulation of about 300,000 applications, it was not unreasonable to suggest that a relaxation might be made in the strictness of the official search for conflicting marks and in the nicety of comparison of new applications with the multitude of marks already on record. No mark that could fairly lay claim to being "distinctive" ought, under the Act of 1905, to be denied registration.

Wm. Adolph & Co., 9, Bury-court, London, E.C., have been established for about 70 years as specialists in the supply of pottery requisites. They have special lines is enamel and underglazed colours, and all other materials used in the manufacture of pottery and glass. They supply silk and bronze lawns and palette knives, and are constantly introducing new colours. They issue a list of colours and enamels which they will send to any manufacturer who applies for it. The firm supplies china clay, ball clay, and Cornwall stone, duplex and simplex paper, and tissue paper on rollers for rotative printing machines. Amongst their miscellaneous goods are material and supplies for potters, glass manufacturers, tile makers, &c. They are in a position to give prompt shipment at reasonable prices. They will be glad to reply to correspondents in any European language.

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of cases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Acts, during September, was 43, and there was one death from that cause. In addition to these, there were 22 reported cases and 5 deaths among house-painters and plumbers. In the china and earthenware trade there were 10 reported cases and 1 death from lead poisoning in September, as compared with 9 reported cases and 1 death in the month of August. In the nine months ending September, 1908, there were 491 cases and 21 deaths reported under the Acts, as compared with 369 reported cases and 21 deaths in the same nine months last year. Among house painters and plumbers there were 158 cases of lead poisoning and 27 deaths in the first nine months of this year, as compared with 122 cases and 30 deaths in the same period last year. There were 95 reputed cases and 9 deaths in connection with the china and earthenware trades in the first nine months of this year, as against 65 reported cases and 8 deaths in the same months of last year.

The Dangers of Lead-Poisoning.—Dr. F. M. Sandwith, Gresham Professor of Physic, lecturing at Gresham College, London, on Wednesday, declared that lead-poisoning could be conveyed through a variety of unexpected channels. Snuff, falsified by red oxide of chromide of lead, was a medium, and even women who washed leadworkers' clothes were liable to contract the disease. Tobacco should never be allowed in a lead factory, and intemperance was a special cause of danger in the lead industry. Cleanliness was absolutely necessary, and no worker in a white-lead factory should start work without breaking his or her fast. It was because women were so negligent in regard to their food that they were extremely susceptible to lead-poisoning. Dr. Sandwith showed that lead workers who indulge in alcohol to excess were most subject to the malady, and added that women were most subject to it because they did not take proper nourishment. He also referred to lead poisoning caused by the action of soft water on lead pipes, and instanced a case in which 13 out of 38 residents in a mansion were seriously affected. It was found that the water they had consumed had been brought through lead pipes from the cistern, and that each gallon of water so obtained contained a grain of metallic lead.

New Trade Marks advertised for registration during October included the following :—

ICY-HOT,

303,850. Bottles and jars insulated for resisting change of temperature of the contents, being goods of glass included in Class 15. G. P. Altenberg, 216 and 218, Longworth-st., Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A. Address for service in the United Kingdom is, c/o Cruikshank & Fairweather, 65-66, Chancery-lane, W.C.——305,240. Earthenware jars or flagons or other earthenware vessels included in Class 16, sold empty, that is to say, independently of any contents. Whitbread & Co., Ltd., Chiswell-st., E.C.——305,291. Glass bottles, sold separately, that is to say, independently of any contents, and stoppers (glass) for such bottles. Class 15. G. J. Monson and R. P. Burra, both of The Cottage, East End-rd., Pinner, Middlesex.——302,242. Glass. Class 15. Also 302,243. Porcelain and earthenware. Class 16. P. Ruben, 56, Leadenhall-st., E.C.

TRADE MARK.





Tenders Accepted.—Brentford Board of Guardians has accepted the tender of Finney & Co., Hammersmith, at £176 9s. 3d., for the half-yearly supply of earthenware.—— The contract of the Empire Porcelain Co., Bevis Marks, E.C., for certain items of the supply of crockery to the Stores Committee of the L.C.C. has been terminated at the request of the contractors. The tender of the British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Longton, Staffordshire, has been accepted for the items.——For supply of crockery to the Farnham Union :—Lintern & Peters.—For Guardians of the Kingston-on-Thames Union :—Crockeryware, Defries & Sons, Ltd., Houndsditch ; officers' crockery and glassware, W. Huntsman, Upper st., N.——For the Guardians of the Southampton Union :—W. H. Davies, Above Bar, for earthenware.——For Wrexham Guardians :—T. Hughes & Co., earthenware, £13 12s.——For the supply of earthenware to the workhouse and hospital for the Halifax Guardians :—W. Neaverson, per schedule.——For the supply of crockeryware to the York Guardians :—Rhodes Brown, Swinegate, York.——For the supply of crockery to the Chester Union :

–Mr. Whittingham, Bridge-st.——For the supply of earthnware to the Brentford Union :—L. Finney & Co., King-t., Hammersmith, £176 9s. 3d.——For the supply of earthnware to the Westminster Guardians :—W. Huntsman, 19 12s. 7d.——For the supply of crockery for six months o the Birkenhead Union :—J. Byren.

Company Liens.—Chromo Transfer and Potters' Supply o., Ltd. (Stoke-on-Trent)—A mortgage, dated July 28, 908, to secure £3,500, charged on messuages 37 to 47 (odd umbers only), Newland-st., Shelton, Hanley, and chromo ransfer factory adjoining the said messuages, was regis-ered on Sept. 24, pursuant to order of court.——J. Cullen ; Co., Ltd. (glass manufacturers, Sheffield)—A memoran-um of satisfaction in full of a debenture securing £300 as been filed.——Booths, Ltd. (earthenware manufac-urers, Tunstall)—Particulars of £6,000 debentures, created y resolution of Oct. 1, 1908, have been filed, the whole mount being now issued. The property charged is the ompany's undertaking and property, present and future, ncluding uncalled capital (subject to prior mortgages). 'he above debentures have been issued in substitution for cbentures issued in 1898 for like amount.——Carpalla Jnited China Clay, Co., Ltd. (Cornwall)—Memorandum f deposit of deeds and writings to secure all moneys ue or to become due to Shilson Coode & Co., of St. Austell, as been registered. Property charged, certain property n St. Stephens-in-Bramwell.——South Wales (Siemens' 'atent) Glass Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Newport, Mon.—'articulars have been registered relating to an issue of 600 debentures, part of £2,000 ; amount previously issued, 700, charged on the company's whole assets.——Glass, Earthenware and Allied Trades Association, Ltd. London)—Particulars of £300 debentures, created by esolution of Sept. 24, 1908, have been filed ; the amount f the present issue being £250. Property charged—'he company's undertaking and property, present and uture, including uncalled capital.——North Cornwall China lay Co. (1908), Ltd.—A mortgage, dated Oct. 9, 1908, to ecure £5,000, charged on 2s. 6d. per share uncalled on 2,975 shares, payable in Dec., 1908, has been registered.

British Bottles and Continental Competitors.—Com-laints have often been made in recent years about British irms giving more and more of their orders for glass bottles o foreign manufacturers. A day or two ago (writes a orrespondent of the "Manchester Guardian") I dis-ussed this with a friend who is in the habit of making arge purchases, and who admitted that he was one of the reatest offenders. A short time ago, being in need of quantity of blue coloured bottles, he applied to a Lan-ashire firm who had formerly supplied him with some reen ones he had admired very much. They replied that hey had no blue ones, and told him that in their opinion he greens would do just as well. Thinking otherwise, nd wishing to place the order in this country if possible, e applied next to a competitor of the first firm. The ompetitor's answer was that they had none ready, but hat a blue tank was being put down, and the bottles would e procurable in a month's time. Time, however, being mportant, the order had to be placed abroad, where ; was both satisfactorily and promptly executed. Foreigners," my friend added, "don't tell you they know etter than yourself what you want ; they take all you are repared to offer them and supply you at once with what ou ask for." On another occasion (adds this corre-pondent) he showed the representative of a Lancashire rm a French bottle similar to one that firm had formerly upplied, but without the usual ridge or seam which im-aired the appearance of the English article. "Oh," said he agent, "we can give you a turned bottle without ny seam if you like, but if you have the bottle turned you annot have your initials on the bottom." Upending the French bottle, my friend revealed the fact that what was impossible to the Lancashire firm had been accomplished by the foreigner. In the last moment of turning the initials are stamped. Our correspondent's instances are informing as far as they go, but one must beware of generalising from one or two experiences. Probably French purchasers tell similar stories against the glass bottle manufacturers of their own country. Certainly American and German critics make exactly the same charges against the salesmanship of their respective countries as we do against ours, and contrast it unfavourably with that of England, just as we contrast our own unfavourably with theirs.

Old Mortgages and Charges.—The following statements of the total amounts outstanding on July 1 in respect of mortgages and charges created prior to that date and not required to be registered under Section 14 of the Companies Act, 1900, have been filed pursuant to section 12 of the Companies Act, 1907 :—Josiah Wedgwood & Sons, Ltd. (potters, Stoke-on-Trent)—Mortgage debentures, dated 1895, securing £10,000.——Mintons, Ltd. (china manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent)—A mortgage debenture, dated Aug. 11, securing £12,000, and "B" debentures, dated Aug. 12, 1892, securing £28,000.——Coalport China Co. (John Rose & Co., Ltd.)—Debentures, dated 1889, securing £15,000, and mortgages, dated 1899, securing £7,900.——Potters' Mills, Ltd. (Longton).—Mortgages or charges, dated 1899, securing £46,200 0s. 10d.——James Hancock & Son, Ltd. (colour manufacturers, Worcester)—Mortgage or charge, dated 1908, securing £1,400.——Harrison & Son (of Hanley), Ltd. (manufacturers of potters' colours)—Mortgage or charge securing £6,100 (no date).——Alfred Meakin, Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers, Tunstall)—Deposit of deeds in 1896, securing £16,777.——Soho Mills Co., Ltd. (flint grinders, &c., Tunstall)—Mortgage, dated 1897, securing £2,700.——Keeling & Co., Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers, Burslem)—Indenture of mortgage, dated Jan. 21, 1901, securing £4,000.——Central Potters' Mills, Ltd. (Fenton)—Mortgage, dated 1908, securing £8,000.——Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd. (Burslem)—Mortgage, dated 1907, securing £918 13s. 4d.——Sowerby's Ellison Glass Works, Ltd. (Gateshead)—Mortgages, dated 1878 to 1897, securing £19,719.——Robert Candlish & Son, Ltd. (bottle manufacturers, Seaham Harbour and London)—Charge, dated 1894, securing £10,000 debentures.——Trent Art Tile Co., Ltd. (Swadlincote)—Mortgage debentures, dated 1897, securing £2,000, and charge, dated 1905, securing £750.——J. Duckett & Son, Ltd. (sanitary ware manufacturers, Burnley)—Mortgages, dated 1896 and 1899, securing £11,800.——Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Co., Ltd.—Mortgages, dated 1894, securing £10,000.——Venice and Murano Glass Co., Ltd.—Deed of hypothecation, dated June 1, 1904, and trust deed, dated July 18, 1904, securing. £5,000.——Grimwades, Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent)—Mortgages, dated 1892 to 1904, securing £13,550.——Cauldon (Brown-Westhead Moore & Co.), Ltd. (porcelain manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent)—Mortgage, dated 1865, securing £9,897.——O. C. Hawkes, Ltd., glass manufacturers, Birmingham.—Mortgages, dated 1906, securing £2,000.——John Tetlow & Sons, Ltd., sanitary ware manufacturers, Manchester.—Charge, dated 1899, securing £2,063.——China Millers, Ltd., Longton.—Deposit of deeds in 1908, securing £5,000.——Josiah Lane & Sons, Ltd., flint and coloured glass manufacturers, Birmingham.—Mortgage debentures, dated 1897, securing £3,000.——Cornwall China Clay and Stone Co., Ltd. (Manchester)—Debentures, dated 1900, securing £1,000.——Furnivals, Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers, Burslem)—Debentures, dated 1895 to 1900, securing £5,900.——J. Cullen & Co., Ltd. (glass manufacturers, Sheffield)—Charges, dated 1897 and 1900, securing £600.

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR SEPTEMBER, 1908.

		Quantities.				Value.			
		Month ended Sept. 30.		Nine Months ended Sept. 30.		Month ended Sept. 30.		Nine Months ende Sept. 30.	
China or Porcelain, and Earthenware.		1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908
To Germany	cwts.	10,852	7,701	78,347	67,361	£8,585	£6,295	£64,885	£47,34
,, France	,,	2,226	3,006	42,501	30,461	4,858	5,775	46,904	53,70
,, United States of America	,,	38,614	26,185	389,127	294,691	45,196	30,591	463,340	374,86
,, Brazil	,,	13,819	18,540	153,745	185,306	8,538	7,631	115,948	92,35
,, Argentine Republic	,,	19,297	26,675	258,396	223,814	10,593	14,644	128,446	146,03
,, British South Africa	,,	6,108	4,311	91,385	61,845	5,452	5,154	64,449	54,95
,, British East Indies	,,	18,751	23,544	230,820	244,828	13,460	14,863	121,813	137,75
,, Australia	,,	20,019	14,198	159,771	139,496	21,984	14,637	183,152	159,31
,, New Zealand	,,	6,844	4,934	62,551	66,915	10,323	7,217	88,783	81,45
,, Canada	,,	27,731	30,905	242,151	306,362	21,512	19,732	217,628	210,13
,, Other Countries	,,	76,239	62,516	752,528	733,796	50,890	39,459	457,482	436,50
Made up as follows:									
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian	,,	1,904	1,713	15,608	14,772	17,899	11,820	135,963	100,83
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	119,441	6,418	1166330	61,069	149,032	5,546	1,456,222	54,75
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		8,585		74,856		7,215		54,84
Sanitary Ware	,,		14,538		137,011		21,332		201,61
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		70,436		870,725		92,548		1,105,43
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	615	561	960	6,366	652	969	1,290	9,95
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	106,648	118,872	1,166,679	1,132,409	19,608	20,821	222,235	191,20
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	11,892	1,392	111,745	57,667	14,200	5,747	137,120	75,77
Glass.									
To British South Africa	value £	—	—	—	—	5,870	5,750	46,761	42,55
,, Other Countries	,,	—	—	—	—	113,781	124,093	996,228	955,94
Made up as follows									
Plate Glass	cwts.	9,869	18,350	112,635	120,575	16,532	30,232	185,582	198,22
Flint Glass	,,	6,047	5,418	53,577	43,394	18,318	18,031	159,329	135,45
Glass Bottles	gross	72,660	60,115	642,406	555,934	49,187	40,875	416,712	377,48
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	42,660	46,487	353,626	348,192	35,614	40,705	281,366	287,34

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR SEPTEMBER.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	4,927	4,539	40,171	43,826	24,366	21,203	194,464	199,99
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	26,702	31	249,513	2,710	52,257	13	489,958	92
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		2,111		20,546		1,522		13,46
Sanitary Ware	,,		13		457		28		1,00
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		23,739		207,858		46,510		422,06
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	32	16	183	174	9	75	547	61
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	4,864	10,313	52,867	70,944	892	2,215	10,841	23,91
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware)	,,	1,957	2,129	19,039	17,288	2,610	3,168	24,970	26,68
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	74,315	96,360	926,735	869,402	45,597	57,078	519,898	498,10
Plate Glass	,,	29,441	25,565	318,172	245,667	36,250	32,138	390,442	307,29
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	59,501	66,607	579,094	522,178	90,059	96,219	855,813	774,30
Glass Bottles	gross	97,972	112,122	1,088,528	1,121,032	42,498	47,564	455,578	465,27
Glass Manufactures, other sorts	cwts.	505	223	10,003	4,715	672	555	12,636	6,75

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR SEPTEMBER.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian	cwts.	2,462	1,725	13,642	15,881	12,395	8,233	63,732	76,75
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement	,,	2,913	2	12,509	34	5,890	5	25,895	6
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)	,,		10		221		18		24
Sanitary Ware	,,		—		52		—		19
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)	,,		469		4,793		1,079		11,58
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta	,,	—	—	15	2	—	—	42	
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware	,,	—	466	561	1,904	—	480	149	1,87
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware)	,,	7	42	125	171	21	129	249	44
Window and German Sheet Glass	,,	994	1,306	6,252	6,266	424	830	2,844	3,42
Plate Glass	,,	65	348	3,749	1,297	76	352	4,170	1,44
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass	,,	403	551	5,312	3,774	989	1,809	11,911	13,10
Glass Bottles	gross	4,576	3,947	37,208	41,902	2,872	2,108	21,629	21,84
Glass Manufactures of other sorts	cwts.	479	513	5,586	3,698	1,391	1,126	13,877	8,96

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, Aug. 27 to Sept. 26, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.	Exports, Jan. 1 to Sept. 26, 1908. Packages.	Corresponding period, 1907. Packages.
To Boston	382	338	4,228	5,031
„ New York	507	648	4,555	5,685
„ Baltimore	1,088	1,315	13,563	14,983
„ Philadelphia	78	160	3,611	1,887
„ New Orleans	235	727	3,639	5,574
„ Newport News	74	100	559	1,759
„ San Francisco	30	7	69	492
„ Portland, Me.	142	275	3,913	4,751
„ Galveston	46	265	713	1,485
„ Portland, Or.	—	—	—	109
„ Inland Points	51	4	621	801
Total	2,633	3,839	35,471	42,557

THE CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE third annual meeting of the members of the China and Glass Dealers' Association of the United Kingdom, was held on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, under the presidency of Mr. S. Hirst (Leeds). Amongst those present were Mr. W. Neaverson (Huddersfield and Halifax), hon. secretary; Mr. Baynes (Wakefield), vice-president; Mr. Young, Mr. Hirst, Jun., Mr. Taylor (Leeds), Mr. Rushworth (Bradford), Mr. W. Ward (York), Mr. A. E. Watson (Reading), Mr. Ward (Dewsbury), Mr. A. Clay (Wortley), Mr. Waddington (Keighley), Mr. Child (Ardsley), &c. Apologies for absence were intimated from Messrs. Rhodes (Bradford), Stewardson (Newcastle), Godwin (Dorchester), Church (Northampton), Caine (Hull), Craig (Arbroath), &c.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that since the last annual meeting of this (the Leeds) branch it had been decided at the general meeting held in London, that Leeds should be the centre of the Association, as it was thought it would be more advantageous than having it in London. He (the chairman) thought it a wise step to take, and also explained to the members then present how necessary it was to have an association of this kind, not that they wanted to get to know what each dealer was doing, but to get to know each other better and to talk over matters that would be of interest to the trade. He then called upon the secretary to read the report and balance-sheet. Mr. Neaverson read the following report :—

The Committee have pleasure in presenting their third annual report to the members of the Association, and they regret that the year under review has not been as successful as they could have desired (apart from Yorkshire). Since the formation of this Association many cases have been taken up on behalf of members, and I think I am correct in saying that everyone has been settled to the member's advantage. The question of a "shop combine" was to a very great extent stopped by the prompt action that was taken. This and several other matters known to our members show that they receive more than value for their subscription. Your secretary has received 25 letters during the year from members on various matters, and information has been given which has proved satisfactory in each case. At the present time we have a case in hand in which we are prepared, if necessary, to take legal proceedings. This shows the necessity for dealers to join our Association, as we are always ready to take up any matter of interest to the trade generally, without any expense to the members. Your secretary attended the annual meeting in May last, and brought forward several matters, but as the Central Office was transferred to Leeds, they will be dealt with to-night. Copies of the London general meeting and notices of this meeting have been sent out to 221 glass and china dealers.

It was proposed and seconded that the report and balance-sheet be passed. The following officers were then elected :—Mr. S. Hirst (Leeds), president; Mr. W C. Baynes (Wakefield) and Mr. C. T. Rhodes (Bradford), vice-presidents; Mr. W. Neaverson (Huddersfield), hon-secretary; with the following as members of the committee :—Messrs. J. L. Fox, A. H. Young, J. J. Hirst, A. Clay, J. W. Taylor (Leeds), G. E. Rushworth (Bradford), Walter Ward (York), M. Stewardson (Newcastle), A. E. Watson, W. J. Davies (Reading), G. Ward (Dewsbury), T. Hayward (Manchester), W. G. Church (Northampton), C. S. Tillotson (Horsham), T. Child (Ardsley), J. Martin (Derby). With power to add others. Auditors : Mr. J. L. Fox and Mr. J. J. Hirst.

It was proposed and carried that the annual subscription be reduced from 10s. 6d. to 5s. The Chairman here remarked that as the balance was a good one, he thought they were wise in making the reduction, as by doing this they hoped to double the number of members.

It was proposed and carried that the secretary write to the China and Earthenware Manufacturers' Association, and make the following suggestions :—

First. That the straw and packing charges be incorporated in the price of goods.

Second. That goods, as far as possible, be numbered, so that colour and shape may be carried by that number.

Third. That sizes invoiced be as near as possible to the actual size of article.

Fourth. That a dozen consist of 12.

Fifth. That the additions of percentages to the totals of invoice be stopped.

Sixth. That the weight of package be, as far as possible, put on the invoice.

It was proposed and carried that the secretary instruct Mr. Craigh, Arbroath, to see a solicitor and give him the full particulars as to the cause of a certain accident, and ask whether he has a legal claim for compensation, the costs to be paid by the Association.

It was also proposed and carried that a copy of the proceedings be sent to each member of the Association.

A general discussion then took place, and after the chairman had been thanked for presiding, a very successful meeting was brought to a close.

U.S. China Clay Imports during 1907 amounted to 239,923 short tons, valued at $1,582,893. The figures show a rapid increase.

Obituary.

HENRY HULME.—Aged 72.

IT is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of a well-known manufacturer in the person of Mr. Henry Hulme, of Burslem, which occurred, after an illness of some two months' duration, on the evening of Sunday, October 25, at his residence, 50, Waterloo - road, Burslem. Mr. Hulme, who was the proprietor of the earthenware manufactory known as the Garfield Pottery, in the Waterloo-road, was one of the oldest and most respected master potters in the "mother town," and, like many another of his colleagues, he had fought his way to the "top of the ladder" from the lowest rung. He was only eight years of age when he was compelled to start earning his own living, and for a time he worked at a pottery which stood on the site now occupied by the new Burslem School of Art, then in the occupation of Cork & Edge. His wages were trivial, but in course of time he proved himself to be a workman of uncommon intelligence and ability, working his way upwards until, at length, he found himself manager at Edge, Malkin & Co.'s pottery in Newport-lane. Thence he migrated to the works of Taylor & Tunnicliffe, manufacturers of porcelain electrical fittings, &c., at Hanley, and, later, returning to Burslem, he started in business for himself as a jet and rockingham manufacturer at a pot works in Chapel-lane. A quarter of a century ago he entered into partnership with the late Mr. Alfred Wood in the carrying on of the Garfield Pottery, and since his partner's death some three years ago he had continued the business under the style of Henry Hulme & Sons. Mr. Hulme, who was 72 years of age, never entered the arena of public life, but he took considerable interest in political and religious affairs. He was a member of the Conservative Club, and a lifelong attendant at the Swan Bank Wesleyan Chapel. He leaves a family of five sons and one daughter, with whom great sympathy is felt in their bereavement. The funeral took place at Burslem Cemetery on Oct. 29.

GEORGE BLIZARD.—Aged 53.

WE announce with regret the death, under very tragic circumstances, of Mr. George Blizard, of the Manor House, Hampstead, and formerly of Ranfurley, who for many years was intimately connected with the pottery trades in London. On Monday, Oct. 12, Mr. Blizard was driving near his home, when his horse suddenly bolted, and it is supposed that it may have stopped suddenly and thus thrown him out. He received such injuries from his fall that he died within a few hours at his residence. For many years Mr. Blizard acted as London representative to various manufacturing firms—amongst others The Bovey Pottery Co. and C. W. Outram & Co. At the same time he did a considerable business as a factor, for some time in partnership with others, but for the greater part of his career on his own account. He had show-rooms in Hatton-garden, and was well known to retail pottery dealers in London and in the southern counties, many of whom will, we feel sure, hear of his untimely death with sincere regret. He was a regular exhibitor at trade exhibitions at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and the large display of toilet ware, dinner ware, vases, pots, and pedestals he made for several years in succession was always a conspicuous beature there. About three years ago he disposed of his fusiness and severed his long connection with the trade. He, however, did not altogether leave the neighbourhood. Indeed, he was so regularly seen in Hatton-garden that many who knew him well (agents and others, who, of course, never had occasion to call on him) did not know he had left the trade. We understand he had acquired the remainder of the long leases of several large premises in Hatton-garden, which he sub-let in offices and show-rooms, and that it was the supervision of these which necessitated his frequent visits to the scene of his former activity. The writer met him in Hatton-garden on the Friday before his death, and was greeted with the cheery smile which he had for all. He looked so well and sprightly that had I been asked then, I should have estimated his age as ten years younger than I now find he was. Much sympathy is felt for his family in their awfully sudden bereavement. The funeral took place at Hampstead Cemetery on Oct. 15.

GEORGE WOOLLISCROFT RHEAD. Aged 76.

THE death of Mr. George Woolliscroft Rhead, which it was our regretful duty to announce in our last issue, has left a feeling of sorrow in many hearts far outside the limits of his own family. Though he had not what is called an exciting career, his life has been a remarkable one, with eventualities that cannot be estimated at this period. It is no exaggeration to say that he exerted an influence on the neighbourhood in which he lived and on the industry with which he was associated that does not end with his life. His health began to fail him last year, and in the early months of this year he felt weaker. In the course of the summer, acting on advice, he went to Scarborough for a change, but after a short stay there he returned to his home at the Laburnums, Clayton, Newcastle, without having derived the benefit expected. He gradually got weaker until the night of September 23, when he passed away—the immediate cause of death being heart failure. The late Mr. Rhead belonged to an old county family, members of which have dwelt in North Staffordshire for at least four centuries without a break, while he himself had always lived at Newcastle.



[*Photo. by C. H. Deakin, Shrewsbury.*
MR. GEORGE WOOLLISCROFT RHEAD.

He was evidently endowed with artistic instincts from his youth, and, fortunately—perhaps designedly—his early occupation was calculated to foster them. He was, while still young, associated with Messrs. Brown-Westhead & Co., Cauldon Place Works, Stoke-on-Trent. He appears to have perfected himself as a designer, for in a few years he was engaged by Mintons and was appointed heraldic artist. This was a position of importance and responsibility, and during his tenure of it he designed and executed the decorations of some of the finest work the firm supplied, including several orders for Royalties.

His capacity for teaching was recognised, and he was appointed assistant-master at the Newcastle School of Art and Science. His next appointment was as art master at Longton and Fenton, so that in these capacities he had much to do with instructing the students in the art of pottery decoration. At a later date he had charge of an art school at Chesterton under the Local Education Board. We understand he was particularly successful as an art instructor, for which, as one of his former pupils says, he had a natural aptitude. He does not seem to have taken an active part in public affairs, though he did all he could to promote the technical and artistic education of the youth of the Potteries. He was an artist of considerable attainments, and has had the satisfaction of seeing his sons acquire artistic and literary distinction. The late Mr. Rhead made the artistic ornamentation of pottery his profession and his pleasure, and he made the collection of pottery his hobby. We have not seen his collection, but we understand it is a large one, containing many valuable and some unique specimens. His two eldest sons recently published a book, entitled "Staffordshire Pots and Potters." This contains 120 illustrations —half-tones and coloured plates— and 96 pen drawings by the authors. A large number of these are reproductions of old Staffordshire pottery in their father's collection. The collection is sure to be an exceptionally good one, for the late Mr. Rhead was not likely to treasure any piece that had not real artistic merit. His sons will, of course, appreciate a collection made by their parent, but, fortunately, they are able to appreciate its artistic beauties, and it will doubtless be their pleasure to add to it. There must be many skilled workers, and probably not a few employers, who received their early training in art under Mr. Rhead's tuition, so that the fruit of his labour is still ripening. The funeral took place at the Cemetery, Newcastle, on September 27.

New Series of Seger Cones.—The Royal Porcelain Works, Berlin, announces that two new series of Seger cones will shortly be put on the market. The first series includes cones 021 to 011, free from lead, this element being replaced, as flux, by magnesite. The advantages claimed for the new cones are—diminished liability to the influence of the kiln atmosphere, greater uniformity in the phenomena of fusion, and increased independence of the rise of temperature in the kiln. Nos. 015 to 011 will be marked with an "a" to indicate their altered fusing-point in comparison with the corresponding old numbers. The second series relates to Nos. 010—6, and in these, magnesite replaces lon. They too will be marked "a." Small quantities, for testing purposes, can be obtained in the meantime from the Chemische Laboratorium für Tonindustrie, Professor Dr. H. Seger & E. Cramer, G.m.b.H., Berlin.

The Bohemian Pottery and Glass Industries.—The manufacture of china and porcelain in the Dual Empire is almost entirely confined to Bohemia and carried on in 82 factories employing over 10,000 persons, in addition to whom there are about 1,500 employed in the claypits in connection with the works. There are also 37 factories manufacturing majolica and terra-cotta wares. The production last year was 110,000 tons of decorated and 000 tons of white porcelain. The export is chiefly to e United Kingdom and the United States of America the United Kingdom in 1907 took 3,766 tons and the nited States 2,642 tons. In the Bohemian glass industry ere are about 30,000 persons employed. There are 91 dinary glassworks, 77 factories producing mirror glass d 2,612 minor works for polishing, cutting, engraving, inting, &c.; here again the export is chiefly to the nited Kingdom with 12,130 tons and to the United ates of America with 4,000 tons in 1907.

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE year is closing under circumstances of great depression for the majority of the firms engaged in the potting trade of this district. Here and there individual manufacturers tell me that the outlook, so far as their own particular business is concerned, has grown a little brighter since last I wrote, but this they do not attribute to any permanent improvement in trade, but only to the customary fillip caused by the Christmas demand, which, however, is far from being so brisk as usual. But for these isolated cases one hears the same tale everywhere, that there is no life at all in the trade, and that neither in London nor in "the country" is business characterised by any activity. The effect of the lock-out in the cotton trade, which, at the time of writing, had just entered upon its sixth week, is already being keenly felt here. The Lancashire market is an exceptionally valuable one to the manufacturers of North Staffordshire, and when the purchasing power of the cotton operatives is curtailed they speedily know of it. The declining receipts on account of carriage of merchandise disclosed in the weekly traffic returns of the local railway company bear further evidence to the dulness of trade, and there are indications that the problem of dealing with the unemployed of the Potteries is likely to be a very difficult one this winter. While the home market remains so featureless, there seems to be an expectation that the export trade is likely to improve before long. Business prospects in Australia are hopeful. Very good rains have been recorded, and there is a prospect of satisfactory harvest. A manufacturer who interviewed some South African merchants in London a fortnight ago says that they seemed inclined to believe that business in that benighted market was also on the up grade, though their reasons for this optimism were somewhat flimsy. As to the American market, manufacturers are patiently awaiting the issue of the election, and when the upheaval now in progress is over, they anticipate that there will be a pronounced rally in business generally throughout the United States. As matters stand now, the American trade is most unsatisfactory; indeed, it may be said of the American and Colonial markets as a whole that orders, at the present time, are being cleared off at a much more rapid rate than they are being received, and this has been the case for several months past. The reports which have gained currency concerning the prospective increase in the United States tariff for pottery have caused considerable disquietude. In some quarters it is regarded merely as an electioneering move, but in others the statements are regarded seriously. If there is any solid basis for the reports published there can be no question that a knockdown blow is being aimed at the English export trade in pottery, and, in the event of the tariff actually being raised, the demand of this district for tariff reform will be more insistent than ever. Like the general earthenware trade, the china trade is labouring beneath the cloud of depression; but at the opposite end of the district the jet and rockingham makers are less harassed by trade conditions, though here, too, the effect of the cotton trade dispute is making itself felt. There is always a better demand for jet and "rock" goods in the winter than in the summer, no doubt because, at this season of the year, more tea and coffee pots, and other such articles, are used, and more get broken. The firms producing porcelain ware for electrical fittings, chemical apparatus, and door furniture report trade to be exceedingly quiet, and the sanitary trade, which was thought to be showing signs of improvement recently, has gone back again, sanitary pressers, in many cases, being on very short time.

The Board of Trade returns for September are again most disheartening reading to the potter. The exports for the month only amounted to £165,998, which is a decline of about £35,400 compared with last year, and about £15,000 compared with September, 1906, the figures for those two years being respectively £201,391 and £181,116. The biggest decline was experienced in the United States market, the exports showing a falling off of about £14,500 on the month. Our exports of ware to Germany also decreased £2,300 during the month, to Brazil by £900, to South Africa by £300, to Australia by £7,350, to New Zealand by over £3,000, to Canada by £1,800, and to lesser countries by an aggregate of £11,400. On the other hand, France was a better customer to the British potter during September by nearly £1,000, the Argentine Republic by over £4,000, and the East Indies by £1,400. The value of the British ware exported during the nine months January to September was £1,794,421, compared with £1,952,830 in the corresponding period of

1907 and £1,728,618 in the corresponding period of 1906. During the same period British ware was exported to the United States to the value of £374,866, against £463,340 in the first nine months of 1907 and £425.043 in the like period of 1906. The value of the foreign ware placed on the markets of the United Kingdom in September was £64,790, and during the first nine months of the present year £597,500. Having regard to the fact that the general trade of the country shows a total loss of about £73,000,000 to date, it is not so difficult to understand the depression which exists in the potting industry.

The great financial crisis which arose in tho United States last autumn and precipitated the wave of industrial depression which has since swept over the entire civilised world, is invested with a melancholy interest for those manufacturers of pottery who are engaged in the export trade, and they will perhaps be surprised to learn that one of the leading figures in the American financial world, Mr. Henry Clews, has intimate associations with the potting trade of North Staffordshire. Mr. Clews is the son of Mr. James Clews, an earthenware manufacturer who, from 1816 to 1829, occupied a works at the top of Cobridge-rd., Burslem, which was afterwards in the possession of William Brownfield & Sons, but which has since ceased to exist. Afterwards Mr. Clews went to America and, with the aid of local capital, founded an establishment known as the Indiana Pottery Co., at Troy. He took with him a number of practical potters from North Staffordshire, but, notwithstanding this, the venture was not a success, and eventually Mr. Clews returned to this country, leaving his three eldest sons in America. These three sons established a banking concern in New York, and carried on extensive operations during tho American War. One of them was Mr. Henry Clews, whose name is now so familiar in Wall-st., and elsewhere. It has been suggested that Mr. Clews might be invited as a guest to a future banquet of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce. If he could see his way to accept such an invitation we might expect a notable speech not only on the subject of the American tariff, but also on general financial questions, with perhaps some reminiscences of early days of the potting industry in the United States as well.

Several meetings have taken place lately at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke, between representatives of the employers and operatives engaged in the jet and rockingham trade with a view to the settlement of the questions which arose last March, and which, at the recent arbitration, were referred to a Conciliation Committee by Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C., the umpire. It is believed that this decision of the umpire was not received by the operatives with much satisfaction; but so many questions were involved that Mr. Moon would have had to sit for weeks to decide them all. The operatives' demands, in the first instance, were considerable, but they have now dropped several of them. For instance, it is stated that they have abandoned their demand for an increase in the price for jet and russet, and are concentrating all their energies on rockingham. One of the things the men complain of is that some jet and rockingham manufacturers have, in recent years, commenced the manufacture of cheap white goods, and have sought to get them made at jet and rockingham prices. The men state that jet and "rock" goods have always been made on a lower scale because they were composed of rough, coarse bodies, and were not supposed to need the same amount of finish as white goods. They contend, therefore, that they ought not to be called upon now to make white goods, which require more careful manipuation, at jet and rockingham prices, which are considerably below lhose paid for white goods in the general trade. Earthenware manufacturers, who have been paying on the higher scale for white goods, are following this point with close attention. The question appears to be one in which many technical points are involved, but we hope a satisfactory understanding will shortly be come to. The question of printers' counts, which was also referred back to the Conciliation Committee, seems likely to be another long job, since the counts vary to such an extent at different factories.

In these notes last month a reference was made to the scarcity of bone ash from Rio Grande, and to the possible effect of this scarcity on the pottery trade. It now seems likely that the bone ash famine will be accentuated in the near future, and no doubt the Reuter telegram of Oct. 24, recording the entire destruction of the town of Rio Grande by a terrible hurricane, will not have escaped the attention of manufacturers. What effect this disaster may have on the situation cannot yet be said. It is, however, announced that no further imports of Rio Grande bone ash can reach the Mersey this year except the cargo ex *Gaelle*. This vessel left Rio Grande on or about Sept. 25, and is due at Liverpool about the middle of December. Up to Oct. 6 no further charters had been made, and the prospective shipments before the end of this year were not expected to exceed 400 to 500 tons. The total shipments for the year ending Dec. 31,1908, will not equal one-fifth of the quantity usually shipped, so that, on the year, the shortage will obviously be considerable. In Longton the scarcity of the material already causes anxiety among china manufacturers, and considerably enhanced prices are being quoted for Rio Grande bone to those who are not in the fortunate position of having secured contracts.

It is good new that Mr. R. S. Hastings, of Piccadilly, Hanley, is gradually recovering from the serious illness which attacked him nearly a year ago. He has been suffering from a complaint happily not common in this country, malarial fever, and how he picked it up he, and the doctors, are at a loss to suggest. The likeliest explanation which Mr. Hastings himself can suggest is that the germs must have been lurking in the straw packing of some glass specialities he had purchased from abroad. For several months Mr. Hastings, who is one of the largest china, earthenware, and glass retailers in the Potteries, was in a serious condition, and it was not until April or May that he was able to get about again. Recently he has been able to resume full control of his business, but he is still far from strong. ——The case in which the West of England Clay Company and Messrs. Grose & Stocker are concerned will come on for hearing shortly before Mr. Justice Neville. It is expected that the proceedings will be of considerable importance, and of great trade interest.

The command which has been received by the Hanley Glee and Madrigal Society to sing before the King at Windsor Castle on Monday, Nov. 16, is the greatest honour which has ever been conferred upon a North Staffordshire choir, and is the more interesting as fifty per cent. of the members of the Society work at pottery factories. The passion of the workpeople of the Potteries for music has always been great, but, though North Staffordshire choirs are the only English ones that have ever captured the premier prize at the Welsh National Eisteddfod, the wonderful singing of the district has never yet received the recognition from outside that has been bestowed upon some other much vaunted choral organisations in the provinces. It seems, at last, however, as though the Potteries choristers are to receive their due, for, in addition to singing before the King on Nov. 16, Hanley's "musical potters" will give Berlioz's "Faust" with the Queen's Hall Symphony Orchestra at the Queen's Hall, on Saturday, Nov. 14, and it may be that a concert at the Albert Hall will be arranged for the intervening Sunday. The choir have also been invited to sing in Paris.

A remarkable collection of early Staffordshire mask mugs is on view at the Stoke Museum, to which institution they have been lent by Mr. J. B. Leeke, of Trentham. One of the finest is a blue mug, bearing the impressed mark of Turner & Co., Lane End (Longton), a firm contemporary with Josiah Wedgwood, which produced much beautiful stoneware. The Egyptian Exploration Fund have presented to the museum a strange relic of Dr. Flinders Petrie's discoveries at Memphis. It consists of a mass of blue glaze Egyptian plates, or food vessels of some description, which had evidently tumbled together in the process of firing and become a solid mass. From the same fund have also been given some small cone-shaped pieces of fired clay, which apparently were used by the Eygptians to keep the ware apart during the process of firing, much as stilts and spurs are used to-day.

On Oct. 25, an outbreak of fire occurred in a loft above the stables of the Potters' Mills, Ltd., in Aqueduct-st., Stoke. The Stoke Fire Brigade made a particularly smart turnout, and managed to rescue three valuable horses from the stables, although the animals had been almost stupefied by the smoke before help arrived. The fire itself was speedily extinquished, but the roof of the building was partially burned off, and the hay and straw in the loft smouldered for so long a time that the firemen had to remain on the scene for some hours.——Messrs. Till's earthenware manufactory, Liverpool-road, Burslem, was the scene of a fire on Saturday Oct. 3. The flames originated in the packing house, which is situated in the midst of a three-storey building, used as glost warehouses. Fortunately, the fire was discovered in its incipient stages, and was speedily extinguished, though not before a considerable amount of damage to ware had been done by fire and water.

The members of the Midland Centre of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association met in conference at Longton on Saturday, Oct. 17, and were greatly interested to see what gas-firing is doing towards solving the smoke problem in the Potteries. Visits were paid to the Royal Art Pottery, where ovens using producer gas for the firing of pottery were inspected, and, at the factory of Messrs. A. B. Jones & Sons (Grafton China Works) the visitors spent two enjoyable hours in witnessing different processes in the manufacture of china. The Mayor of Longton (Ald. Aaron Edwards) accompanied the party, and, in the course of a speech which created some amusement on account of its outspokenness, he courageously argued that smoke was not detrimental to health. Fifty or sixty years ago, his worship said, there was an epidemic of cholera at Newcastle, which is only a few minutes' walk from most of the pottery towns; but although its ravages there were fearful, not a solitary case occurred in Hanley, Burslem, Longton, Stoke, and Fenton, and

; was said that the fumes from the kilns, the "turps" and so on, ad kept the epidemic away. As to gas-firing his worship did not eem over enthusiastic. "If the time came for coal to be dispensed ith, and gas used, all well and good; but, so far as he was con-erned, he dare not risk £10,000 at his time of life in experimenting ith other systems. He remembered that, many years ago, Ir. Bridgwood spent from £10,000 to £15,000 in building gas ovens, nd the result was a failure." Finally, Mr. Edwards declared imself a believer in the old system of firing, and maintained that here would be less smoke if ovens were properly constructed, and ere not "pushed" too much by the firemen. After the second or hird baiting of the fires at his own works, he said, there was no smoke or sixty hours.

The Departmental Committee on the Use of Lead, &c., in Pottery lanufacture has been pursuing its investigations recently in ondon, at the Home Office, where evidence has been taken from everal doctors practising in North Staffordshire, also from repre-entatives of the Potters' Union and H.M. inspectors of factories. Ir. E. A. R. Werner, formerly one of the factory inspectors in the otteries, is acting as secretary to the Committee, and has been isiting the district lately in search of evidence. The Committee as also, during the past month, paid visits to Glasgow and New-astle-on-Tyne.

Among the most interesting weddings of the month was that of lajor J. L. Meakin and Miss Constance Eveline Paddock, which ook place at St. George's, Hanover-square, on Oct. 7. The bride-room is the eldest son of the late Mr. James Meakin and Mrs. Meakin, Darlaston Hall, and a cousin of Mr. G. E. Meakin, managing direc-or of J. & G. Meakin, Ltd., of Hanley, while the bride, who resided t Hartwell Hall, Barlaston, is the only daughter of Mr. G. F. addock, a well-known member of the legal profession in the otteries. Another notable wedding of the month was that of Mr. ohn Allen Nash, of Durban, S. Africa, and Miss Anne (Nancie) ielding, youngest daughter of Mr. Abraham Fielding, head of he firm of Fielding & Co., Railway Pottery, Stoke. The eremony was celebrated in the fine old church at Trentham, n Oct. 14, the officiating clergy being the Rev. E. W. Bridgwood, icar-designate of Forsbrook, and the Rev. Malcolm Graham, he newly appointed vicar of Trentham, who, by the way, has ecently published a very interesting book dealing with "Cup and aucerland" and its ceramic manufactures. Mr. W. E. Allerton Charles Allerton & Sons, Park Works, High-st., Longton) has been he recipient of some valuable gifts from the staff and operatives f the firm on the occasion of his marriage. The managers of depart-ents presented him with a valuable marble clock, the earthenware peratives gave him a silver tea and coffee service, the china opera-ves a pair of handsome bronzes, and the finishing department resented a silver spirit kettle and silver fruit dish. The handing ver of these gifts took place at a pleasurable gathering of the orkpeople, and among those who took a prominent part in the roceedings were Mr. Charles Moore and Mr. Jos. Allerton, who have een in the employ of the firm under four generations. The wedding f Mr. Allerton took place on Oct. 8 at Chester.

At an inquest on the body of Joseph Potter, aged 47, of Lyndhurst .., Burslem, who had been employed for four years by Hulme Sons, Garfield Pottery, as a dipper, a verdict to the effect that eath was due to lead poisoning was returned. Deceased had orked in the lead for 34 or 35 years and had been suspended nce May. He had been suffering for some years, but the evidence owed that he had concealed the symptoms from the certifying rgeon.——His Honour Judge Ruegg, K.C., sitting at the Tunstall ounty Court, on Oct. 7, was called upon to decide whether a girl as suffering from lead poisoning or not. The plaintiff, Hilda ertha Haycock, a majolica paintress, sought, through her father, recover compensation from the Henry Richards Tile Co., Ltd., le manufacturers, Tunstall, alleging that she was suffering from umbism, and that she was last employed within the twelve months revious to suspension by the respondents. The respondents, owever, denied that the girl was suffering from the disease men-oned. Dr. Hill, certifying surgeon for the Tunstall district, gave vidence to the effect that, in his opinion she was suffering from ad poisoning, but Dr. Dickson Mann, of Manchester University, ho sat as medical assessor with the judge, after examining her, id he would prefer that she should attend the laboratory in Man-ester, where with the best appliances a thorough examination ight be made. The judge accordingly made an order for the aintiff to go to Manchester, and the case was adjourned.——At e Burslem County Court, on Thursday, Oct. 8, J. & W. Wade & ., of the Flaxman Tile Works, Burslem, were sued by E. G. Bailey Co., of Stroud, Gloucestershire, who sought to recover £76 5s. 3d., e value of five casks of manganese ore supplied. The defendants ised a question as to the quality of the manganese, and experts ere called on both sides. Eventually his Honour decided that e manganese was of the same quality throughout, and that the fendants were clearly liable. He gave judgment for the plaintiff mpany for the amount claimed.

There has been quite a series of works excursions from the Potteries to the Franco-British Exhibition in London during the past few weeks, and some thousands of operatives have taken part in one or other of the various trips. Such arrangements have been made as have enabled the visitors to enjoy drives to some of the principal points of interest in the Metropolis before proceeding to Shepherd's Bush. Among the most successful of the excursions were those organised by Grimwades, Ltd., Adderleys, Ltd., and Cauldon, Ltd.——The Top Bridge factory at Longport, which has been closed for some little time, has recently been opened by Messrs. Price Bros., of Burslem.——It is reported that the Operative Potters' Union at Bristol has been absorbed by the National Amalgamated Union of Male and Female Pottery Workers (The Potters' Union).——The King has awarded the Albert medal of the second class to Mr. Alfred Hunt, of Longport, Staffordshire Potteries, for great heroism in attempting to rescue his brother from a well of boiling water at Messrs. Johnson's Pottery, Tunstall. The presentation of the medal will probably be made by the King some time in December.

Mr. Leonard Grimwade (of Grimwades, Ltd.) delivered a speech in Hanley a few days ago, in the course of which he had a good deal that was of interest to say concerning ways and means of relieving the unemployment which exists in the potting trade just now. In introducing the subject he mentioned that he had been keeping several branches of his works going when he did not want their output, and building up bigger stocks than he had carried for years past, in order to tide over the present exceptional period of depression. He expressed the opinion that a great deal of trade was lost to the Potteries because the district was not equipped with adequate facilities in the way of technical and scientific instruction. There were, he said, certain classes of pottery which were being made with great success abroad, but which nobody knew how to make yet in this country, and, as illustrating his point, he instanced the case of felspar china. British semi-porcelain is admittedly better than the felspar china now made abroad, but the felspar china has a cheaper "body" and is cheaper to "pot," while it would be idle to deny that there are some markets in which it is in considerable demand. Yet the English potter has not yet turned his serious attention to this branch of manufacture, and Mr. Grimwade urged that the existence of a properly equipped school of potting in North Staffordshire might assist considerably in overcoming the initial difficulties. He said that he had been in Canada, in the United States, in Egypt, and in many Continental countries, and had found that, in all those countries, a very large public demand existed for classes of ware which are not made at all in this country. He appealed to the district, therefore, to wake up, to take these facts into consideration, and by embarking on new branches of manufacture, to attract more trade to the Potteries, and thus find more work for the operatives. We had no school of pottery in this district yet except "that little bathing machine" down at Stoke, whereas Germany had 18 schools of pottery and Austria 10, while the United States and other of our competitors also had several. The result, he declared, was that the potting trade of other countries was going ahead by leaps and bounds, because those engaged in the industry were being assisted by the schools to overcome difficulties, and produce the sort of ware which was in demand, while in England the trade remained stationary. The inference we are invited to draw is evidently that our export trade is marking time because of inadequate educational provision. Some of Mr. Grimwade's fellow-manufacturers are not altogether disposed to accept this theory, but his remarks are well worth attention all the same.

Mr. Grimwade's remark about "the little bathing machine" at Stoke is, of course, a reference to the small temporary school of pottery which, about a month ago, was opened on the site, almost opposite Stoke Station, which was offered to the district by the late Mr. A. S. Bolton for a North Staffordshire College. It will be within the recollection of readers of the POTTERY GAZETTE that, a few years ago, strenuous efforts were made to collect sufficient funds to erect upon the site a worthy building devoted, principally, to educating pupils in various branches of the potting and mining industries, but though the colliery proprietors subscribed liberally, the potting trade subscriptions were rather disappointing, and the eventual intervention of the negotiations for the Federation of the Pottery towns led to the larger scheme being "hung up" for awhile. Later on, more will no doubt be heard of it, but for the present the two industries principally concerned have contented themselves with the erection of temporary corrugated iron structures in which to "house" their respective classes. The mining school has been open for some time, but the potting school has only just been completed. However much the external appearance of the school may justify Mr. Grimwade's reference to it, its internal appearance gives a much better impression, and it must always be remembered that the school will not be judged by its looks, but by the results it produces on its scholars. Though the "potting school" may not justify much encomium from an architectural

point of view, a work of inestimable value may still be accomplished there, under so energetic and resourceful a tutor as Mr. J. W. Mellor. So far as its limited accommodation permits the little school is excellently fitted up, and it contains apparatus which is likely to prove very valuable in pottery research. E. J. & J. Pearson, of Stourbridge, havo installed a regenerative gas kiln, which has been presented to the school by Mr. Ernst Schmatolla, the well-known expert on gas-firing, and with which the students will be able to experiment at higher temperatures than those usually obtainable in potters' ovens, thus enabling them to study some of the problems presented by the manufacture of bone china and certain forms of Continental pottery which Mr. Grimwade justly complains that, at present, we do not know how to make. The school provides a centre at which all the honours students of the district will be able to meet. Up to the present many of the special lectures on pottery have, perforce, had to be given in two different centres, thus entailing much unnecessary repetition on the part of the lecturer, but this for a time will now be obviated, though for how long one would not care to prophesy; so many students have been present at one time already that the accommodation was overtaxed, and some had to be turned away. Mr. Frank Rigby, a local colliery proprietor, has presented the school with an equipment for the study of the chemical and physical properties of the fire-clays and saggar works of the district, and this is also oxpected to lead to the acquisition of important knowledge. Dr. Mellor, the county instructor in pottery, looks for great results to accrue from the little school which has so unostentatiously been established and has urged the students to do such good work that the pottery manufacturers will be asham ed that they had not provided better accommodation. It should be mentioned that the cost of the school, some £500 or £600—a big drop as compared with the £20,000 college scheme—has been defrayed partly by the County Education Committee and partly by pottery manufacturers.

Before leaving the subject of the potting classes we must add our congratulations to the many which have been showered upon Dr. Mellor upon the honour recently conferred upon him when he was made the recipient of a presentation by members of the Ceramic Society, in which he takes a great interest, and the students of his classes. The gift, which comprised a solid silver fruit-stand, with a case containing silver dessert knives and forks, grape scissors, fruit spoons, nut-crackers, &c., together with a richly decorated Minton china dessert service of 18 pieces, was subscribed for as a farewell memento at a period when it was feared that Dr. Mellor's services would have been lost to the district, but, happily, he decided to remain in the Potteries, and the presentation, instead of being associated with the regrets of a leave-taking, was a much more happy affair, being made the occasion of a pleasurable little dinner party at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke. Mr. F. H. Wedgwood presided, and made the presentation in a felicitous little speech, Dr. Mellor acknowledging it in a very happy manner. It will be the general hope that Dr. Mellor may long be spared to continue the good work he has inaugurated at Stoke, and that tho little school over which he presides may, in the near future, give place to a building more in consonance with the dignity and importance of tho centre of England's potting industry.

Some misapprehension seems to have arisen in certain quarters regarding the notices which havo been posted at the works of Cauldon, Ltd., informing the workpeople that "every one employed on these works will be under ono month's notice from this date." The notices are dated October 24, and add that "during tho month each person will be seen with a view to possible rearrangement of their work and wages." Naturally, the posting of these notices caused a good deal of anxiety, for Cauldon Place is one of the largest, oldest, and most justly renowned works in the Potteries. I am glad, therefore, to be able to say, on official authority, that there is no reason to suppose that the works is to be closed down, evon for a period. It is no secret that Cauldon, Ltd., like most other firms engaged in the industry, has, for some time past, been feeling the effect of the general depression and keen competition, and, as the notices show, certain retrenchments are now to be made. It is stated that the rate of wages paid by Cauldon Ltd.—or, as the Company was known until recently, Brown, Westhoad, Moore & Co.—has been fully up to the standard, and even above that paid by most manufacturers in the district. This being the case, it is easy to understand that the directors, at a period when trade is so depressed, are anxious, if possible, to effect a rearrangement of the work and wages of their employees. Everyone will trust that the steps which are being taken may be attended by beneficial results, and that a long era of prosperity lies before the famous works.

The mayoraltics of the whole of the Potteries municipal boroughs have now been arranged. As was hinted last month would be the case, Ald. Aaron Edwards, the genial chief magistrate of Longton, has consented to serve for a seventh year, and his decision has given unqualified pleasure to the townspeople. Councillor W. B. Hackney, who carries on an extensive business as a pottery factor, will again preside over the deliberations of the Stoke Council. At Burslem, Ald. Malkin retires, and makes way for Ald. Thos. Edwards, J.P., the secretary of the Ovenmen's Union, who conducted the case for his members with such conspicuous resourcefulness at the recent wages arbitration at Stoke. At Hanley, Mr. G. F. Adcock has again consentod to fill the mayoralty, and the chief magistrate of the neighbouring town of Newcastle-under-Lyme will be Mr. S. Myott, who is one of the partners in the well-known Cobridge firm of earthenware manufacturers. One way or another, therefore, the potting trade will be well represented among the civic chiefs of North Staffordshire next year.

Beforo the month of November has run its course it is highly probable that the House of Lords Committee will have dealt with the Bill for the Federation of the Potteries, and will have given its decision. At the time of writing it was anticipated that the sittings of the Committee would commence about Nov. 16. Hanley and Longton this time will "promote" the Bill jointly, Tunstall having taken up the technical position of opposing it, in order to get a locus standi. It is understood that Tunstall will seek the emendation of one or two clauses, but will not oppose the general principle of the Bill, of which it was one of the promoters before the Commons Committee. Petitions against the Bill have been lodged, amongst others, by the Stoke, Fenton, and Burslem Councils, the Staffordshire CountyCouncil, and the North Staffordshire Railway Company. The opposition of the County Council is exceptionally important, because the Lords will be asked to reverse a previous decision, and to declare that if the federation principle is agreed to, the County authority will be entitled to compensation for loss of area. The sittings of the Committee may last a fortnight, or even longer, and are expected to be somewhat lively.

The November elections have brought out several candidates connected with the potting trade, and, among others, one was glad to see Mr. Leonard Grimwade offering his services once moro to the Hanley Town Council. Mr. Grimwade has been nominated for the Wellington Ward, but, although he did not withdraw on the day appointed for that purpose, there is some doubt at tho time of writing whether he will actually go to the poll. Whether he does or not, it is generally hoped that Mr. Grimwade will be one of the first members of the united Potteries Council, should federation become an accomplished fact. At Burslem the ratepayers have to deplore the retirement of Mr. S. Johnson, who has done invaluable work for the town in connection with the Gas and other committees. Happily, however, Mr. George Wade, who had also announced his decision to withdraw from the Council, owing to the unsatisfactory state of his health, has been induced to reconsider his position, with the result that he has once more allowed himself to be nominated. At Stoke, the retiring mombers have all been returned unopposed, and a series of remarkable disqualifications at Longton has obviated any contest in that town also. Among those returned to the Longton Council are:—Mr. H. J. Colclough, china manufacturer; Mr. W. J. Taylor, china and earthenware merchant; Mr. A. Brookhouse, agent; Mr. Joseph Ball, potter; Mr. J. W. Beswick, earthenware manufacturer; and Mr. Wm. Machin, china manufacturer. Mr. T. Saunders, a potter, is a candidate for municipal honours in the West Ward at Newcastle. The Mayor of Stoke (Councillor W. B. Hackney) was to be entertained by the members of Stoke Corporation to a complimentary banquet on Oct. 29. In view of the recent doath of his son, Ald. A. Edwards, the Mayor of Longton, has asked the Town Council of that borough not to proceed further with the promotion of a conversazione which was being arranged in his honour. Councillor W. Sandland, of Hanley, has been re-elected President of the Hanley Ratepayers' Association. Mr. Sandland was the founder of Sandlands, Ltd., earthenware manufacturers, Ogden-rd., Hanley.

THE STOURBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GLASS TRADES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE condition of things all over England, so far as regards the manufacture of glass, is anything but satisfactory, and it is somewhat difficult to say in which district there is least depression. Not only is foreign competition as keen as ever, but the purchasing power of the public appears to have undergone some shrinkage, especially in Lancashire and in the two northernmost counties, and in the Midlands. In the first-named district the abnormal slackness is accentuated by the dispute between the cotton manu

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facturers and their hands. At the time of writing there seems little likelihood of an amicable settlement being arrived at, though one or two efforts to that end have been made. The effect on the glass trade of this and other disputes, and of the existing depression, is most marked. Business in Stourbridge and Wordsley remains dull, and what little activity is displayed is in the houses where the productions in table ware and fancy articles are of the highest class in excellence. The goods are for the well-to-do, to whom an extra few shillings are of no moment, provided the glass is of the purest crystal and the cutting and engraving superb. Ordinary flint goods are in slack demand, and there is not a little short time around the furnaces and in the cutting shops. In Wordsley, in the technical institution, where the study of glass-making is part of the curriculum, preparations have begun for the winter session. Some of the pupils have displayed great ability and shown the possession of much taste in regard to form and colour, and no doubt the youths will stand well in the official reports at the close ; but the prospect before them as art workmen is not very encouraging. The bottle trade of the district is depressed, and has been so for some time.

The glass trade in Birmingham during the last two months has been far from brisk, and present prospects, with so much unrest amongst the working classes in various centres of industry in the United Kingdom, and so many thousands of operatives of both sexes out of employment, are certainly not encouraging. Manufacturers are careful not to increase their stocks of table ware and fancy goods, and the result is that numbers of men, both blowers and cutters, have only worked short time. The chimney and lamp trade is much cut up through foreign competition, and an early revival is certainly not expected. Birmingham pressed goods, in tumblers, &c., for hotels, have had only a moderate call, and the same is the case in cut and plain decanters, wines, &c. It was hoped that the recent appeal to the brewing interest would lead managers of tied and other houses to buy British glass, instead of that made abroad, notably on the Continent. The result, so far, has not been as good as had been anticipated, but only a short time has elapsed since that appeal was made, and buying for the winter season has, with many firms, yet to take place. There is moderate activity in Spon Lane, but even there, where there are many specialities that keep workmen steadily employed, slackness prevails in certain departments. The cutters and engravers of the city have found business dull ; hopes, however, are entertained of a few brisk weeks ere the year runs out. Looking-glass manufacturers are not as well employed as they were, either in the home or the export departments ; yet prices of goods, especially of large-size mirrors, are well maintained. The glass-bevellers of the city complain of slackness in their branch, and which has lasted some time, but an early improvement is looked for. A sad accident occurred on Sept. 30 at the glass works of Messrs. Chance, West Bromwich. Samuel Smith, a stoker, who had occasion to ascend to the roof of a building, having fallen to the ground and sustained fatal injuries. The announcement that a Unionist candidate has been adopted for East Birmingham recalls the fact that Sir Benjamin Stone will not seek re-election. The glass trade thus loses its only representative in the House of Commons. He was for many years head of the firm of Stone, Fawdry & Stone, glass manufacturers, of Dartmouth-st., Birmingham, and he presided year after year over the deliberations of the Midland Flint Glass Manufacturers' Association. Everyone will hope that he may be spared many years to enjoy his well-earned rest.

There are great complaints amongst glass manufacturers in Lancashire—flint, plate, German-sheet or bottle, &c.—and at the time of writing little prospect of any substantial improvement. The dispute in the cotton trade, to say nothing of any other disturbing cause, has unsettled business in all departments of every allied industry, and the result is, that in addition to the operatives from the mills, who are spending their time lounging about the streets and lanes (the more steady of them, and others frequenting the inns and beershops), engineers, and indeed mechanics of every grade, leather workers, and hosts of others, are either employed only a limited number of hours per week, or have ceased work altogether on the clear understanding that when the cotton spinners and weavers and the militant card-room hands return to their several places on a satisfactory settlement being arrived at, they also can resume operations at their lathes, frames, and benches. Among these artizans are numbers of glass-blowers—chairmen, servitors, and footmakers, as well as glass cutters. For them the chance of having permanent employment becomes more and more remote, for the Continental competitor is gaining, month by month, a greater grip on the English market. Said a Lancashire flint glass manufacturer in a letter to the present writer, in the middle of October, "We are waiting, and waiting for orders, and very few come ; and very few after keen solicitation." Then he went on to state some experiences, and here is one. "During the last six weeks our traveller has been working in London, the Midlands, Wales and Lancashire, and he has not sent us in, in value of orders, as much as will pay his travelling expenses. Merchants, and in them I include shippers, seem quite at a standstill, and will not run the risk of sending goods abroad."

In Warrington, as in other places, the glass trade is depressed, and blowers and cutters and bottle hands are feeling the pinch severely. In Liverpool, on the other hand, there is a strong belief in an early revival. Two firms there, within the last three months, have had a couple of tanks erected. The flint and fancy glass manufacture in Manchester has undergone further shrinkage since our last article was published, and this without any lessening in the quality of the articles produced, either in colour, form or artistic adornment. The demand for flower stands of various hues, crimped and plain, formerly so popular, has fallen off materially. Of course, this is the end of the season for these goods, but the call for months past has been under the average. The ordinary bottle trade is slack and if there be any activity at all, it is in crib-work in the production of burst-off inks, gums, and similar articles. St. Helens glass bottle houses, like their competitors in other parts of the county, have experienced great depression, and some of the tanks are cold ; and the men, of course employed, as one of them sadly, yet wittily, put it, "only by Streets & Walker." At one of the large bottle houses the men, after working one week have had to play two and so on. Plate glass has been in moderate demand, but bevellers have not had full employment, nor have the German-sheet and common window glass-makers, or the flatteners. Many years have elapsed since trade was so bad as it has been this autumn, and this includes tubing, usually in such request, the town, like Manchester, having a good reputation for the production of tubes that stand well the varying pressure of steam and hot water. The machinery glass trade in the latter great centre is quite at a standstill, and there cannot be a movement until the cotton crisis is over and the operatives, numbering a few hundred thousand, at work again.

Much slackness prevails in the glass bottle trade of South and West Yorkshire. The dissentient attitude of firms at Wakefield, Hunslet, and other places (numbering about fourteen), in regard to the European Association of Employers, formed for the purpose of working Owen's patent machine, described some time ago in THE POTTERY GAZETTE

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is still maintained. The changes necessary to put it into operation are extensive and would be somewhat costly, hence the delay, if we may so describe it. The workmen were at first inclined to view the adoption of the American system with favour, but now they do not. Makers of jam jars have been temporarily busier than for some time, the goods nearly all machine-blown. Earthenware jars, however, seem to be increasing in favour, especially in 1 lb., 2 lb., and 7 lb. sizes. The abundance of fruit this autumn led to a demand for bottles for preserving the several varieties in the natural state, and those manufacturers who had not cleared out stocks last season readily disposed of all they had. Though the abnormally mild weather prolonged the mineral water season the production of bottles has not been great, and now, of course, has suffered a great decrease. For carboys there has been only a moderate call in Castleford and Barnsley during the last two months to meet the requirements of dyers and other trades for vitriol, and no improvement is expected until there is a revival in trade generally. Stocks of hand-made bottles of the ordinary classes are rather heavier than usual, and the outlook for the workmen during the coming winter is therefore somewhat gloomy. Already there is much short time. In the flint department of some bottle works there is more activity, consequent upon the receipt of orders from purveyors of coffee essences, and the proprietors of patent medicines. There is some reason to believe that the production of Appolinaris and Johannis bottles in this country will shortly be greatly curtailed, and pass into Continental hands. Imports of glass from Germany and Belgium have been considerable, but a falling off is noticeable, owing, doubtless, to the general depression of trade in this country.

In York the manufacture of special glass for scientific purposes has been fairly satisfactory in its nature, except as regards steam tubing, the demand for which has been under the average. Medicals have shown a little decline. Business in the Newcastle and Sunderland districts has been bad, especially in pressed goods and bottles, and there was much short time. Ordinary flint hands have been far from fully employed. At present there is a slightly better prospect locally, but not for the men in the bottle houses. The competition from abroad becomes more and more keen, and increased attention is being paid to the requirements of British customers. One of the latter, some time ago, wanted a quantity of bottles, "but without the ring or seam which impaired the appearance of the English article," and bearing his initials at the bottom. He was told that turning the bottle in the mould would get rid of the objectionable seam, but that it would not be possible to give the initials if that were done. A bottle made in France, seamless and initialled at foot, proved that the thing could be done, and probably the order was secured, the agent for the home manufacturer seeing at a glance how the two operations could be effected.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, Oct. 15.

I HAVE just returned from Winnipeg, where I found a most encouraging revival of trade. One could not be otherwise than optimistic in face of the wealth of moving grain that is passing through that gateway to the East from every section of the vast wheat-growing areas of the North-West. Some twenty-four thousand grain cars were in waiting at the various railway stations as soon as the wheat was threshed, and the grain was rushed forward with all despatch. One hundred and fifty cars a day has been considered to be rapid handling in former years; but this fall there have been as many as 548 cars in a single day inspected at Winnipeg, and it is estimated that with the termination of the strike on the Canadian Pacific Railway there will be, at least, 20,000,000 bushels more shipped and paid for by the end of this month than in any previous fall since wheat has been the great product of the Canadian North-West. The price remains firm, and the wheat grades high from every quarter of the country. I saw wheat from southern Alberta that yielded 52 bushels to the acre, and weighed 63 pounds to the bushel, and the farmer who grew it had a hundred acres of it. It was marvellous. The average in Manitoba was far less, but the farmers generally, throughout the entire North-West, will have more money than they have had for two years. That is why the retail merchants are ordering a little more freely for import, and why the outlook is considerably brighter since my last letter.

Many rumours are afloat as to changes in the wholesale and import pottery houses of Canada. Efforts are being made to promote one for Winnipeg, and at least one more new stock house will open its sample rooms in Ontario about the first of the New Year. This is in addition to the Hamilton import house and the Gordon-McKay wholesale house of Toronto. I hear that H. C. Bedlington, lately managing director of Myott, Son & Co., Toronto, who is now Canadian representative of the English factories controlled by Robert Slimmon & Co., New York, has captured the big order for the new department of Gordon-McKay. Something has happened in the Klotz-Junor plans for the new wholesale house for Hamilton. Subsequent to my writing of the item which was printed in this correspondence last month, there was a sudden change. The principals refuse absolutely to give out any particulars for publication, so that reliable accounts are impossible. I shall not attempt any guess work, therefore, merely repeating a statement made by Mr. Robert Junor, that Mr. E. W. Klotz would not be the managing partner of the new concern. It seems improbable that he will be a partner in the company at all.

Complaints continue to pour in from country merchants concerning the poor quality of the Canadian-made glass fruit jars. As many as a dozen broken jars in a gross are complained of, and those which are not broken have defects. Merchants in the Niagara penisula and the other fruit centres of Ontario have suffered severely from this cause, and their troubles have been aggravated by inability to secure enough even of these defective and unsatisfactory jars to supply half the demand. They declare they will buy nothing but American jars for next year, and the representatives of the big American factories have already been over the territory with more or less success. Lately, the housewives have been preserving their peaches and pears and plums in half-gallon jars, smaller ones being positively unobtainable.

While in the West I met Mr. Emerson Nicholls, a young Englishman who has established himself as manufacturers' agent in London, Ont., and has half a dozen strong lines in his control. It was his first trip to the Pacific Coast, and he was encouraged by the measure of success which he had. He has the Plant goods, the Harley Jones line, S. W. Dean's, and a couple of others, and he is the first of what I predict will be an influx of trained men from the pottery district of England to supplant the New York agents who are now reaping a harvest off the Canadian buyers of English pottery in their commissions on all sales in this country. Mr. Nicholls is not confined to Canadian territory. He will carry his samples into the United States and try for a share of the trade of the great Republic. A modest "personal" in a Toronto journal mentions the arrival of another young Englishman in Canada on what may be a similar errand. The person mentioned is Mr.

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A. E. Poole, son of Mr. Thomas Poole, proprietor of the Cobden Works, Longton, Staffs., and his mission here is to familiarise himself with Canadian methods of doing business. As a matter of fact, young Mr. Poole is well qualified to take the managership of the largest departmental store in Toronto or elsewhere in Canada. He is "spying out the land." And his coming is but another evidence of the increasing interest of English potters in this Canadian Promised Land. Mr. E. Johnson, of Johnson Bros., Hanley, Ltd., was in Canada in the early part of October. Mr. Arnold Henry, representing Messrs. Cochrane, Glasgow, Scotland, is expected here the last of the present month.

The suits entered in court against W. J. Reid, proprietor of the London, Ont., Crystal Hall, which collapsed over a year ago, and against the contractors for reconstruction, and the architect, now aggregate $75,000. At the Assizes the first week in this month, it was stated that all the suits could be settled for $8,000, of which Mr. Reid offered to pay $4,000. In the expectation that the settlement may be effected, the suits were postponed until the January Assizes. It will be remembered that the building collapsed while undergoing certain changes in the arrangement of the interior, with fatal results.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SOME slight improvement has been felt in the above trades during the month of October, with regard to the retail shops, except those situated at the summer resorts. At these there has been an almost complete cessation of all but local business, a condition which will last all through the winter. By this time practically the whole of the summer sojourners are back in town, and it is this and the decent conditions of weather for shopping that have helped the ordinary town retailers. But the business done ranks as nothing out of the way, being still much below the average of that carried on in the good old days, when money was plentiful and was liberally expended. The October returns show up quite presentably as compared with the poorness of the foregoing months, and that is all. The best feature for the ordinary retailers just now is chiefly prospective, particularly as regards Glasgow and the West of Scotland towns, consisting as it does of a revival in the shipbuilding industry, making it certain that through the winter and on into the spring employment will be fairly plentiful. Another favourable feature is the absence for the time of any serious wages disputes; but, on the other hand, the general industries of the country continue depressed, with the ranks of the unemployed painfully full, a condition of things which, of course, is very bad for the sensitive earthenware, glass and china retail trades.

Reports from the makers and the wholesale merchants do not reflect any improvement, whether in possession or in prospect. There will, of course, be some little extra ordering of supplies for the coming Christmas and New Year trade, but this has not as yet even commenced to make itself felt, although the season is getting on. It is indeed already recognised that the coming end-of-the-year trade will show no improvement on that of 1907-1908, but a further falling away is more than likely. Some four weeks ago disaster was threatened to the cereal crops of the country through the abnormal heat and resprouting after being cut; but, although damage was done, a change of temperature supervened just in time, and the harvest finished fairly well in most of the country districts. This promises favourably for all trades. Complaints are still frequently met with reiterating the difficulty experienced by the wholesale merchants in keeping their customers' credits within bounds. Money is very very scarce all round, and no doubt the experience in our trades is precisely that met with in most of the other industries of the country at the present very trying times.

In making up the returns for the season's production and marketing of ware in the jam jar and other preserve trade sections, the Scotch makers find that the totals fall short of what had at one time been a matter of reasonable expectation. Rockingham ware returns also exhibit a like falling off, but in neither case is the declension very serious, still, it is quite manifest, and the present feeling is distinctly one of quietness, both as regards immediate and prospective calls upon the makers.

The evils of lead poisoning and dust prevalence in the pottery works of Scotland have been the subject of some kind of investigation on the part of an appointed committee. This, however, does not appear to have taken any shape in the way of evidence formerly heard and sifted, having been limited to mere inspection of works. That being so, the inquiry cannot have carried with it anything of positive conclusion or conviction. Possibly the taking of evidence formally has yet to come.

The English Potteries arbitration case, carried through in September, and fully reported in the October issue of the GAZETTE, has, of course, been read with the keenest attention in Scottish pottery circles. The award, so far as it goes, was something very like what was generally expected under the circumstances, but it is felt that the element of danger is not eliminated so long as the other, or minor, points of contention remain unsettled.

The Gazette.

Dissolution of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements, the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

MAYER HY. & CO. (Hy. Mayer, Joseph Hermann Hart, and Francis Joseph Mayer), 20, St. Andrew-st., E.C., china and glass merchants. August 11. Debts by H. & F. J. Mayer, who continue. (Oct. 2.)

Limited Companies: * Appointments of Receivers; Resolutions and Notices as to Winding-up; Petitions; Orders and Official and other Notices.

* *Some of these entries refer to appointments prior to the Companies Act, 1907, and registered under Sec. 11 (2) of that Act. The date of appointment appears in the entry.*

STUBBS BROS. & JNO. CHEW (LONGTON), LTD.—J. O. Evans, 106 Uttoxeter-rd., Longton, solicitor's clerk, appointed receiver July 31, 1906.

VICTORIA & ALBERT BRICK, TILE & EARTHENWARE CO., LTD., London, E. T. H. A. Biddle, 37, Great Tower-st., E.C., appointed receiver June 4, 1907.

Appointment of Trustee.

ENGLAND THOS. H., 92, High-st., Merthyr Tydfil, china dealer. Tr, E. Owen, Pontypridd, O.R.

Notice of Release of Trustee.

SAVAGE MR. F., 166, Boundary-st., St. Helens, glass dealer. Tr., F. Gittins, Liverpool, O.R.

Notices under Assignment.

HARLAND PERCY, trading as Harland & Co., 60, Long Millgate, Manchester, glass and china merchant. Claims to C. W. Provis, 3, Mount-st., Manchester.

ROBERTS JNO. H. E., Sydenham-road, glass merchant. Claims to W. Nicholson, 12, Wood-st., E.C.

Notice of Dividends.

GOFF GEO., Registry-st., Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware manufacturer, trading with, &c. First and final, 1s. 7d., at O.R.'s, Newcastle, Stafford.

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Holland Wm. T., trading as H. Holland, 59, Kingston-rd., Buckland, Portsmouth, china and glass merchant. First and final, 1s. 1¼d., at O.R.'s, Portsmouth.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

Ramsay Jno. M., 33, Hoxton-square, glass merchant. Claims to E. S. Grey, B.C., O.R.

Reynolds Wm., 3 and 4, Corn-market, Thame, late 19, Tavistock-st., Bedford, china dealer. Claims to G. Mallam, Oxford, O.R.

Private Meeting.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

Maurice Jacobs, china dealer, trading as S. Jacobs, 51, Wilton-road, Victoria. The creditors of the above were called together recently, when a statement of affairs was presented showing liabilities amounting to £253. There were trade creditors for £176 and cash creditors for £40, the balance of £37 being in respect of rent. The only asset was the stock, which was estimated to be worth £63. It was stated that the debtor only commenced business last year, and from time to time he had borrowed money from his friends. His present position had apparently been brought about by bad trade and inexperience. On behalf of the debtor an offer was made of a composition of 5s. in the £, payable by two instalments in November and January next. The matter was shortly discussed, and eventually it was agreed to accept the offer made.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

Goff G. & J., of Stoke-upon-Trent, earthenware manufacturers. Mr. F. T. Halcomb, Official Receiver and trustee, has issued a notice that he intends to apply to the Board of Trade for his release. Any objection must be notified to the Board of Trade (1, Horse Guards-avenue, Whitehall, London, S.W.) within twenty-one days from Oct. 24. A summary of his receipts and payments as trustee is given as follows :—*Dr.*—To total receipts from date of receiving order, viz. : Deposit on petition, £5 ; stock-in-trade, trade fixtures, fittings, utensils, &c., £255 7s. 3d. ; book debts, £13 0s. 3d. ; total, £273 7s. 6d. ; *less* deposit returned, £5 ; and costs of distraint, £4 16s. 3d. ; net realisations, £263 11s. 3d. *Cr.*—By Court fees, including petition stamp, £5 11s. ; fees in respect of 69 creditors, and 6 debtors, and including stationery, printing, postages, rooms for meetings of creditors, £8 16s. ; 5 per cent. on amount of assets realised £209 17s. 3d., £10 9s. 11d. ; 2½ per cent. on amount of dividend £106 14s. 4d., £2 13s. 4d. ; ad-valorem duty on audit, &c., £3 ; law costs of petition, £5 6s. 11d. ; other law costs £2, 4s. 6d. By special manager's charges : Person appointed to assist debtor to prepare statement of affairs, £2 2s. ; shorthand writer's charges, £5 0s. 6d. ; auctioneer's and valuer's charges, £13 16s. 4d. ; payments, £17 14s. 8d. ; costs of notices in Gazette and local paper, £1 10s. ; transfer to separate estate of George Goff, 17s. 6d. By incidental outlay, viz. : Travelling expenses, 4s. 7d. ; affidavits, 1s. 6d. ; conduct money of witnesses, 1s. ; other incidentals, 11s. 8d. ; total cost and charges, £80 1s. 5d. Creditors, viz. : 1 for rent, £53 14s. ; 3 preferential, £21 14s. 2d. First and final dividend now declared of 1s. 7d. in the £ on £1,347 19s. 8d., £106 14s. 4d. (the debtor's estimate of the amount expected to rank for dividend was £1,524 14s. 10d.) ; balance, £1 7s. 4d. Total, £263 11s. 3d. Official Receiver's remarks :—The stock-in-trade and trade fixtures, &c., were sold by public auction. One book debtor had paid the bankrupt £4 prior to the date of the receiving order, for which he had not received credit. Several creditors omitted to prove their debts. The claim by the bankrupt's daughter to the household furniture has been fully investigated by the Official Receiver, who decided to take no further action in the matter.

Shann Fanny Beatrice, 10, Wordsworth-road, Wellington, Surrey ; 195, Icknield-st., Birmingham ; Villa-st., Aston, and Buckington-st., Birmingham, glass manufacturer, &c. The first meeting of the creditors herein was to have been held on Monday, Oct. 5, at 191, Corporation-st., Birmingham, but no creditors appeared. No resolutions were therefore passed, and the matter will be dealt with by the Official Receiver in the usual way. It was stated that the receiving order was made on a creditor's petition, the act of bankruptcy being that the debtor had, since June, absented herself with intent to defeat or delay her creditors. The Official Receiver applied to the Court to adjudicate her a bankrupt, and an order was made on the 25th ult. The Official Receiver had not been able to discover any assets, and no statement of affairs had been lodged. The public examination of the debtor was to have been held on Oct. 22, at the Court House, Corporation-st., Birmingham, before Mr. Registrar Lowe, but the debtor again did not appear, and the examination was adjourned.

Stirling Chas. Jas. Robt., Cranham-house, nr. Stroud, pottery manufacturer. R.O., Oct. 9.

AMERICAN REPORT ON THE BRITISH POTTERY INDUSTRY.

A UNITED STATES special agent, in a report sent from London, and just published in the States, states that the value of the output of the British potteries is variously estimated at from $27,750,000 to $39,000,000, and gives the following trade details :—The estimate of output which receives the most credence is that of $30,000,000 annually. The number of operatives employed in the pottery industry is placed in the returns of the British census for 1901 at 135,618. This includes 69,256 engaged in brick, tile, and terra-cotta works and 66,362 in earthenware, chinaware, porcelain, &c. According to the manufacturers approximately the same figures hold in 1908, The proportion of the sexes in 1901 was : males, 105,681 ; females, 29,937. In 1908 the number of female operatives had largely increased. The potteries are located in various parts of the United Kingdom, including Staffordshire, London, Bristol, Leeds, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and other small districts. The bulk of the manufactories, however, are in Staffordshire, in the west of England, where extensive beds of clay and marl have been the basis of the industry for nearly two centuries. It is estimated that 80 per cent. of the pottery manufactured in the United Kingdom is in this district. Unmanufactured pottery, which consists chiefly of china clay or kaolin and ball clay, was exported in 1907 to the amount of $3,438,762. Both ball clay and china clay are exported largely to the United States. In 1907, out of 655,000 tons of china and ball clay exported to all countries, 234,278 tons went to the United States. Roughly, it is calculated that 40 per cent. of the exports of unmanufactured clay, year in and year out, are to the United States. England is the only country in which ball clay is produced.

The total exports of manufactured pottery to all countries average approximately $12,000,000 annually. In recent years the exports of red pottery and brown stoneware and common crockery and manufactures of clay have decreased, almost to the vanishing point. There has also been a falling off in the exportation of fire bricks, glazed bricks, &c.

The exports of earthen and china ware and manufactures of clay from the United Kingdom for the calendar year 1906 and 1907 and for the first eight months of 1908 are given in tabular form, and it is noted that while the United Kingdom exports to the Continent, the imports of pottery from Continental countries are large. For the calendar year 1907 the imports in round numbers were :—France, $955,000 ; Germany, $1,585,000 ; Holland, $1,752,000 ; Belgium, $160,000 ; total, $4,452,000. There are minor importations of sanitary ware specialities, such as closet basins, from the United States amounting to perhaps $25,000 per annum. The imports of British pottery into the United States are better understood from the official statistics. For the last three fiscal years the imports of china, porcelain, parian, and bisque, both undecorated and decorated, has been as follows :—In 1906, $2,759,387 ; 1907, $3,147,840 ; 1908, $3,147,310. Substantially the sum total of these imports are from the Staffordshire district since it does a business of approximately $3,000,000 per year with the United States. A sketch of Staffordshire is therefore given. The district is generally called "the Potteries." The industry is centered in a comparatively restricted area, which comprises six or seven towns and has a population of 235,000, of whom about 45,000 of both sexes are employed in the earthenware and chinaware factories. The chief centres are Burslem, Hanley, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Fenton, Longton, and Etruria. In these towns there are differences in the classes of goods manufactured ; as, for instance, at Burslem, Hanley, and Stoke, chinaware, earthenware, tiles, and sanitary ware ; Tunstall, earthenware, tiles, and sanitary ware ; Longton, bone china and earthenware ; Etruria, high-class chinaware. In all there are about 300 potteries.

The district is served by the North Staffordshire Railway, which connects with the main trunk lines, and which has a loop line of its own ; by a system of intercommunicating electric trolleys ; and by the Trent and Mersey canal and the Cauldon Branch canal. Some traffic is also carried over the Weaver River, a small stream which provides water communication with the Birmingham district The chief means of transport employed is the canal, which joins the Mersey at Runcorn and thus affords access to the sea. The canal is controlled by the North Staffordshire Railway Company, which fixes the tolls, though most of the carrying trade is carried on by private companies. The freight or cargo limit of the tow-boats is 26 to 28 tons. The total traffic movement by both railway and canal measures the industrial activity of the district. In 1906 it was as follows :—

Description.		By Rail.	By Canal.
Coal and coke forwarded	Tons	2,055,851	114,313
Earthen and china ware forwarded	,,	135,188	48,395
Pig iron forwarded	,,	106,154	1,272
Manufactured iron forwarded	,,	129,564	16,024
Potters' material (flint, clay, &c.) received	,,	33,952	187,374
Ironstone and iron ore received	,,	136,710	—
Total		2,597,419	367,378

(*To be continued.*)

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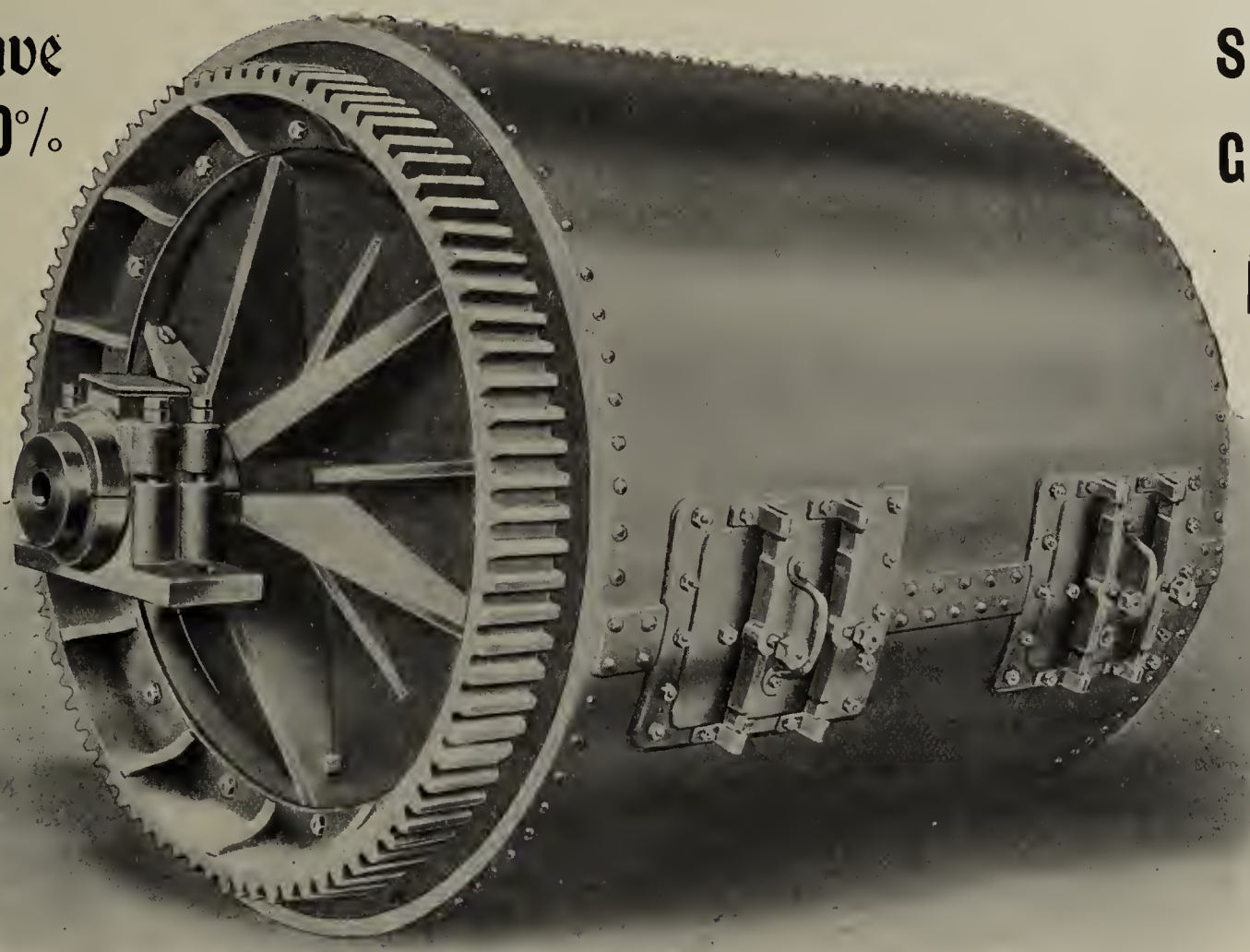
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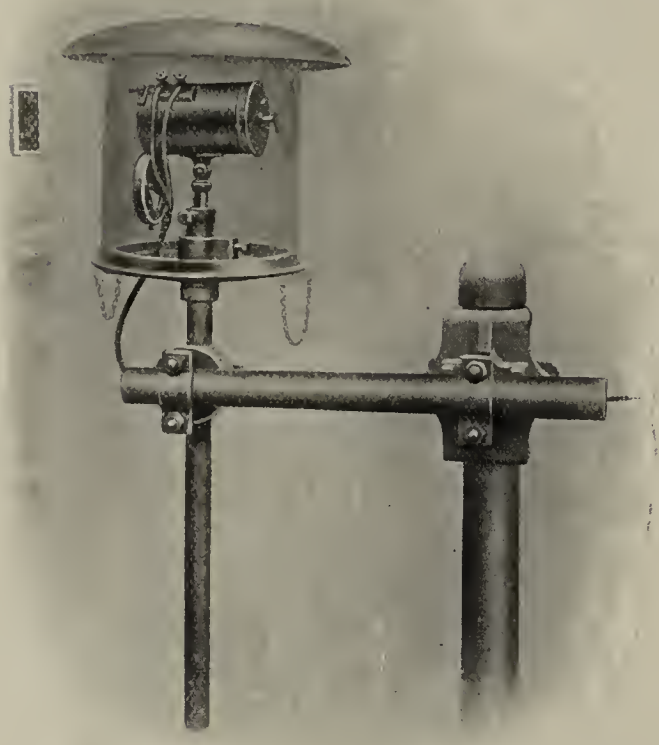
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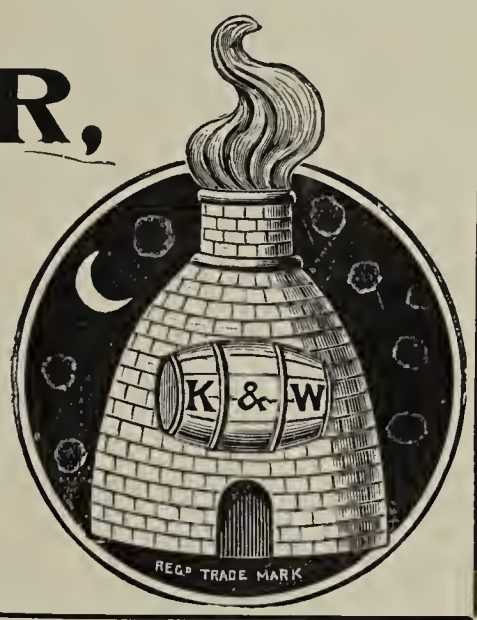
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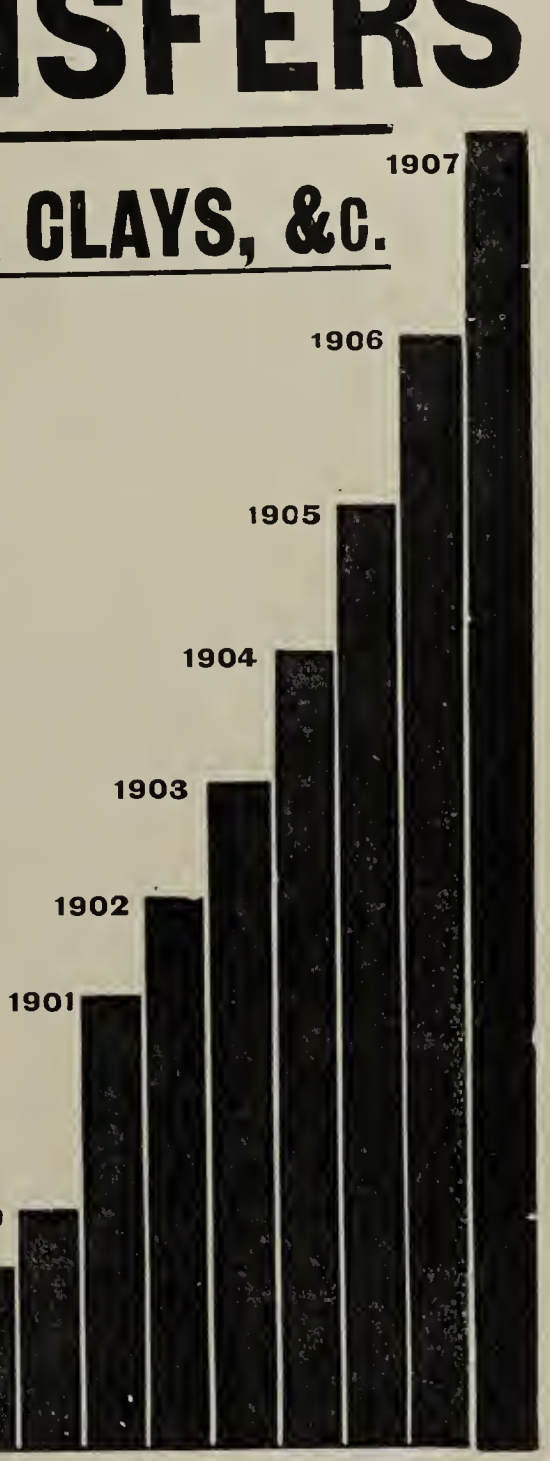
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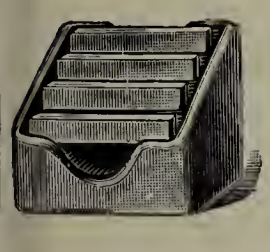
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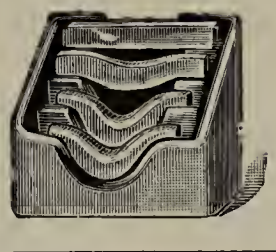
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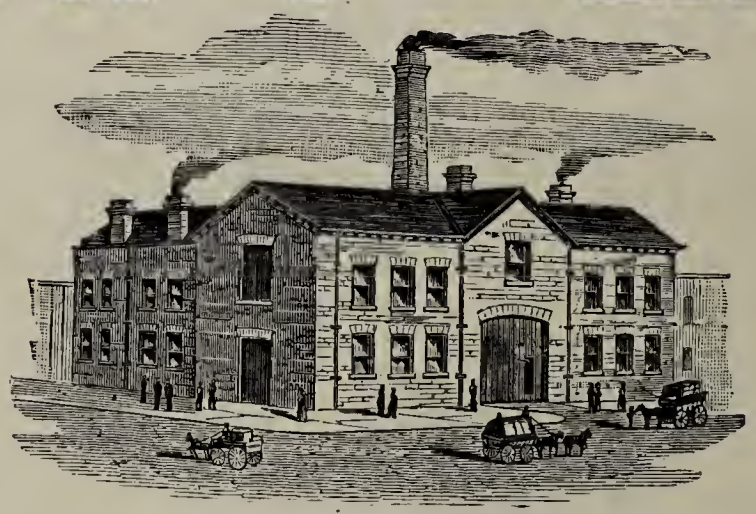
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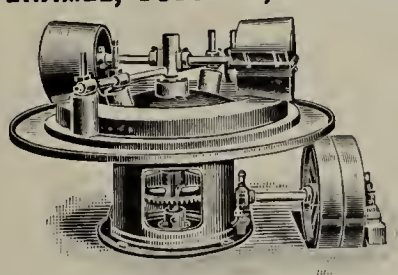
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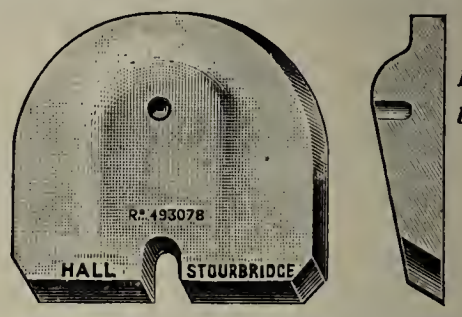
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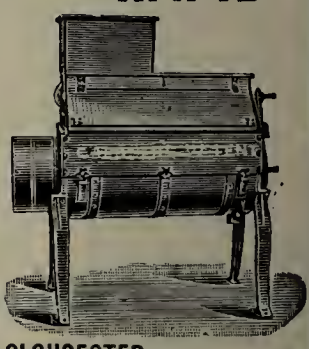
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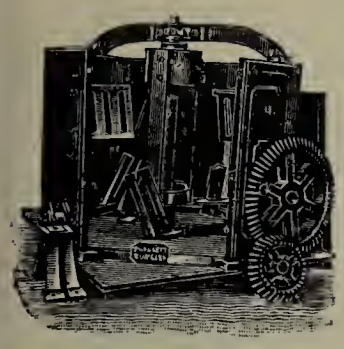
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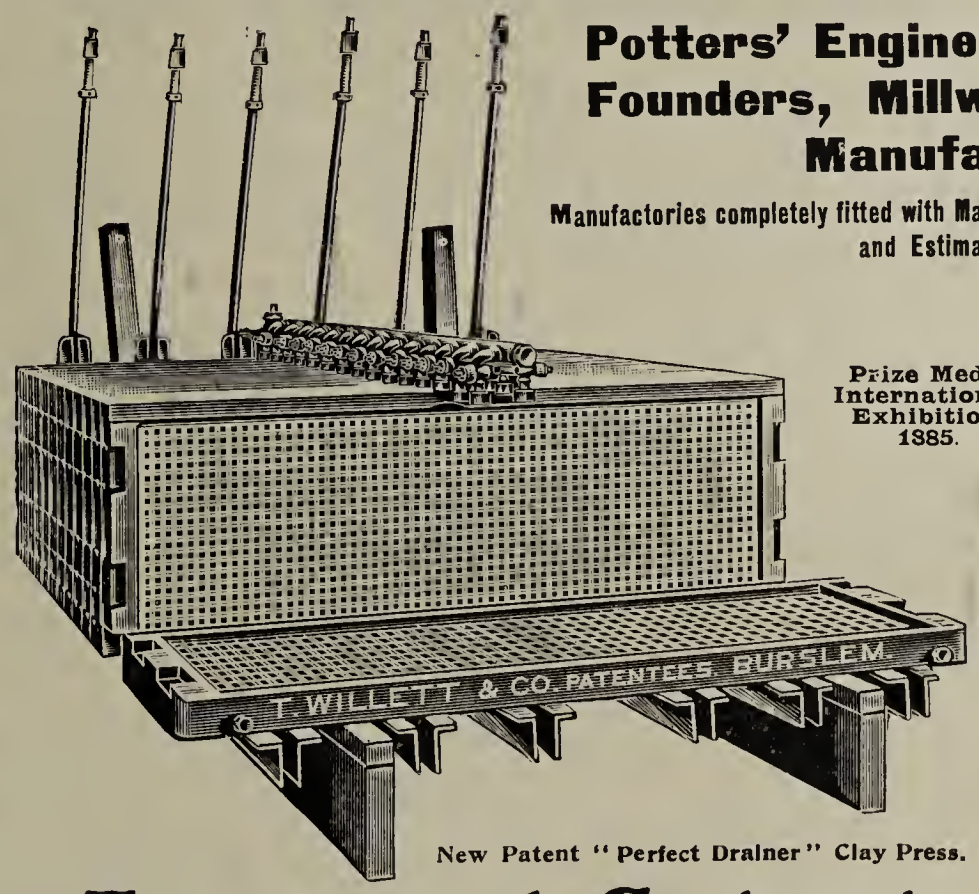
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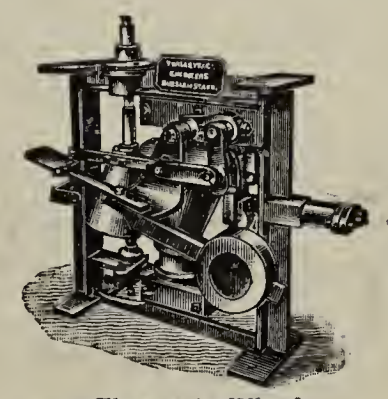


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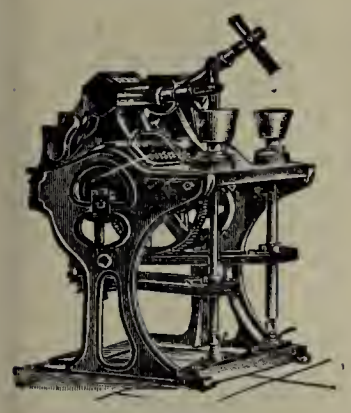
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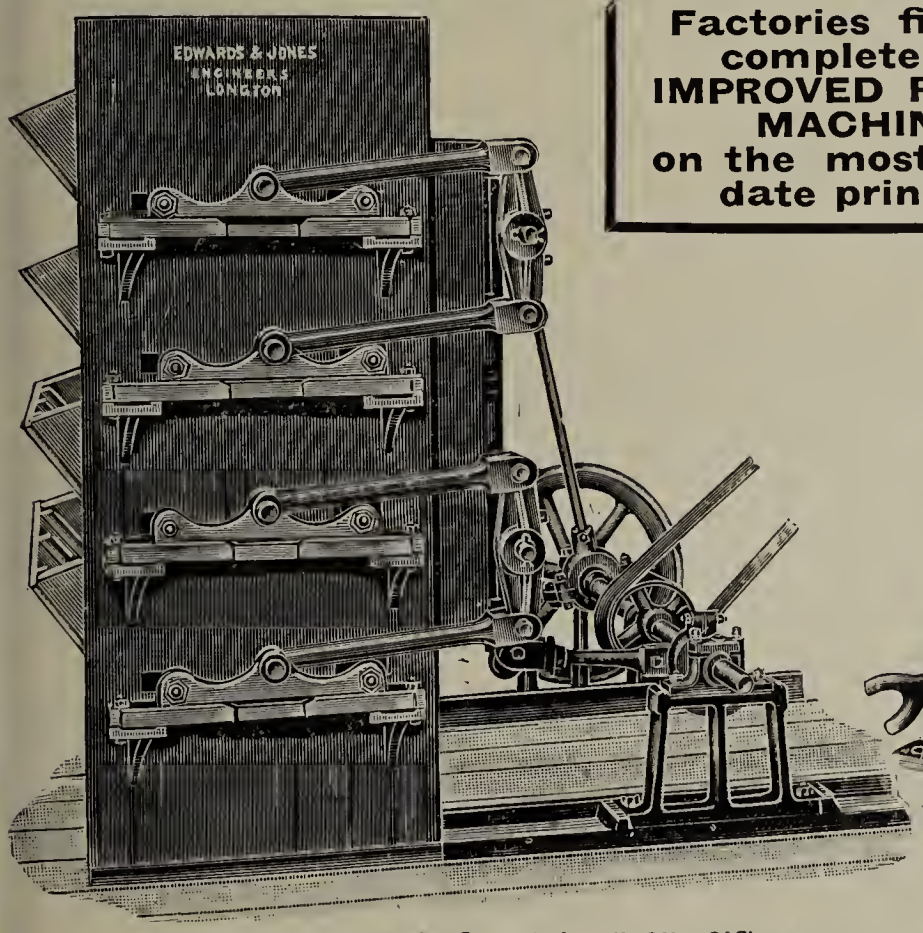
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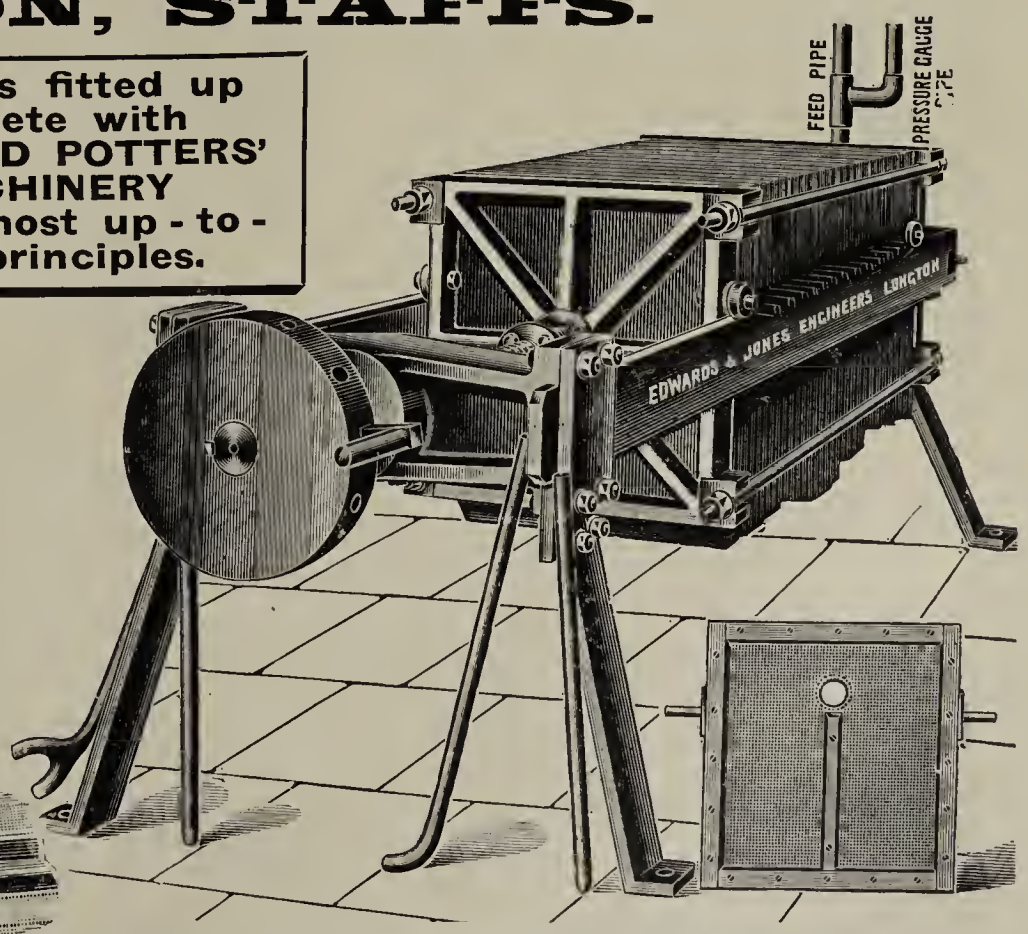
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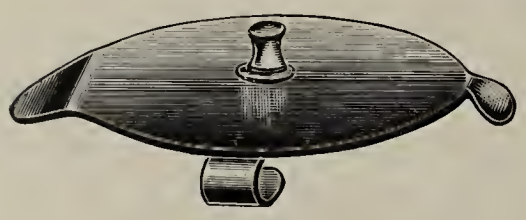
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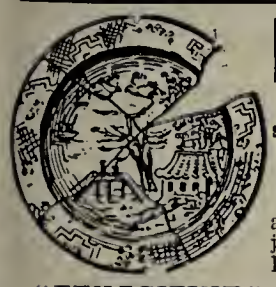
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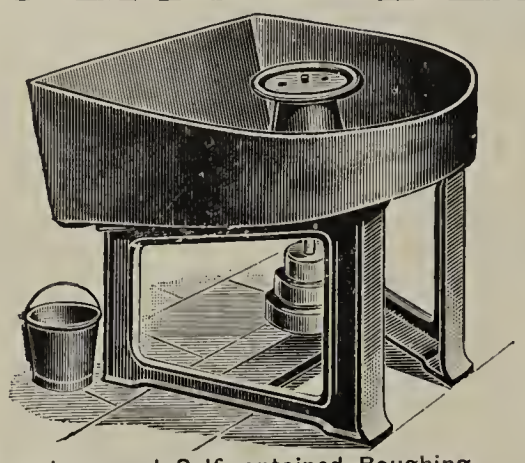
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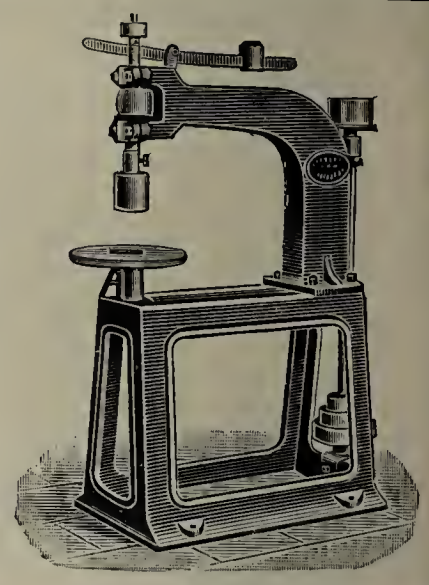
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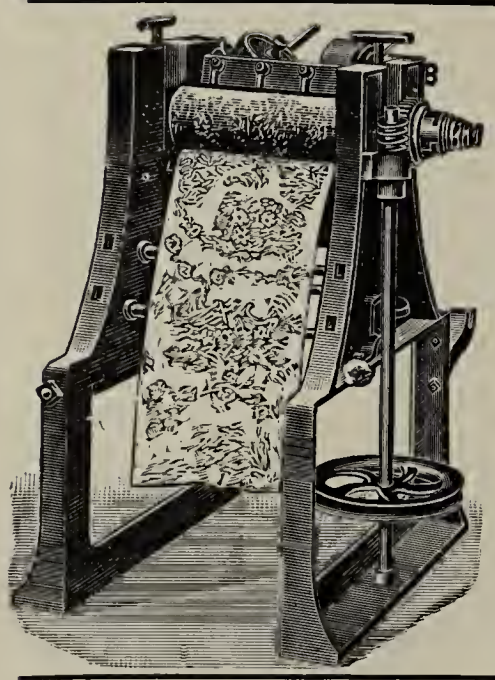
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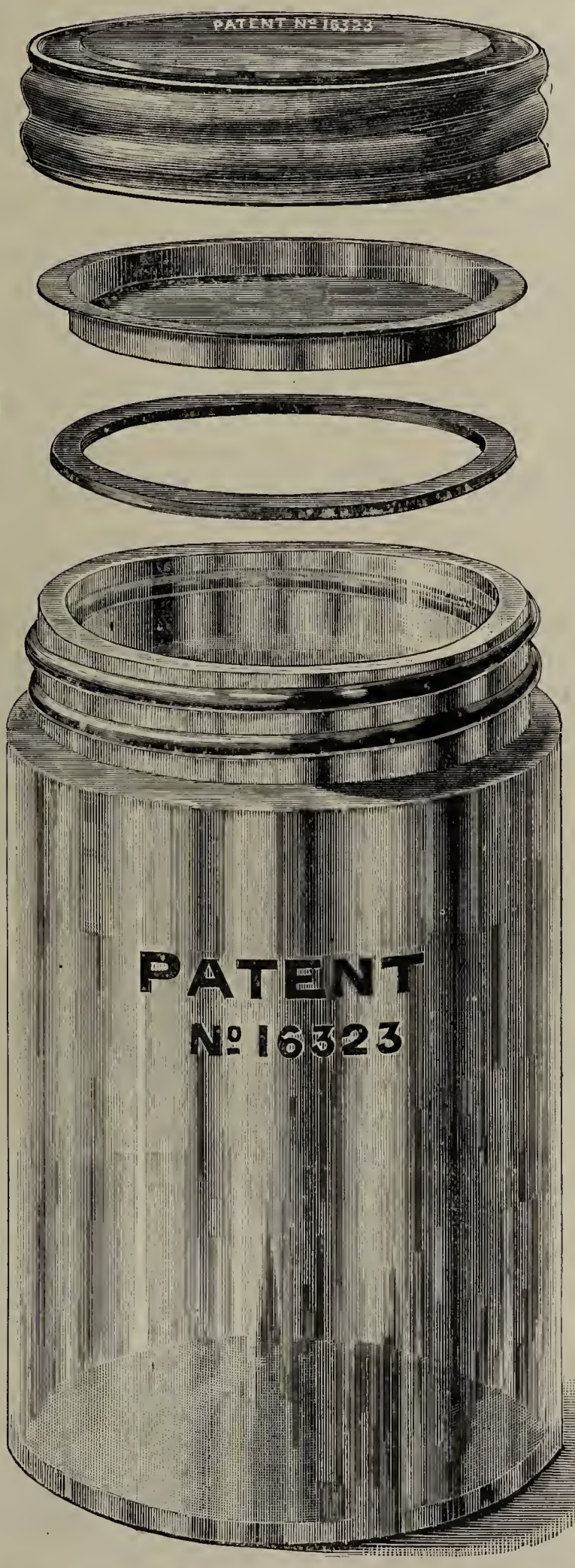
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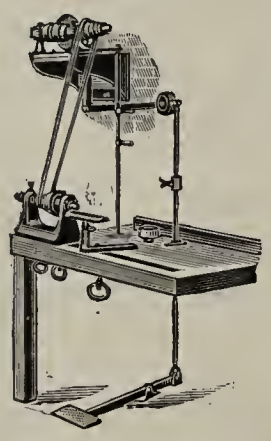
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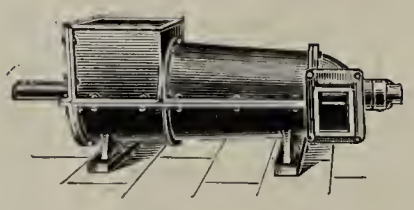
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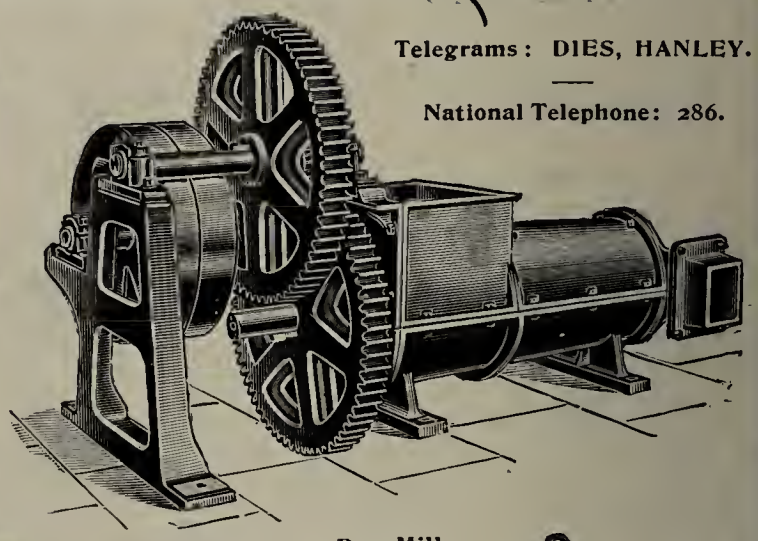


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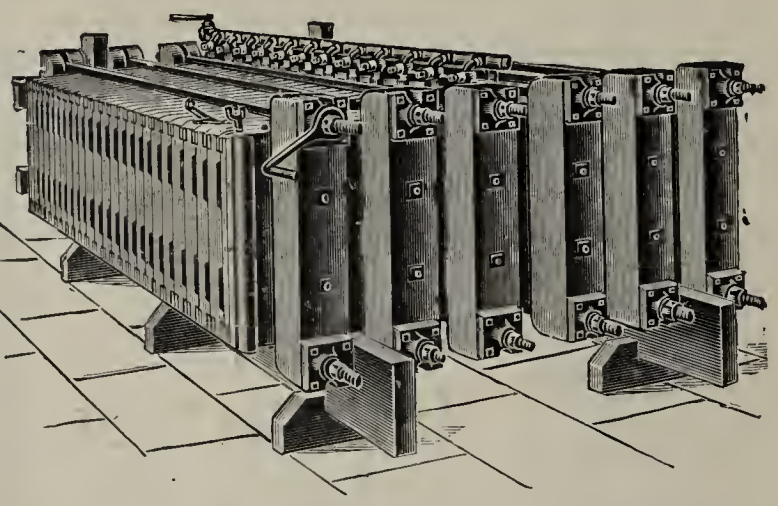
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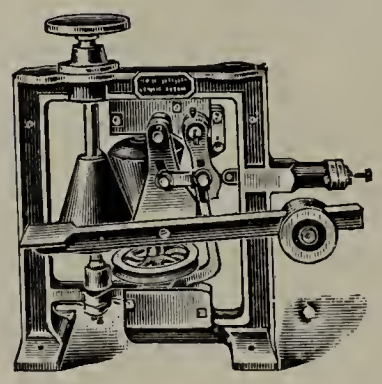
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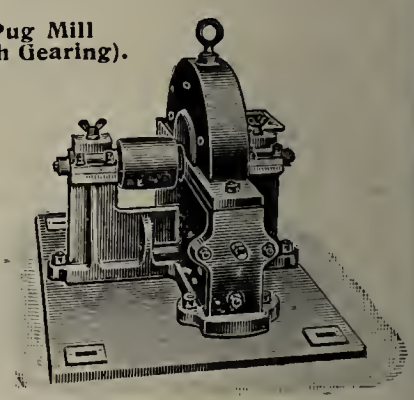
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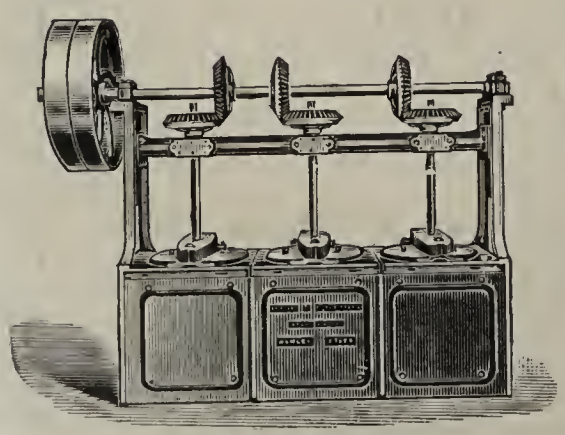
Filter Press.



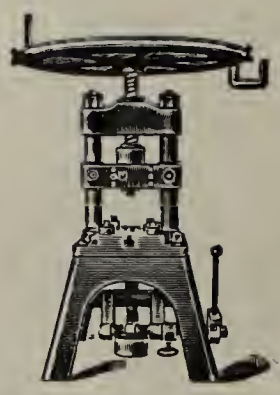
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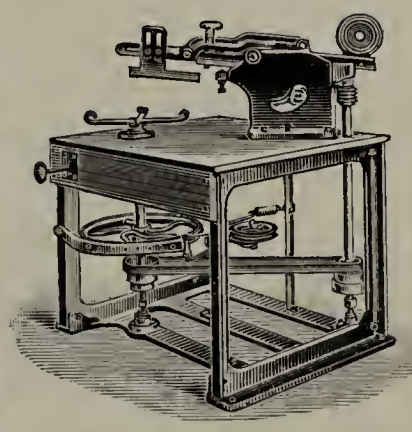
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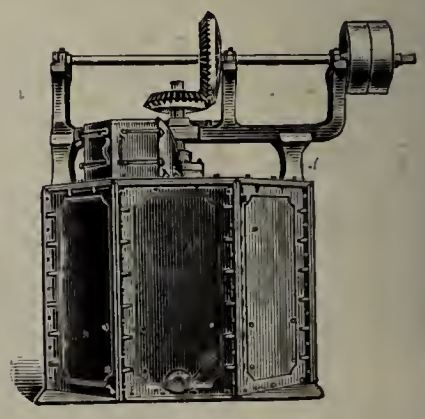
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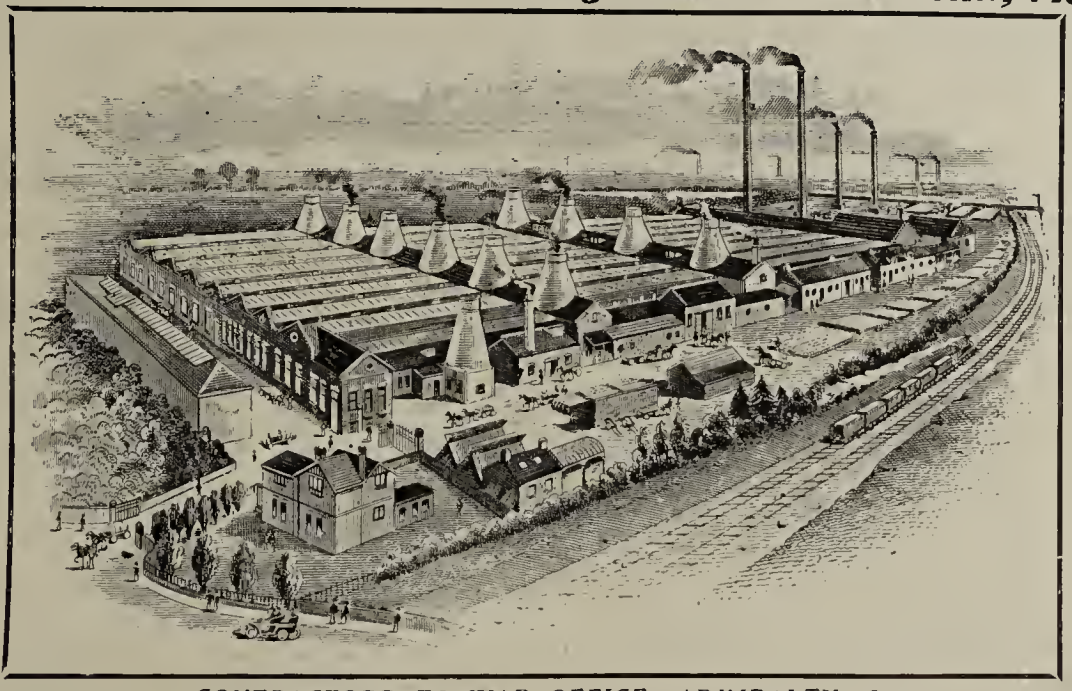
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Continued on page 1348.

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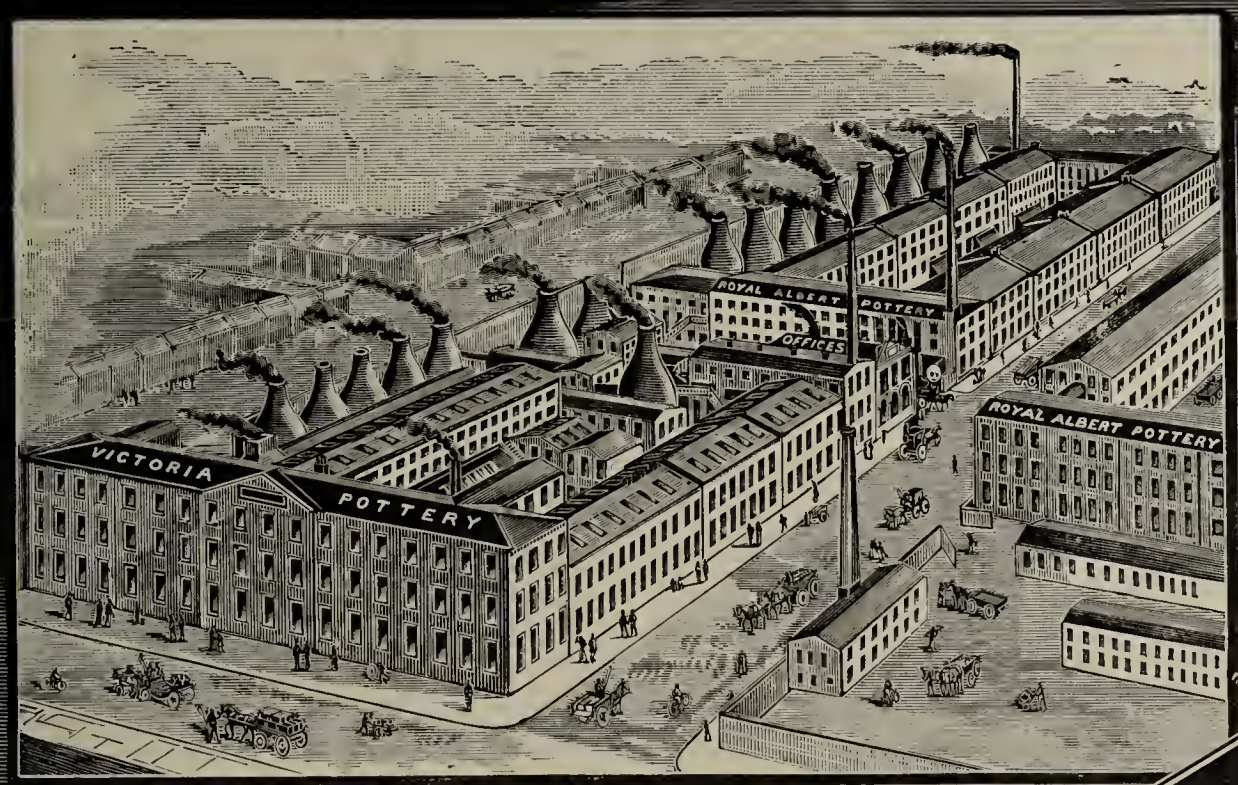
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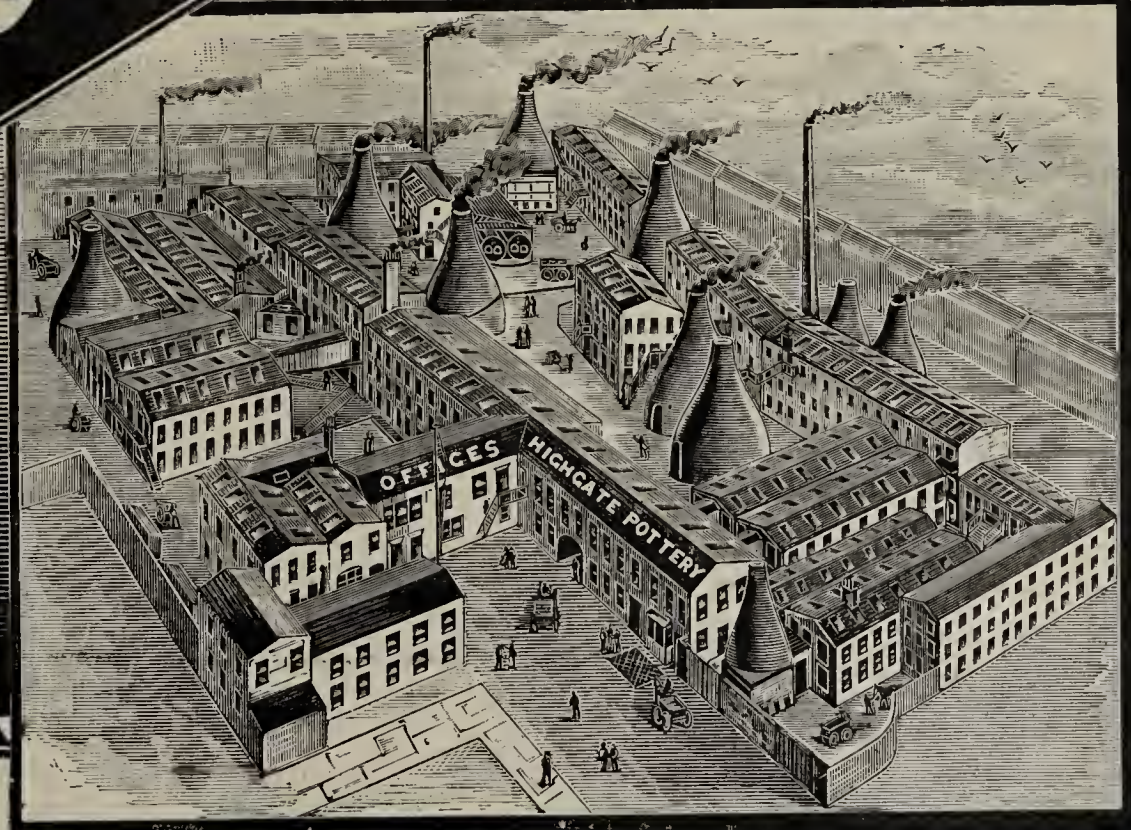
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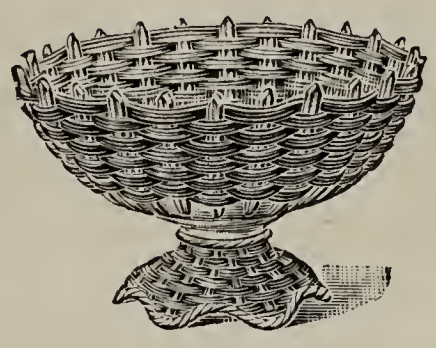
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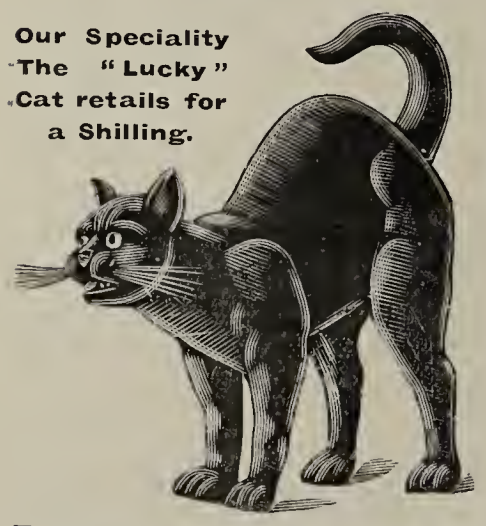
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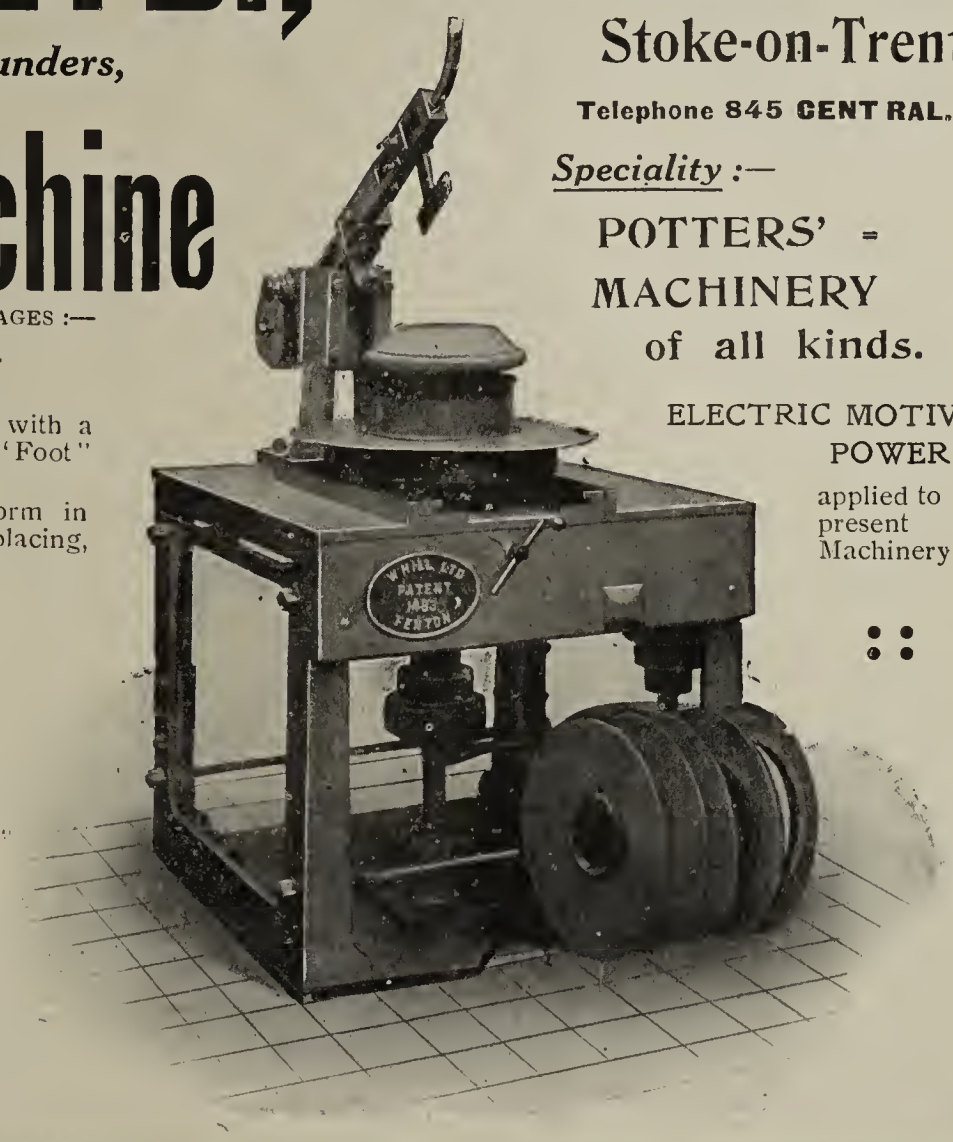
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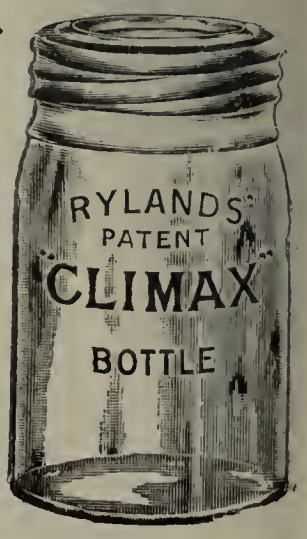
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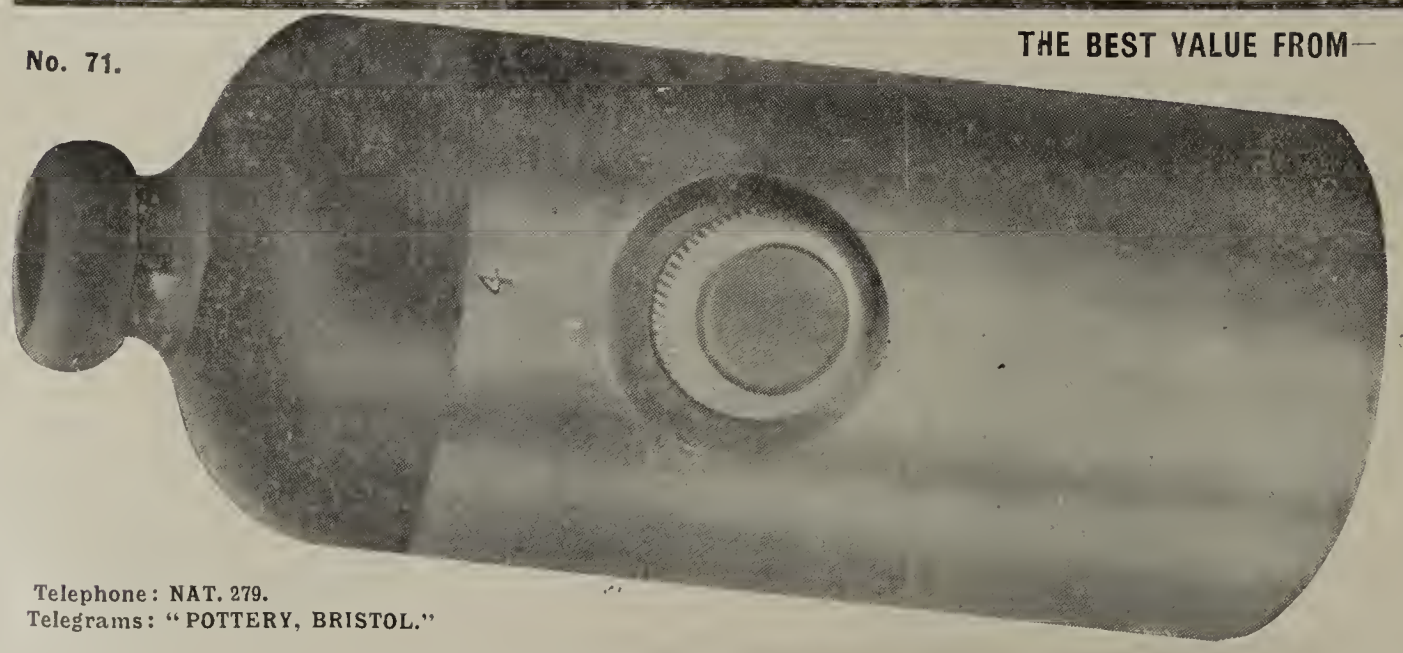
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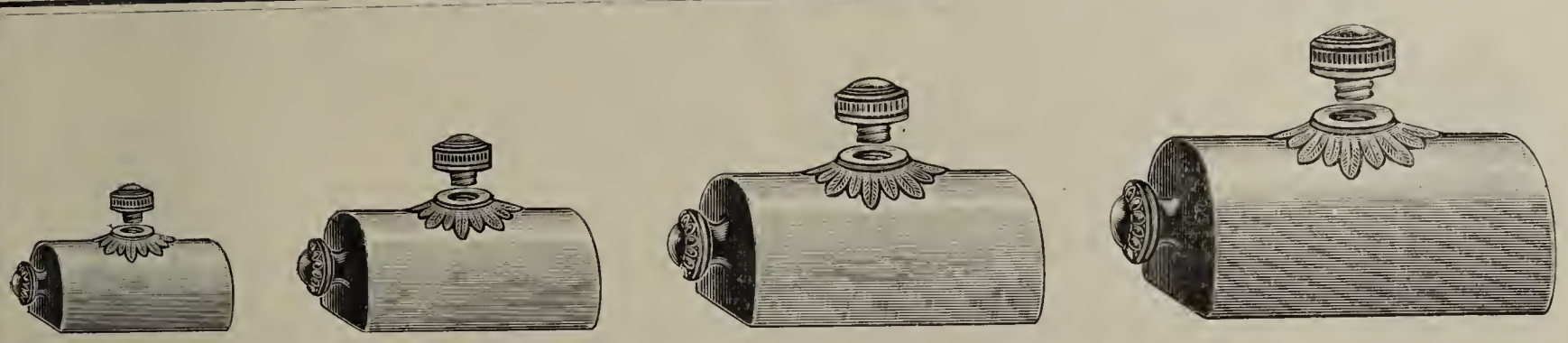
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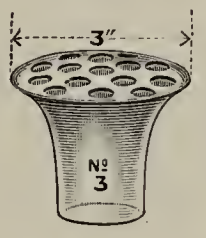
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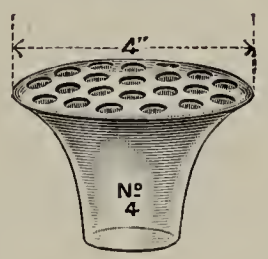
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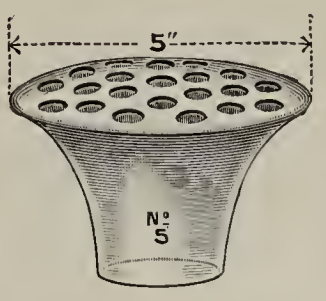
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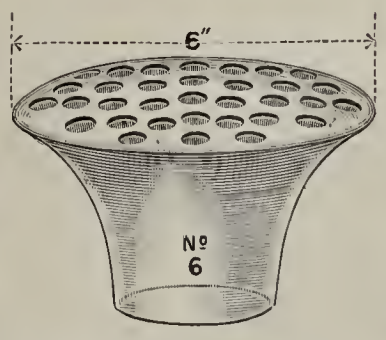














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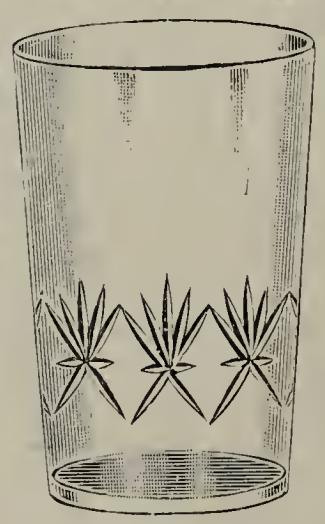
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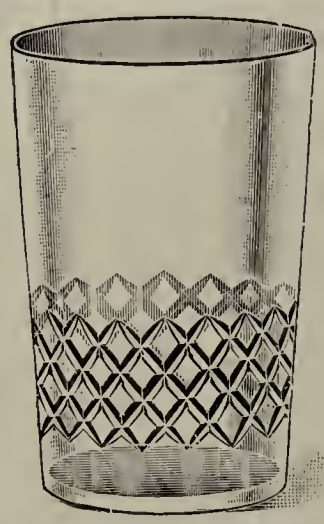
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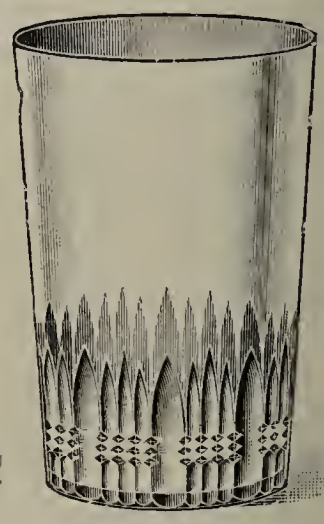
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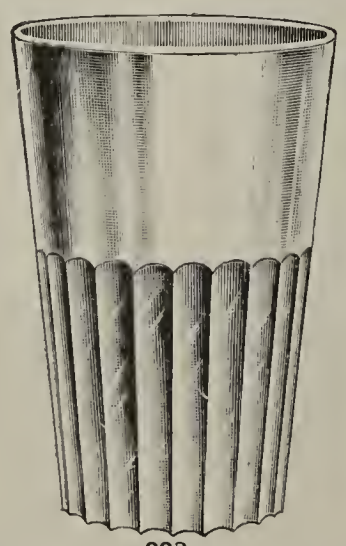
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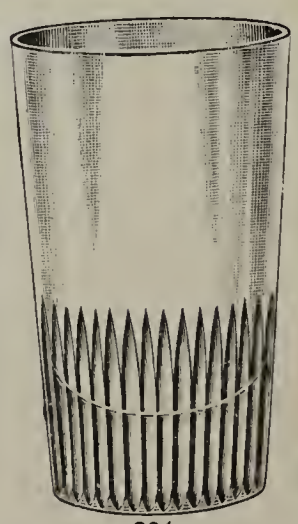
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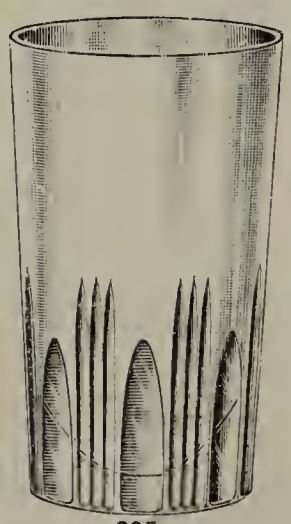
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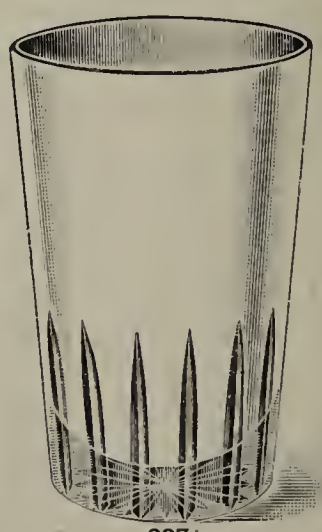
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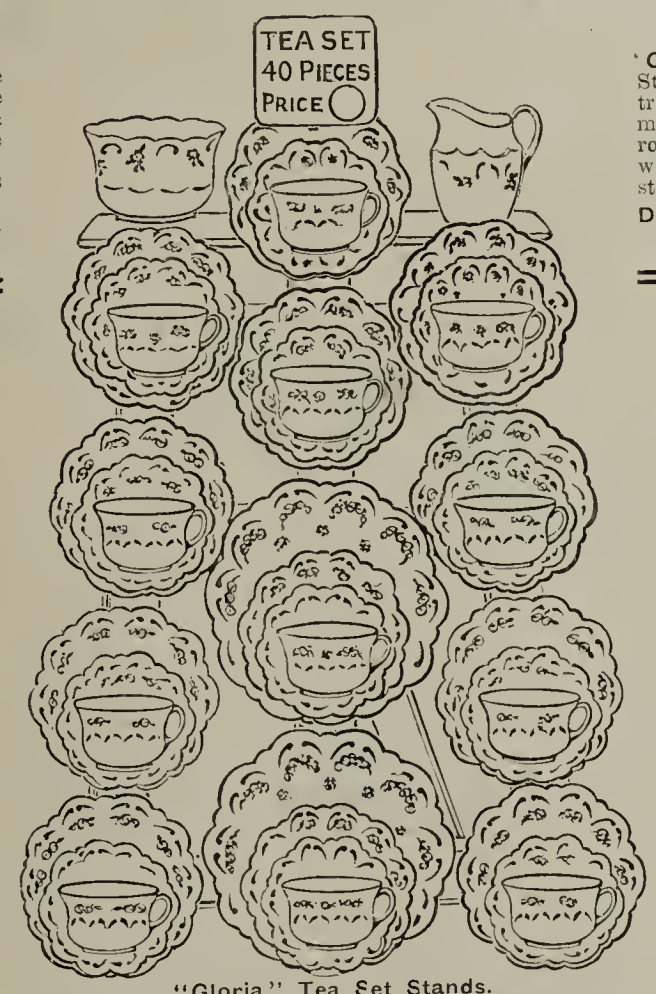


No. 28.—The "Derby" Handle. 72 - gross.

"I have sold more Tea Sets during the last fortnight than in the previous three months.

"I attribute this solely to the fact that I have used 'Gloria' Tea Set Stands" (see illustration). — Remark made in our showroom by a customer who bought eight stands.

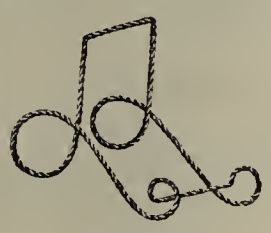
Dealers Take Note



"Gloria" Tea Set Stands.
40 pieces, 3/9 each. 21 pieces 29 each.
Provisionally Protected.



The "Protector," made of wire and covered with India rubber.
No. 8.—66 per doz.
No. 9.—Larger size, 9/- doz.

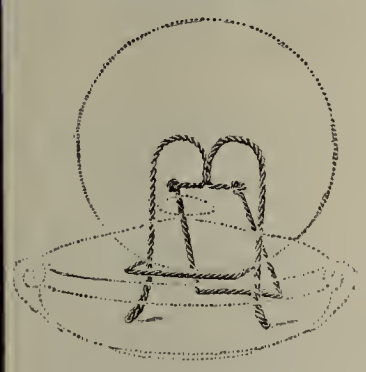


The "Premier"
No. 21, 3/6 per doz.
No. 22, larger size, 6/- doz.



No. 17.—Ewer and Basin Holder. 7/6 per doz.

These are the pieces which make or lose the sale.



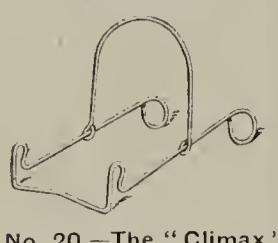
No. 29.—Coverdish and Plate Easel. 6/- per doz.



The "Simplex."
No. 25.—Tea size, 23 per doz
No. 26.—Breakfast size, 26 per doz.



No. 18—"Dennis" Plate Handle. 39/- gross.



No. 20.—The "Climax" 29 per doz.



"The Great Wall of China" Stands.

As illustration, to hold	22	12	6	3	Cups, Saucers and Plates.
	6/6	2/9	1/9	1/3	each.

Sets of 3 (to hang), ingeniously connected so as to form an entire mural decoration, 12,- per dozen sets.



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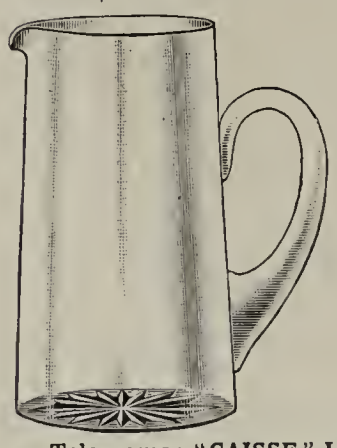
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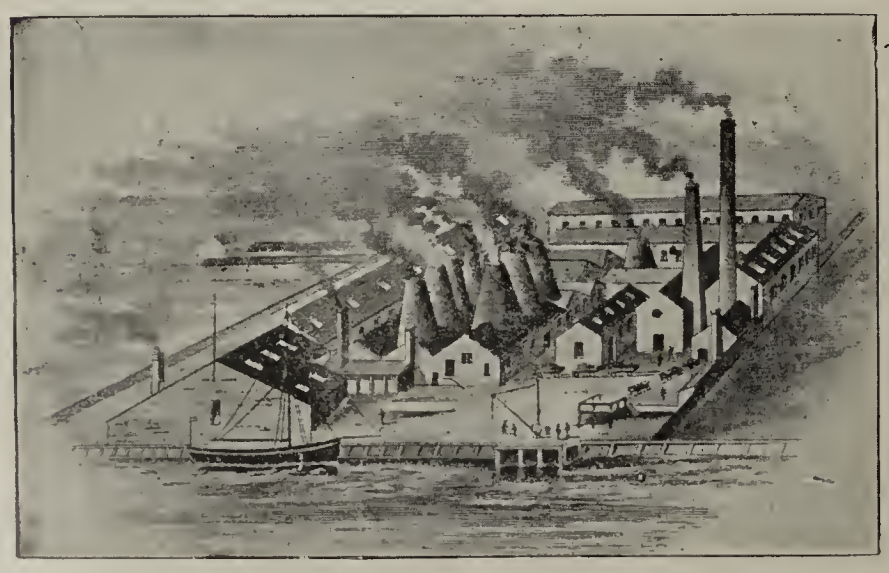
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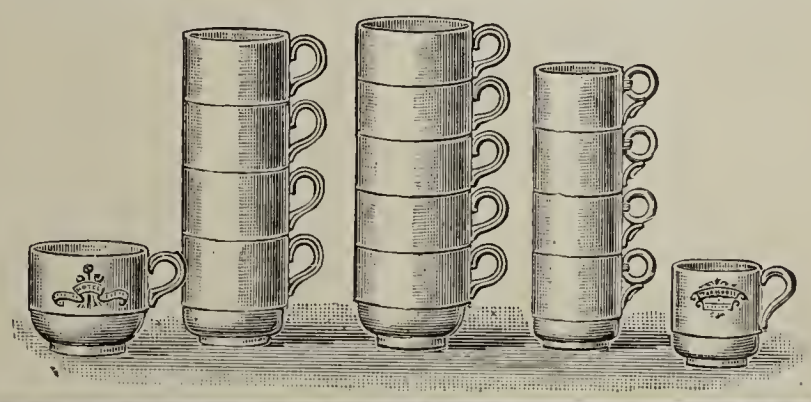
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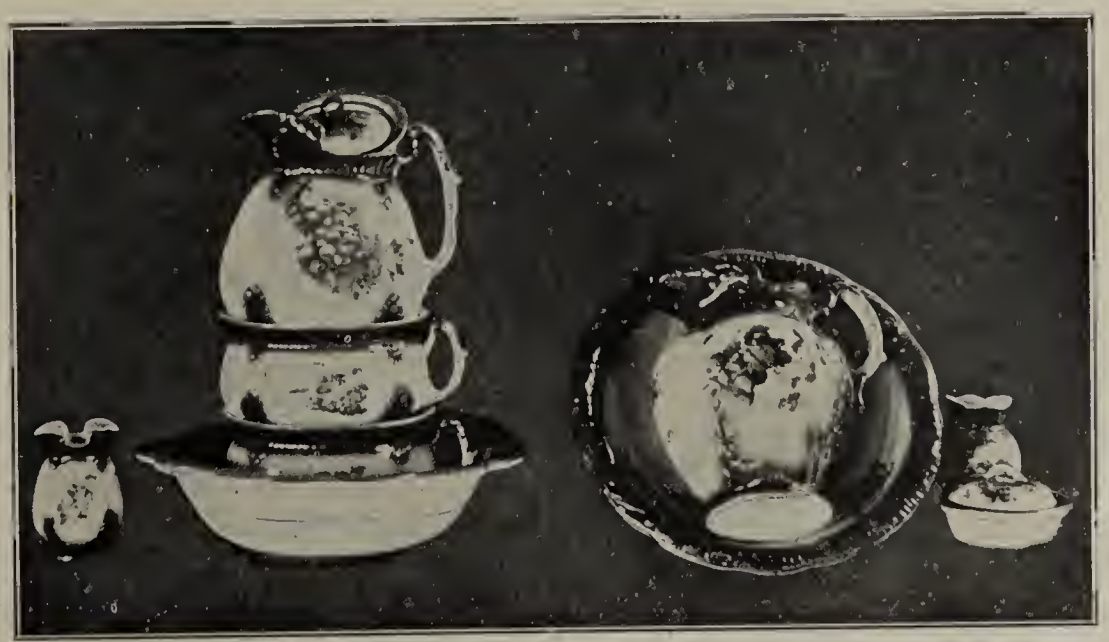
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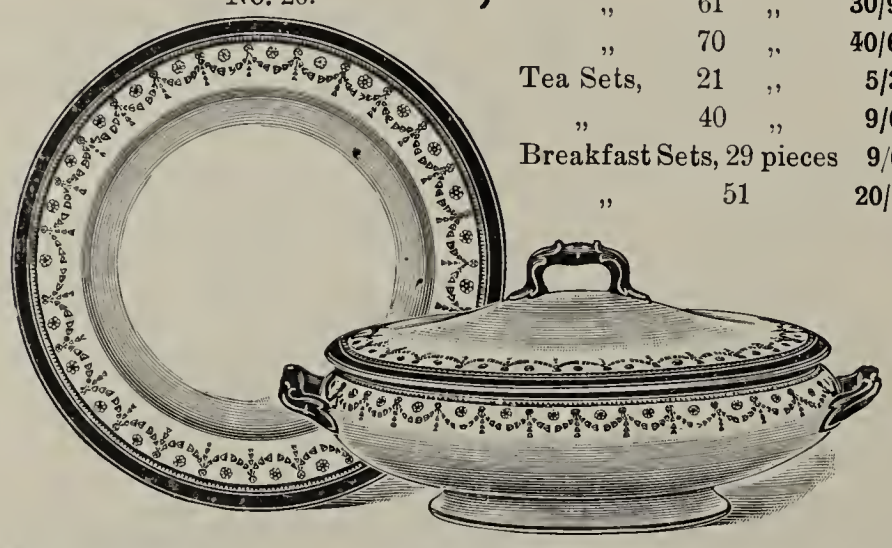
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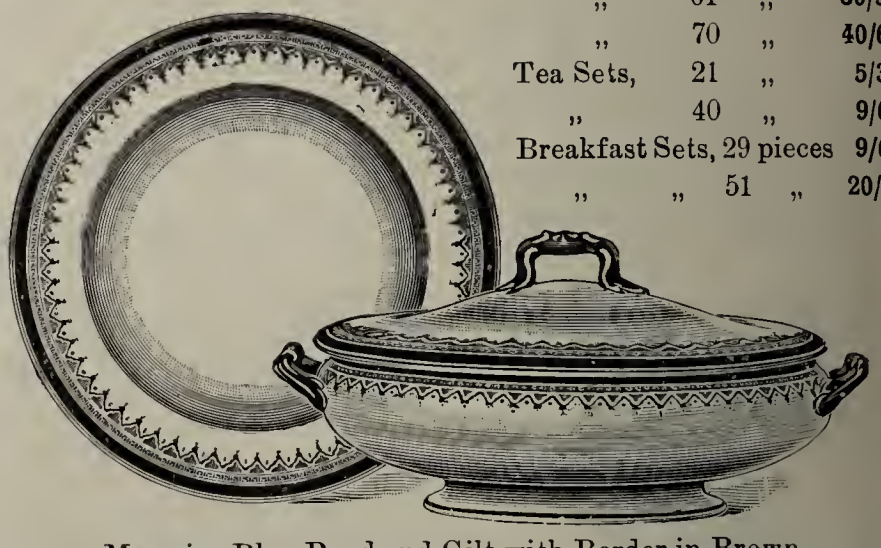


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,,	54	,,	27/6
,,	61	,,	30/9
,,	70	,,	40/6
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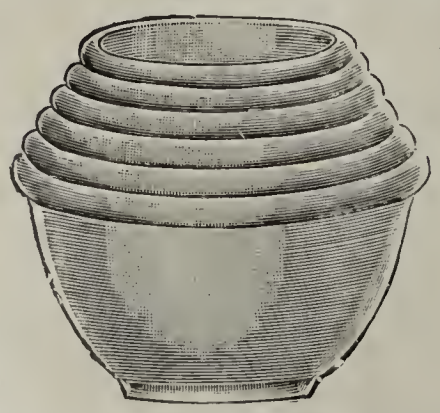
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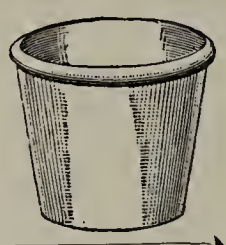
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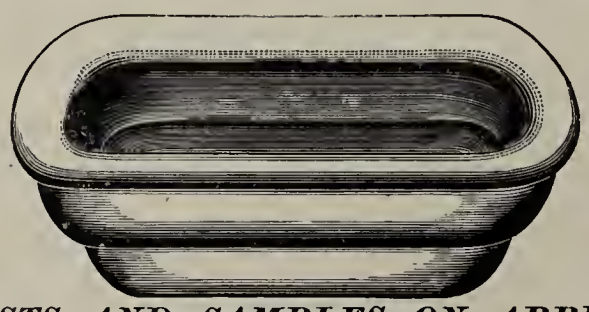
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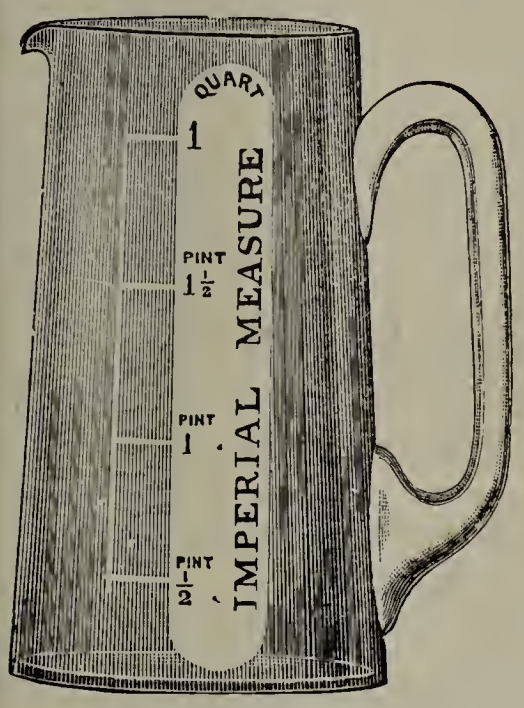


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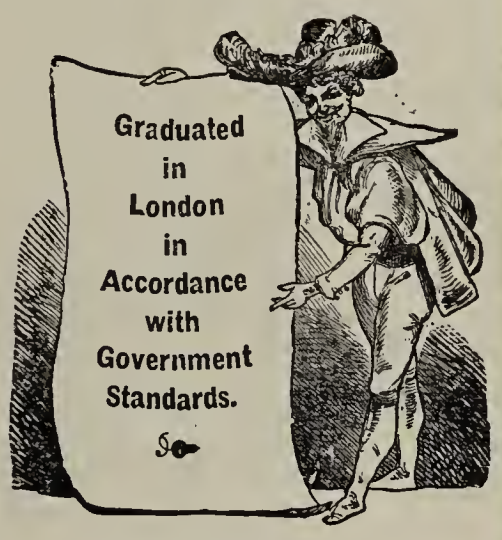


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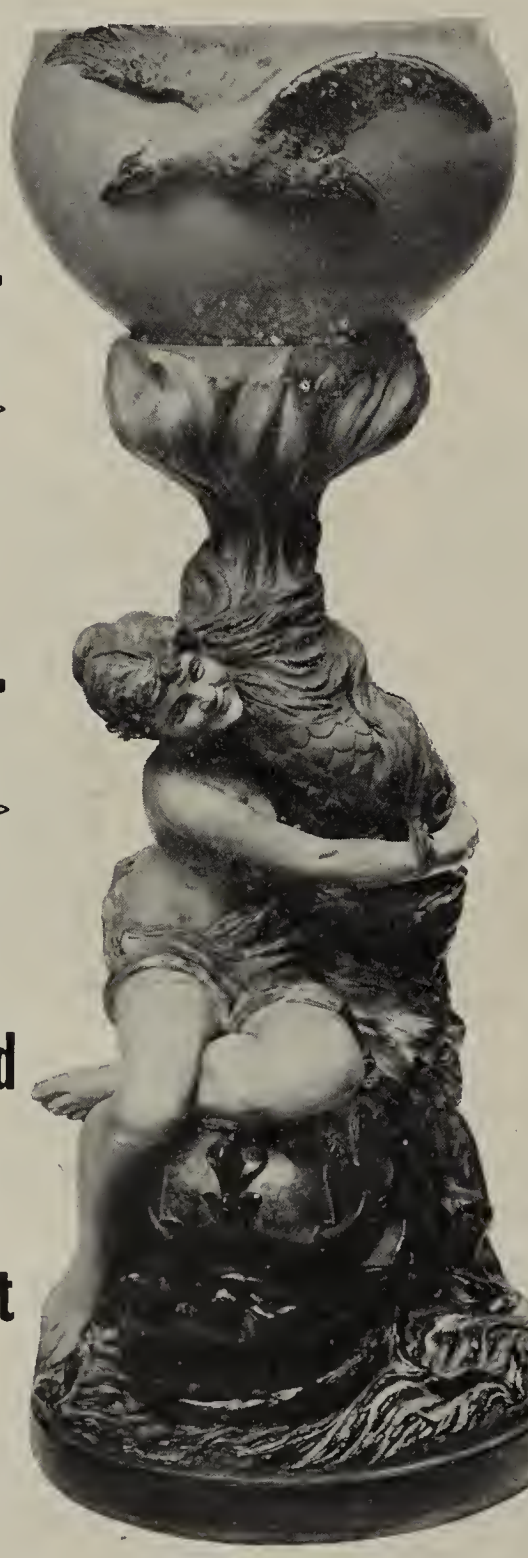
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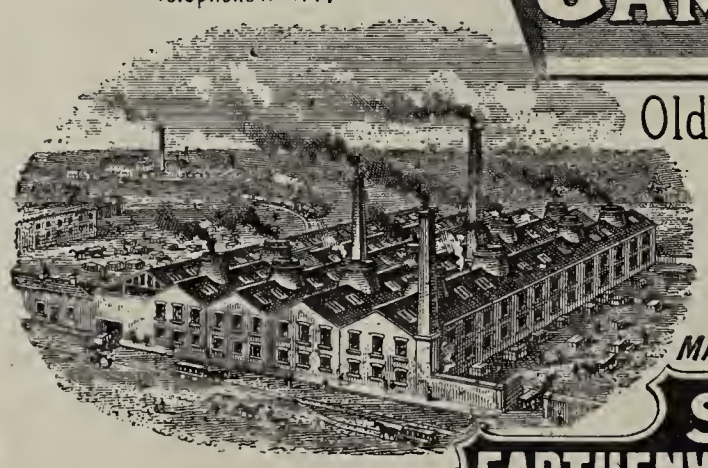
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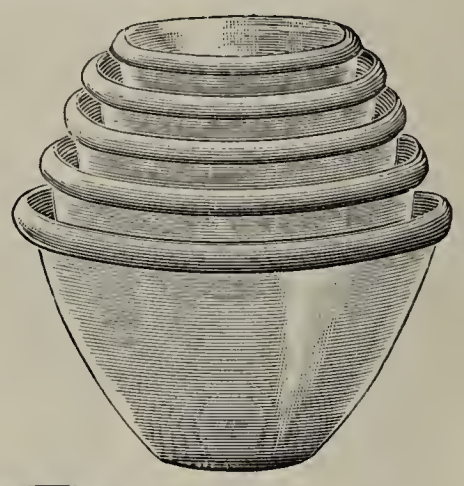
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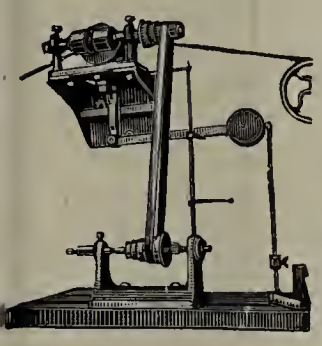
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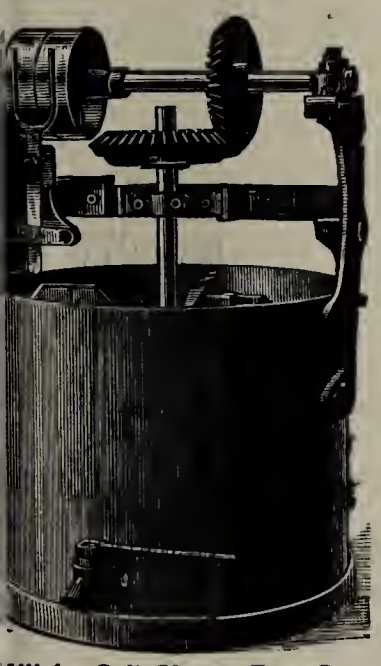
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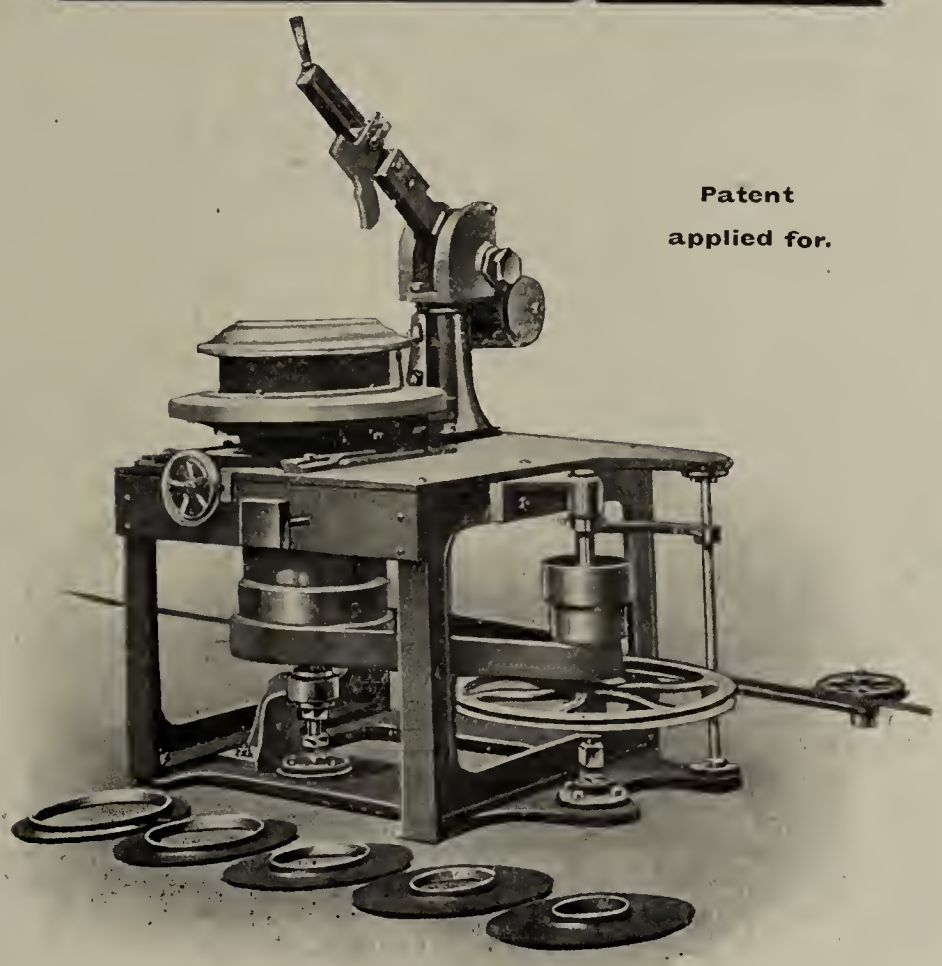
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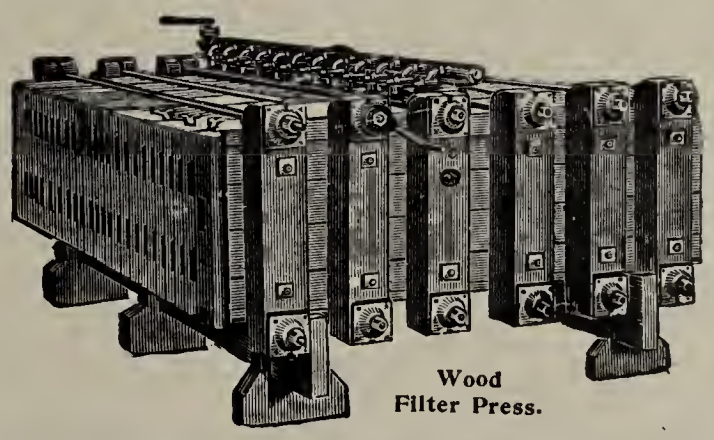
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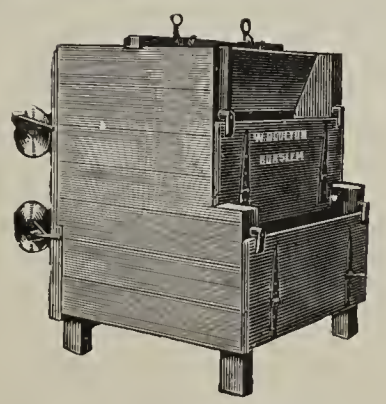


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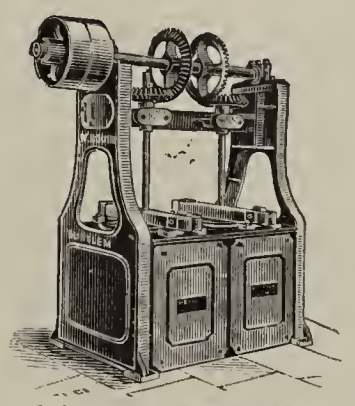
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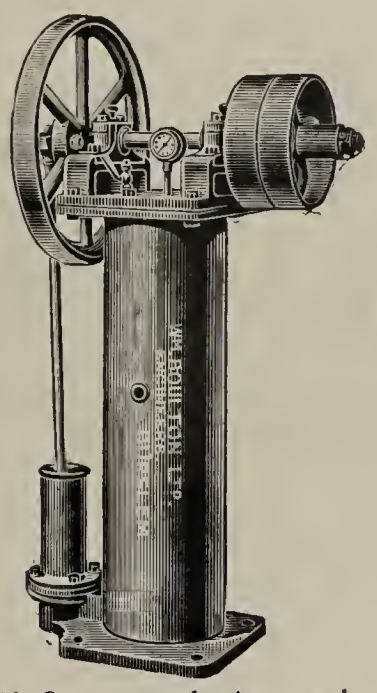
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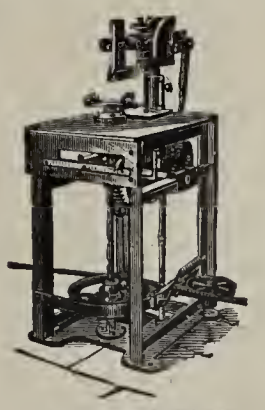
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Editorial Notes.

POTTERY DECORATION.

A VERY interesting, if somewhat erratic, discussion on this question is taking place in the Potteries, a full and impartial account of which is given by our Potteries correspondent on another page of this issue. It is not easy to say why there should be such voluble and excited expressions of opinions just at the present time, but our respected contemporary has done good service in affording facilities for them. We do not find a single new idea in any of the letters or articles. Every suggestion made as to the necessity for improving the decoration of pottery for every-day use, and as to means for effecting that improvement, has been repeatedly and much more forcibly made by such experts as Louis F. Day, Walter Crane, and William Burton, and has been published in our columns. Our own views on the subject have frequently been expressed in various connections. We may, in the future, refer to some of the criticisms on inartistic productions quoted by our correspondent, but we think it well to draw attention at once to one phase of the subject which has not been sufficiently considered. It would be of far greater advantage to the pottery trades to cultivate an artistic taste in the consumer. One step in that direction would be to encourage a love of the beautiful (which is another way of saying a love of art) in retail dealers. Another and a more practicable step would be to see that agents and representatives who have to submit decorated pottery to the retailers should themselves have some sort of art training. Thus, through the agents and through the dealers, the public would be led to appreciate and to ask for artistic decorations. If a demand for pretty, beautiful, artistic decorations on pottery is once created, it would be immediately and efficiently met—and would remain. There is nothing chimerical about this suggestion; it is reasonable and practicable. There are now manufacturers of artistic pottery who have as their selling agents designers and modellers who have had experience in their works. We want more of them. There are dealers who can appreciate the beautiful, the artistic, in pottery. If we can encourage them there will be more of them. We met one of them recently in Scotland. He has not an ugly piece of ware in his shop. If the public will only prefer neat decorations to gaudy ones, graceful forms to eccentric ones, our potters can make them. Those who say the potter panders to the taste of the public without trying to lead it do not know anything of the facts. The charge is not true. Manufacturers would rather sell, and their potters would rather produce, things beautiful and true. We are aware that much of the pottery that is sold to-day could be improved in design, and we know many manufacturers who are endeavouring to improve it, *as far as they can without losing business.* But pottery manufacturers are not all wealthy and philanthropic. They must sell their productions if they and their workpeople are to live. Some have tried to live by producing good, useful, artistic, inexpensive ware, and they cannot do it. As a rule, the "buyers" of large distributing firms want what they call something "striking," something "effective." They will not order anything else, and so the manufacturer produces just what he can sell them—in quantities. We are satisfied that, as things are, the traveller who left

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iLASS WORKERS AND INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE "Departmental Committee on Compensation for Industrial Diseases" have issued a supplementary report, particulars of which are given in another column. This report appears to have an important bearing on the probable ffect of the Compensation Act. The committee discussed the question whether cataract among glass-workers hould be classed as an industrial disease, but without oming to any definite decision on the point. Returns vere submitted to them showing the extent to which ataract affected men employed in glass making, and particularly those whose duty it is to "gather" molten netal. They do not, however, recommend that the schedule should be extended so as to include these workers. The question is without doubt a difficult one, and it seems very probable that the committee have been reluctant o make a decided statement out of consideration for the vorkers. If a man showed only very slight symptoms of the disease, and there was no indication that incapacity would result from it for a considerable time, the chances of his obtaining employment would nevertheless be greatly educed if cataract was scheduled as an industrial disease. Workmen would feel such restriction very greatly, if they believe that they would be able to continue their regular vork for some years if their complaint was not scheduled. The scheduling of cataract among glass-workers would almost certainly have an important bearing upon compenation generally, and for this reason the recommendation of the committee should not be called in question. The committee have apparently been reluctant either to penalise he employer unreasonably or to deprive otherwise ableodied men of the opportunity of earning their living by scheduling a disease which in many instances might not develop any dangerous tendency for a number of vears. Probably the discussion of the subject may do good by leading to the adoption of measures that may so protect the eyes of glass-workers as to remove all danger of cataract.

THE CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE.

THE annual report of the Technological Department for the session 1907-8, issued during November, contains the following particulars. The figures in brackets are those for the preceding session :—POTTERY AND PORCELAIN.—Number of classes, 14 (15) ; number of students, 159 (166) ; number of candidates 89, including 49 preliminary (97, 47 preliminary) ; number of passes 38, including 15 preliminary (42, 17 preliminary). Of the passes, two included first-class honours and five included second-class honours ; seven were first-class ordinary and nine were second-class ordinary. The examiner, Mr. W. Burton, remarks : The report on last year's examnations might very well serve, without substantial alteration, as a criticism of this year's papers. The honours papers were rather a better set than usual, but the honours question paper was perhaps not so difficut this year as it has been in some previous years. GLASS MANUFACTURE.—Number of classes, 2 (2) ; number of students, 8 (8) ; candidates, 4 (5) ; passes, 4 (3). One first-class honours, one second-class honours, and one first-class ordinary. Examiner, Mr. W. Rosenheim, remarks : For the ordinary grade one candidate presented himself, and little comment is required. In the honours grade the answers were generally more satisfactory than in the previous year, but the work in qualitative chemical analysis is still deplorably weak. Candidates in future examinations should take this subject much more seriously for this grade. The knowledge of theoretical chemistry appears somewhat more satisfactory and the descriptions of practical processes are generally good, except that in many cases out-of-date practice is described.

THE INCORPORATION OF COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

ONCE more there is an agitation—we can remember several previous movements of the same kind—for the adoption of some method of protecting the status of commercial travellers. The name is assumed by scores—perhaps hundreds—of men in all parts of the country who have no right to apply the term, in its generally accepted sense, to themselves. If these usurpers of an honourable title were always respectable and well-behaved, bona-fide "commercials" could afford to disregard them. They are never seen in a recognised "commercial room," and cause no annoyance to genuine "ambassadors of commerce" so long as they conduct themselves properly. Unfortunately, they do not conduct themselves properly, and with many of them the only occasions on which their claim to be "commercial travellers" is made public are when they appear in a police-court charged with disorderly conduct—or something worse. "What are you ?" asks the magistrate. "A commercial traveller," replies the prisoner, who has never had the least association with legitimate commerce. If the callings of prisoners for the past two years were analysed, commercial travellers as a class would suffer severely and most unjustly in reputation. The suggestion is that an application be made for the grant of a charter of incorporation, admission to membership of which will only be accorded to applicants who can pass tests as to their educational ability and can furnish satisfactory references as to character. Commercial travellers are but mortal, and, unhappily, now and then one of their number might disgrace himself and his profession ; but that act would at once dissociate him from his fellows and he would not be considered a commercial traveller until officially reinstated. There is no definite scheme yet submitted, but the suggestion that the reputation of a hard-working and honourable body of gentlemen should be protected from the suspicion of association with worthless and disgraceful characters is one well deserving of consideration.

PROTECTING THE GLASS TRADE.

WE are watching with interest and pleasure the movement of the "National Flint Glass Makers' Society," for the protection of their trade. We referred a short time back to the appeal issued by the Society to brewers' associations and licensed victuallers, on behalf of the British table glass trade, and we reported the result of an interview between representatives of the Society and some prominent brewers. We have a communication from Mr. J. Husselbee, general secretary of the Glass Makers' Society, in which he says the movement is making fair headway, and that his Society are determined to bring it to a successful issue.

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He points out that their reason for appealing directly to the brewers and licensed victuallers was that they found that "nine-tenths of the glass used in the public business is foreign, supplied by the middleman importer, who poses as a manufacturer, and that it is invariably foisted upon the purchaser as British." They explained to the trade appealed to, that "British glass is superior and of greater durability, being hand made, and that in some cases it can be bought as cheaply as foreign glass, and in others nearly as cheap." Mr. Husselbee tells us he has personally canvassed many large purchasers of glass in the Midlands, and that a number of them have promised to purchase only British made goods if the prices are favourable. Mr. W. Bradford, the society's G. F. secretary, and Mr. Walker, the branch secretary at Manchester, have been mainly instrumental in securing this gratifying result. May we suggest that Mr. Husselbee and his fellow workers in their future interviews, make a strong point of the fact, that even if the consumer pays a little more for the British hand-made article, it is so superior to the foreign glass in quality and durability, that it will be found the cheaper. No doubt they have done so, for he tells us that an important brewery company have just placed a large order for glass with a Stourbridge firm, employing only Union labour. In the interests of the workmen and of the glass trade generally, we shall be glad to hear that other British manufacturers have been similarly favoured.

THE OBLIGATION OF THE CUSTOMER.

A GREAT deal has been said from time to time upon the duties owed by the retail trader to the community, but very little notice has been taken of a corresponding obligation, viz., that of the community to the retail trader. Lately one or two clergymen have been pointing out some part of this obligation to their flocks, and it is to be hoped that some good will result. It is, of course, true that a retailer opens a shop or store in a certain village or town primarily with a view to making his own living, and, if possible, his own fortune; but, at the same time, by establishing his business he is conferring a benefit also upon the public inhabiting the district which he has chosen, and some consideration is due to him in return. Now the public, in small towns and villages, is more and more inclined to repudiate its obligation, and to make use of the trader only when he happens to be indispensable. The orders of the wealthy, and even of those who are only moderately well off, go up to the nearest big city, while the local trader is called upon only for trumpery and unprofitable articles. In our times, the enormous facilities which exist for dealing direct with the large stores of the metropolis encourage this kind of unfairness, and make it increasingly difficult for the small country trader to live. It would be well if the public would try to realise how many inconveniences would occur if this class of retail trading were to become entirely extinct, as it threatens to do in the near future. All the little things constantly required would have to be thought of beforehand, and ordered in quantity from the stores, and perpetual irritation, caused by the want of various small but necessary articles, would be the result. That it is a distinct duty for the inhabitants of every small town to support their own local trade we firmly believe; but we think also that it is not only a duty but an advantage. It is possible that, in some cases, a little more money may have to be paid at first, although this difference would soon cease to exist were local trade properly supported; but, in any case, the money spent in travelling up to the big town, and in expenses while the shopping is being done is generally far more than the difference in prices at the two places. The main objection, however, to the concentration of retail trade in big towns is that it encourages the increase of assistants, and discourages the making of master traders. Every one who has thought about the matter must regret the gradual disappearance of the small independent trader. These men were a source of national strength, and their place is ill supplied by an army of subordinates. The assistant, or subordinate, of course has his place in the scheme of things; but his natural end is to become a master, and to acquire an independent existence; and the cultivation of local trade would give him many an opportunity which is now lost because of the increasing tendency to do all shopping in the larger cities. There is, of course, the objection of the lack of choice in small places, and at small establishments, and no doubt there is something in this objection; but with the fair and loyal encouragement of the local trade this trouble would soon be minimised, if not altogether cured. So soon as the local retailer was assured that the wealthier families would come to him with their requirements, he would take means to supply them with what they wanted; and his wholesale houses also would soon learn to keep him supplied with attractive goods if it were known that the trade of the neighbourhood would be offered to him. Whether it is possible now to check the passing of the country trade or not is a doubtful point; possibly matters have already gone too far, and the small country retailer is doomed; but we think an effort should be made in this direction and that at once.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to members of the trade for the discussion of trade topics. There are many questions affecting the trade which will be the better for a free discussion.

FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—Enclosed please find cheque value 7s. 6d. for subscription of POTTERY GAZETTE. I may say that I have subscribed for this for 23 years, and am quite as satisfied with it as ever.—Yours, &c., H. D. O.

Nov. 2.

SIRS,—I beg to hand you 7s. 6d., my subscription to above journal. We find it very useful in business, and could not well do without it.

I am glad to find the Association of China and Glass Dealers is doing a good work, and the reduced subscription, with full privileges still granted to members, ought to be the means of inducing all who have not joined to do so at once, and make it a strong association. —Yours, &c.,

Nov. 14, 1908. C.

THE INSURANCE OF GOODS IN WINDOWS.

TO THE EDITORS OF "THE POTTERY GAZETTE."

SIRS,—I was interested in the letter from your correspondent, and pleased to read your remarks on this subject in your October issue. I was sorry to hear of Mr. Craig's trouble, but was glad the subject was once more brought under notice. I am sorry there was no word about it in your November issue. Some years ago I sustained a severe loss owing to a builder's pole being thrust through my window and damaging some best goods. I could get no compensation from any one, and I do not want to have to bear another loss like it. Perhaps for the information of his fellow-traders, Mr. Craig will write you a letter and tell us how he gets on. If he does not get any compensation from those who caused the trouble, the china dealers should not let the matter rest. I agree

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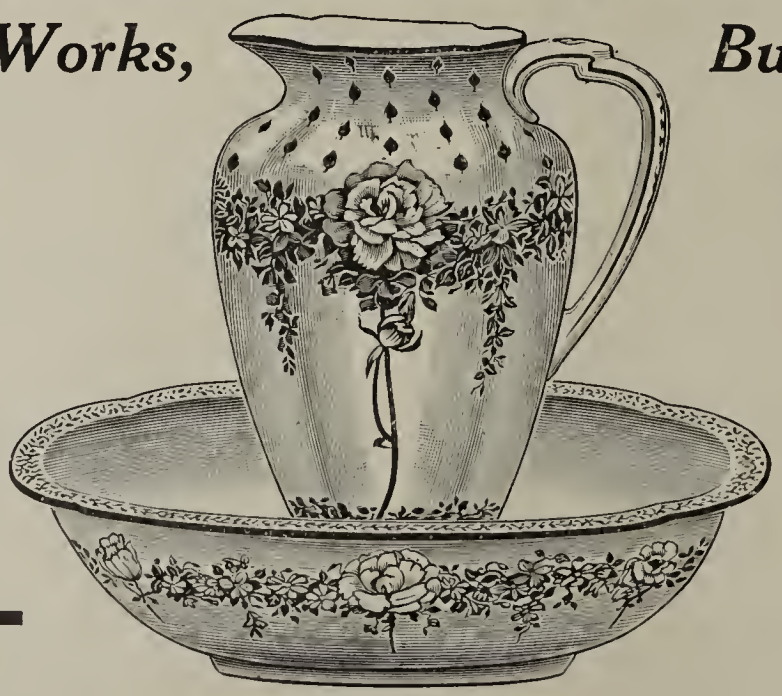
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th you that surely some enterprising insurance company uld undertake this class of insurance with advantage to emselves, as well as to provident tradesmen. Accidents ke that which occurred to Mr. Craig's window really occur it seldom. But we should like to be protected against ss when one does happen.—Yours truly,

November 20, 1908. A CAUTIOUS DEALER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Inquirer.—It is English china, and several manufacrers produce it.

V. E. Co.—We send you the names of makers of the pecial china you require.

Student.—We have not heard of a book on that question Ve send you our list of technical works.

H. & Co.—We have sent you the names of firms manucturing the special line you mention.

Junior.—We think your employer would be justified in ismissing you under those circumstances. Do not give im the occasion.

H. M.—If the new resident asks you to give him credit, ou are justified in asking him to give you a reference. 'ou can do this in a manner that should not give offence.

H. B. S.—Model answers to City and Guilds Pottery xamination Papers appeared in THE POTTERY GAZETTE 1900, Jan., Feb. and April issues; and in 1905, Sept. nd Nov.

District.—The works could not make the matching in ne time. You must be reasonable. Some dealers absoitely refuse to undertake matching. But we think that a mistake.

W. B.—We have made careful search, and while we nd several cases reported in our back numbers in which reakages of china are concerned, the only two cases that elate to claims for breakages of glass are reported in the ssues for Dec., 1906, page 1391, and June, 1899, pages 80 and 681.

Presents, Cornwall.—To attempt to remove the glazed oloured inscription from china ware so as to recoup the xpense by selling them plain would be a hopeless task. 'ou might succeed by coating everything else with paraffin vax and melting by hydrofluoric acid, or the sand blast; ut then you would leave, we are afraid, a hollow or ndentation, which would be just as unsightly.

Kerb-Stone Potters.—An American correspondent writes:—The warm days are wont to bring out again on the city treets the noble race of kerb-stone potters and the glaziers. Both are old familiar characters. The queer old fellow with the heavy beard, who tramps from city to city, and house to house, with his panes of glass and kit under his arm, ready to do anything with glassware, is a sure sign of spring. So, too, is the man with the frame of plates—plates supposedly once broken, and now held together



y Fakir's cement or some preparation of the sort. Both, owever, prevent many a sale where persons would have ought new articles, but for these men's neat mending of racked or broken pieces.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN OCTOBER.

THE POTTERY TRADES.—Employment in the pottery trades continued bad during October, and was worse than it was a year ago. In Staffordshire it continued bad, short time being general. At Glasgow it was very bad, and worse than in the previous month. It was fair in Devonshire and at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and good at Portobello and Kirkcaldy. With earthenware makers in South Yorkshire employment continued bad. It was also bad with makers of china at Longton. With insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries employment was bad, much short time being worked. With clay tobacco-pipe makers employment was good at Manchester, quiet at Gateshead, and bad at Glasgow.

THE GLASS TRADES.—Employment in the glass trades continued bad, and was considerably worse than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 7,295 workpeople in the week ended Oct. 24, and paying £8,706 in wages, showed a decrease of 3·6 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 2·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago. The decline was principally in Yorkshire. As compared with a year ago there were decreases of 12·1 per cent. in numbers employed and of 11·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the decline being most marked in Lancashire and Yorkshire. Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol; fair in the North of England and at Dublin; moderate at Leeds and in Scotland; slack at Mexborough and Barnsley; bad at Castleford and Wakefield; and very bad in Lancashire. With medical glass bottle makers employment was fair at Rotherham and quiet at Leeds. With flint glass makers employment was fair on the whole; in Scotland it was good. With flint glass cutters employment was moderate. Employment with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham was bad. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens it was fair. With pressed glass makers it was moderate on the Wear, and very bad on the Tyne, short time being general. Employment with London glass blowers continued to decline. With decorative glass workers employment was bad at Manchester and fair at Liverpool. Table showing the number of persons employed in the glass trade, and the amount of wages paid them in the week ending Oct. 24, 1908:—

Branches.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
Glass bottle	4,439	£5,393
Plate glass	688	865
Flint glass ware (not bottles) ..	1,808	2,024
Other branches	360	424
Total	7,295	£8,706

Number of persons employed in each district and the amount of wages paid them for the week ending Oct. 24, 1908:—

Districts.	Number Employed.	Wages Paid.
North of England	765	£918
Yorkshire	3,638	4,352
Lancashire	673	742
Worcester and Warwick ..	1,202	1,522
Scotland	688	844
Other parts of United Kingdom	329	323
Total	7,295	£8,706

U.S. Pottery Imports during the twelve months ending June 30, 1908, were valued at $13,428,000. The value is less than in the preceding year, but greater than in the year ending June 30, 1906.

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Buyers' Notes.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES.)

John Tams & Son, Crown Pottery, Longton, are manufacturers of earthenware of all kinds for domestic purposes useful and ornamental. They are a progressive firm, and each time I visit their works I see improvements. Their works are admirably laid out and the working arrangements are kept up to date. Their new showrooms are well arranged, and just now are filled with a number of new samples for the season, supplementing their well-known stock lines. I had a few moments with Mr. Tams himself before he handed me over to his manager. I was pleased to see him so full of energy. It does one good to meet with a business man of Mr. Tams' genial temperament. Business would be no worse and business people would be much happier if a little more pleasantry was introduced into business life. The firm are showing as large a variety as ever of their special lines in toilet services, dinner and tea ware, flower-pots, vases, trays, badge ware, and miscellaneous articles; but they are increasing their business in better-class decorations. Some toilet sets are shown with blue and gold decoration on salmon ground. This is a rich combination on a tall ewer, such as the "Ross" shape. Another striking decoration on the same shape is the "tulip" pattern in green and gold. Very pleasing floral decorations are shown on other toilet sets. Amongst other new decorations are some rich designs in Japan combinations of red, blue, and brown and gilt. I saw a dinner service in this decoration on the "Regal" shape. Their decorative artist showed me their latest novelty—"Celestine ware." The feature of this is a rich decoration in which the effect is produced by a judicious combination of colour and glazes. A dessert service in "Celestine" is a very high-class production. The firm are stronger than ever in vase sets, and show many new shapes and patterns. Some tall vases, divided into six panels, running from top to bottom, with painted flowers in each panel, are artistic both in outline and decoration. Two of them are included in the illustration. These vases (the works numbers are 537 and 538) furnish an excellent example of the advantage of adapting ornament to design. Vases in many shapes are seen in the show-room, with well-painted flowers. A particularly handsome set has a vase on pedestal as centre and two side vases of the same shape, but smaller. There are many ranges of salad or rose bowls, in various decorations, including the Japanese pattern and the Celestine already referred to. The company are well known as manufacturers of Government-stamped measures. Mr. Tams was a pioneer in this production, and the firm have introduced a novelty in their new pattern "Harvest" Government-stamped measures. The measures are decorated with a sheaf of corn and some birds.

John Aynsley & Sons, Portland Works, Longton, have their London show-rooms at 9, Charterhouse-street, Holborn Circus, E.C. Their representative, Mr. J. J. Adams, has always a large assortment of samples of their productions well displayed. The firm are noted for their china tea and breakfast ware and dessert services, but they are also manufacturers of a number of miscellaneous specialities in china. Tea and breakfast ware is, perhaps, their strongest line, and Mr. Adams has an interesting range of samples including many novelties, both in form and decoration. The "Windsor" tea cup is quite a new model, the feature of which is a graceful curve. The effect of this new form is enhanced by very appropriate ornamentations. Several of these are shown—all neat and attractive. One consists of ribbon and forget-me-nots with wreaths of roses. The Windsor is also decorated with Grecian key border and gold festoon—a rich design. There are many pleasing shapes amongst the samples, and an even greater number of choice decorations. A pretty



JOHN TAMS & SON, LONGTON.

tea set has a conventional leaf border and green band and line. The firm's "Eton" shape tea ware stands high in public favour, and it is now shown in several new ornamentations. One pretty conception is an arrangement of open flowers and sprays round the tops of the cups and saucers. It is a simple ornamentation, but its simplicity is its charm. Indeed, neatness is the characteristic of all Aynsley tea patterns. They show a wide range of goods from medium class up to the most costly grades. They show samples of high-class fish and game services. These are artistically painted and are signed by the artists. Some birds and fish, painted by Mr. Micklewright, are beautiful examples of china painting. Mr. Adams is showing a large assortment of dessert services, artistically treated. One pleasing service has sage green border with hand-painted flowers in the centre. These are attractive but inexpensive sets, and are specially produced at prices that should supplant foreign-made desserts. Very tasteful coffee cups and saucers are on show in many decorations. The firm are noted for these lines, and they are showing quite a new coffee set for the season. The

feature of this set is the tray, which has a scalloped edge, a saucer fitting into each scallop, and thus saving room. When the pieces are arranged on the tray, the effect is very pleasing. Pretty "at home" cups and saucers are shown. The cup stands on what is really a saucer and plate combined. The end of this plate or tray on which the cup rests is the shape of a saucer, but the other side is extended, forming a tray for cake or biscuits, with a "tip" by which the combination can be held with one hand. These are in many decorations. The miscellaneous pieces include many fancy lines in small useful and fancy articles such as pin trays, ring stands, puff-boxes, and a variety of miniatures.

Mr. Thomas C. Wild, St. Mary's Works, High-st., Longton, is a well-known manufacturer of what he has named Royal Albert Crown China. His principal productions are china tea and breakfast sets for the home trade with specialities for export, but he also manufactures a large variety of miscellaneous pieces. When I called at the works a few days ago, I met Mr. Reid, the country representative, who, when I expressed a wish to see some of the new goods, took me to the show-room. It is a really fine room, and I do not remember seeing it before. If I have, it was very differently arranged. There are larger and, from a decorative point of view, perhaps more ornate show-rooms in the Potteries, but there is none better arranged for showing china tea ware. It is a square room, with tall, handsome cases, with plate-glass fronts running round three sides of it. These cases are well made, and are perfectly air-tight. The samples arranged on the shelves can be seen to advantage, and as each glass window is practically a door as well, any piece can be easily removed for closer inspection. I understand these cases were made for one of the great international exhibitions. They have been so skilfully adapted that they have the appearance of having been made for this particular room. There is a large stand in the centre of the room, the lower portion of which contains drawers on each of the four sides, in which are shown samples of high-class tea and breakfast cups and saucers and choice examples of dessert plates. The samples of tea ware displayed cover a wide range in forms, decorations and prices. Medium and best goods predominate. The centre stand presents quite a brilliant appearance, with the large number of beautifully enamelled patterns arranged on it. Mr. Wild makes a special feature of cobalt blue decorations. There is a variety of rich decorations in burnished gold on dark blue, and in acid tracings on gold borders. There are many excellent models amongst the tea shapes, the "Princess" and the "Record" being especially graceful forms, with very different features. Both are susceptible of almost any decorative treatment. Mr. Wild is producing a variety of tea and breakfast sets—high-class decorations on his best shapes—yet comparatively inexpensive, and also a number of dessert services on the same lines. He makes a point of keeping a large stock of better-class tea services always ready for immediate delivery. Mr. Reid says that they have at least 500 of such sets complete at the present time. This is a convenient arrangement for dealers who want some good sets quickly. The samples include fancy shapes, badge ware, and arms ware.

Mr. Thomas Heath, Albion Works, Longton, has been established for upwards of forty years as a manufacturer of earthenware, art ware, and majolica. Mr. Heath has produced special lines in these in great profusion, and has constantly developed the trade in them. He is an enterprising manufacturer, who has always been alive to the increasing and changing demands of the times. Art ware and majolica, to-day, are very different from what they were a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Heath has gone with the times, and has kept the machinery and appliances of the works strictly up to date. I saw Mr. Thomas Heat Jnr., at the works quite recently. A considerable share the management now devolves upon him. Witho disparaging the productions of the past, the effect of n enterprise and new ideas is manifest in the productio The business at the Albion Works is not an ordinary o it is almost entirely a business of special lines, whet jugs, flower-pots, vases, cheese stands, figures, or clo sets, they are all specialities. I had no idea until M Heath, Jnr., showed me samples of them, that they ma so many special lines for foreign countries. He says th make practically for all countries, and as to some of th productions he says he sometimes wonders where th do go. Amongst the export lines shown me, I saw ma fancy pieces, grotesques, "uglies," jugs, figures, vas and bowls. The bowls are plain and decorated, and so have inscriptions in Eastern languages. Grotesque figur with moving heads, are in this miscellaneous collectio Mr. Heath does a large trade in clock sets. These ar many patterns and several sizes. Blue and gold is o of the most attractive decorations of these goods—this an exceptional ornamentation, and these clock sets a I am told, as cheap as foreign productions. They a securely boxed—one set in a box—so that they trav safely and are convenient to handle. This method boxing tea sets, trinket sets, tête-à-tête sets, and desse services, has for a long time given foreign manufacture an advantage over British producers. Jugs and vas are also important lines with Mr. Heath. They are no made in a good hard body, and when struck one again another give a clear metallic ring. Most of the flower-po vases, and jugs are machine-made—even lock-lid ju are made by machinery. Special attention is given t the manufacture of what are known as "6½d. Baza Goods." The improved machinery and appliances no installed at the Albion Works enable Mr. Heath to pr duce rapidly and economically. He makes pieces of a sizes, from a couple of inches up to five feet high. Among the miscellaneous goods for the home trade there are chee dishes and covers, bread trays, jugs, good shapes, decorate and gilt; "face" jugs, vases, pots and pedestals, an hanging pots. I was shown some new and excellent desig for present ware—complete all but the name of th place.

F. H. Taylor & Sons, New Wharf-rd., King's Cros London, N., are specialists in household requisites, an are well known for their "Tell-Tale" milk jug—glass jug with graduated marks on the outside, indicating the quantity of the contents. Amongst several other novelties they have introduced is one specially suited for the retail dealers' Christmas trade. It is a useful flint glass tumbler with the inscription "A Merry Christmas" in enamelled colours in green and white. The ornamental lettering is of course fired and absolutely permanent. One of these tumblers would make a pretty little present, and glass and china dealers, in addition to disposing of them in their own shops, might introduce them to other tradesmen who want a little Christma souvenir to distribute among their customers. The fath of a family could not please his youngsters better tha by letting each have his or her own tumbler o Christmas day, with a pretty coloured Christmas greetin upon it. A dozen of these in a dealer's window, wit a ticket "A Present for the Little Ones," would lead t business.



Charles Allerton & Sons, Park Works, Longton, have been established for upwards of three-quarters of a century as manufacturers of china, semi-china, earthenware, jet, and lustre. They have been a progressive firm from the beginning, with the result that they have now an output of pottery probably unequalled for variety of ware, shapes, and ornamentations. They have their London show-rooms at 7, Ely Place, Holborn Circus, E.C., where their representative, Mr. A. W. Tinsley, has samples of their principal productions in all branches nicely displayed. They are very strong in tea and breakfast services and dinner ware, and in both these lines they are showing novelties for the season. Amongst many new tea sets there are the "Shamrock," the "Welbeck," and the "Harrow." These are all nicely modelled and variously ornamented according to the prevailing taste. The firm have an abundance of decorations from neat and inexpensive printed patterns, in many colours, up to designs in rich enamels. They have an interesting selection of high-class decorations on refined shapes. There is on show a thoroughly representative selection of samples of dinner ware, including several special productions for the season. Amongst the latter there is the "Belmont" shape—a new dinner service on old-time lines. It has a round vegetable dish with dome-like cover, and is neatly decorated in underglaze colours. (The firm are showing excellent specimens of colours underglaze.) The "Belmont" shape is also shown in a bright "Burmese" decoration—a pretty and effective colour combination. Dinner ware is supplied in many printed patterns, goods designs carefully carried out. These printed patterns are in several colours. In miscellaneous table ware I was shown many bright, pleasing decorations en suite. Mr. Tinsley has a number of artistic flower vases on show, including several with embossed designs treated in various colours and shadings. Messrs. Allerton & Sons supply all the usual stock lines in china and earthenware.

"Billiken"—a Christmas Novelty.—The Billiken craze has assumed formidable proportions across the Atlantic. Chicago has gone wild over him, and New York, for a wonder, has followed suit. Not because New York takes any inspiration from Chicago—that is impossible—but simply because Billiken has inspired New York with mirth and goodwill, as he did Chicago, and as he has commenced to do London. "Billiken" is the "God of Things as they Ought to be." Things ought to be bright and cheerful, and comfortable, and therefore all the world seeks the influence of the God of Good Luck—the god with the happy, expressive, and contagious smile. The original Billiken was a small image, the outcome of the happy thought of a young artist named Miss Florence Pretz, who modelled plastic figures for pure fun, and who seems to have had an artistic bent in the same direction as the famous Miss Vulliamy, whose inimitable artistic grotesques are so highly appreciated. Miss Pretz modelled her "Billiken," and he made her laugh. She showed him to her friends, and he made them smile. His smile was contagious—everybody who saw it imitated it and wanted to possess a representation of the god of good nature. So Miss Pretz made a number of him. "Billiken" was like measles—he was contagious, and everyone caught the happy infection and wanted to have him at home to look at and make things cheerful. So a company was formed to produce "Billiken" by the thousand. He has come to London. Mr. J. J. Adams, of 9, Charterhouse-st., London, E.C., has had him naturalised, and registered, and he is now made and sold in England. He is quite British, all but his smile—which is universal. Mr. Adams sells the happy god of good luck nicely boxed, and offers him as a mascot of luck for Christmas and New Year's presents. The smiling Billiken should make a good window attraction. People who look at him smile, and those who continue to gaze on him laugh, and we know that they who laugh are free from care. The moral is obvious—buy "Billiken" and be happy.



Empire Notes.

German Exports to New Zealand during 1907 included china and earthenware to the value of £11,881 and glass and glassware to the value of £19,224. Both items are increasing in value.

Canadian China Clay Imports.—In the four months ending July last Canada imported 5,880,200 lbs. of china clay. Over 3,000,000 lbs. was from England and the balance from the United States.

Kaolin in Natal.—Deposits of kaolin have been found at Padley's Station, where a lode containing millions of tons of the clay is stated to exist. A shaft has been sunk to a depth of about 55 ft., and this discloses several classes of clay. That on the top is naturally less pure than is found at a greater depth, being more or less impregnated with iron, which has been washed out from some ferruginous rock some miles away, and other deleterious substances, but still useful. Lower down, the deposit becomes chalk-like in appearance; it is smooth, and takes on a beautiful polish when rubbed. This is what is believed to be almost pure kaolin. It is said that it compares most favourably with the French and other qualities, and is suitable for pottery and the best work. The owners have had numerous tests made in various laboratories, both in South Africa and in England, and the similarity of results leaves no question as to the real value of the deposit. The facilities for working the area are good, as the railway practically cuts into the side of the deposit, while the slope of the hill, though presenting some initial difficulties and expense, will in the end be beneficial, as it will enable the clay to be moved by gravitation, and thus reduce the cost of handling and working. At the present time the earthworks have been completed for a tram-line of about 300 yards in length, which will transport the clay from the mine to an excellent machinery site, where it can be manufactured, There is also a convenient place for a siding. Water is plentiful, and a washing area has been selected, while excavations have also been begun for a dam.

Egyptian Imports of Pottery and Glassware.—The German Consul at Alexandria reports that the imports of stoneware and porcelain in 1907 attained the value of £105,494 Egyptian (against £E.86,703 in 1906), Germany once again being the chief source of supply, to the extent of £E.34,371 (£E.30,433). In glass and crystalware (apart from window glass and mirror glass, which mainly come from Belgium) the imports were valued at £E.146,985 (£E.113,071). Of this amount, Germany's share was only £E.19,489 (£E.16,450) in direct shipments, though a large proportion of the goods ostensibly coming from Austria (value £E.70,842) actually originated in Silesia.

Reviews.

Chats on Oriental China. By J. F. Blacker. London : T. Fisher Unwin. 5s. net.*

MOST of us are, or have been, collectors of something or other—birds' eggs, postage stamps, photographs, autographs, fossils, butterflies, newspaper cuttings, or things even less interesting. These are juvenile fancies which are often pursued with great intelligence and success in later life. Many persons nowadays make a hobby of collecting old china, old prints, old furniture, miniatures, or old lace, and no doubt many more would do so if they had a little more knowledge of the subject of their choice, and were shown how they might collect with profit. It is to assist beginners and would-be collectors that the series of practical handbooks of which the volume under notice is the latest has been issued. The subjects previously dealt with have been old china, old furniture, old prints, costume, lace and needlework, old miniatures, and now Oriental china. Collectors who happen to have old Chinese or Japanese porcelain in their possession will find this handbook of great service. The collector who masters the contents of it will be able to visit the museums with increased satisfaction. There are familiar Chats—not exhaustive dissertations. The book does not profess to do more than indicate to the collector the lines on which collections could or should be made, but it does this very efficiently and intelligibly. One point leads on to another, but always with this object in view—"to send the collector to the museums to train his eye as well as his understanding, and to bring him in touch with all that makes for beauty in Oriental porcelain—a porcelain teeming with mythology, full of emblems of the best and highest life of the Chinese, and pointing to a religion which, although feebly understood in Europe, has been for centuries a real moving factor in the national life of the Oriental peoples." It will thus be seen that the collector of Oriental china is brought in contact with subjects of far higher importance than the manufacture and ornamentation of pottery. The average collector cannot hope to understand all the mythological emblems on Oriental china, but this work will assist him in his effort to secure "the best possible specimens from the land of far Cathay." This is not an easy matter, because the Chinese and Japanese have for centuries been reproducing with minute accuracy the early productions, and in later times German and French factories have been reproducing the reproductions.

These Chats are intended to help the collector or the student who is confronted with these difficulties. The first section is devoted to Chinese porcelain, and the second section to Japanese porcelain and pottery. The hard paste of Chinese porcelain is described, and an account is given of the religious and mythological emblems used in decoration. Porcelain is classed according to the order of the discovery of the colours and glazes, and a short account is given of the early history of it. The products of the various dynasties are described in succession, and a chapter deals with Mandarin porcelain, another with white porcelain. There is then a very interesting section on single or self-colour glazes, in which the famous "sang-de-bœuf,"



FIG. 1.—PEACH-BLOOM OR PEACH-BLOW DECORATIONS.

"crackle porcelain," and celadon glazes are illustrated The range of celadon reds is very great, from "peach blow', (commonly called "peach-bloom," to "sang-de bœuf.' Peach-blow is described as a pale red, becoming pink in some parts, in others mottled with russet spots displayed upon a background of light green celadon tint. Examples occur where peach-blow is used as a celadon colour in pieces decorated with blue under the glaze. Fig. 1 illustrates two pieces in peach-blow. On the left is a vase with large bulging body and short expanding neck of a clear white glaze, on which are blossoms painted in peach-bloom with leaves and branches in blue. This belongs to the Kang-he period (1661-1722), and, with the stand, is 10½ in. high. The other is a circular-shaped vase with tapering neck, expanding mouth, and a bulbous body. This is decorated with pomegranate fruits in peach-bloom the leaves and stalks in rich blue, and the whole on a celadon ground. This also is of the Kang-he period.

Chapter XIX., dealing with porcelain decoration in enamelled colours, is a revelation of the ingenuity, art, and

* Can be obtained from "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" Offices at 5s. 4d. post free inland, 5s. 8d. abroad.

dustry of the Chinese potter. We have only space to umerate these: "Famille Noire," "Famille Verte," powdered and margarine blue," "Famille Jaune," Rouge de Fer," and "Famille Rose." Fig. 2 illustates a group of pieces in rose enamel on "egg-shell" orcelain. These rose pieces are extremely elegant and ery rare. A brief description must suffice. The central ate has the rim decorated with the noted octagon and uare diaper pattern so often found on egg-shell pieces. his is used on every piece in the illustration. The plate is three leaf-shaped reserves, decorated with white eny, ruby peach, and yellow persimmon. In the centre the plate a domestic scene shows a lady and two children. he back of the rim is ruby coloured. The two other ates are also ruby-backed, the three reserves on the m containing fruit and flowers in brilliant colours, the ntral decoration consisting of vases of flowers in enamels the finest quality. The cups and saucers are no less autiful. The group shows many of the peculiarities of ie rose family decoration with regard to diaper pattern,



FIG. 2.—"FAMILLE ROSE": EGG-SHELL PORCELAIN

ape of the reserves, and the general character of the naments. The work deals with Oriental china from the andpoints of history, technique, age, marks, and values; is richly illustrated, and includes a list of sale prices, a bliography, and a full index. It is beautifully got up d bound in light green and gilt.

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corative Glass Processes. By Arthur Louis Duthie. London: Archibald Constable & Co., Ltd. 6s. net.*

THIS is another volume in Messrs. Constable's excellent d popular "Westminster Series." The author says the lume is the outcome of the fact "that no book has yet peared dealing collectively with the various methods of ass decoration which it includes. We have many good oks on stained glass, and two or three works touching htly on embossing, while nothing whatever seems to have peared in print regarding "brilliant cutting." The

* Can be obtained from "THE POTTERY GAZETTE" Offices at 6d. post free inland, 6s. 9d. abroad.

sand-blast processes are described (we believe, for the first time in any work). Staining, embossing, gilding, silvering, and mosaic decorations have been dealt with before, but the author presents a large amount of useful information that has not yet hitherto been available in concise form. The processes described, however, are applicable only to sheet and plate glass. They do not apply to table glass or other hollow glassware, except to a limited extent, as in the case of sand-blast processes. The work, therefore, is not of much practical use to flint glass manufacturers or decorators. The description of the various kinds of glass in use and their characteristics is instructive and interesting, though flint glass is not mentioned. The book is a record, for the most part, "of the practical experience of the writer, either as designer or executant, or both," of glass for ornamental purposes, and covers a very wide field. It deals with sheet-glass—plain, obscured, and enamelled; crown glass (now almost obsolete), patent plate, rough-cast plate, patent rolled plate, polished plate, rolled cathedral, double-rolled, muffled, rippled, figured, Flemish rolled glass, and many other varieties whose names are seldom used except by manufacturers and decorators. A description is given of "flashed glass" (in the flint glass trade this is called "cased glass," but of course the author does not say anything about that). A sheet of what is called ruby or blue glass is not coloured right through, but has merely a very thin film of colour laid upon one side of a sheet of white, pale green, yellow, or pale blue glass. (The "casing" of a globular flint glass form, such as a bowl or a vase, is a much more delicate and more difficult process than "flashing" a flat sheet of glass.) The author's remarks on coloured glass, "pot-metal" and "flashed," are full of interest. He refutes the statement that "the art of glass-making has been lost, and that no modern glass can compare with the glass of the old windows," and shows that the case stands entirely the other way. He says: "The modern glass-painter has a variety of glass, and a quality of glass, that might well

make the old monks and their co-workers turn in their graves with envy. There is certainly some fine glass in the thirteenth or fourteenth century windows at Canterbury, York, and elsewhere, but there is none that cannot be equalled and surpassed by the modern glassmaker.''

This is as true of flint glass and ceramics as it is of glass for ecclesiastical and other decorative purposes. The ability to produce masterpieces in the ornamentation of glass and porcelain has not been lost, and the author has done the glass trade a service by impressing this fact upon the public. It is not encouraging to modern craftsmen when sentimental people will speak rapturously about an old stained-glass window simply because it *is* old, and have no word of commendation for a production of greater merit because it is the work of an artist living amongst them. The book is nicely printed in the publishers' usual style; it has 38 illustrations, and is well bound in art green cloth and gilt, uniform with the other volumes of the ''Westminster'' series, to which it is a valuable addition.

The Fixing of Rates and Fares. By H. Marriott, Assistant Traffic Manager, Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. London: Railway Gazette Office, 2s. net.

At a time when the question of railway rates and fares is occupying the attention of practically the whole manufacturing, producing, and distributing classes of the kingdom, the appearance of a work on the subject by an experienced railway official is opportune. The author explains the whole system on which British railway rates and fares are arranged. As he is himself a railway traffic manager, there may be a suspicion that he is liable to present the case on behalf of the railway. But Mr. Marriott has had experience of the question from the other side, for he is a Lecturer to the Faculty of Commerce in the Victoria University of Manchester. Indeed he tells us that the information in this book was originally given in a series of lectures at the Victoria University of Manchester. On glancing over the summary of contents, it would appear that the work is intended as a text-book for the use of railway clerks, traders, economists, politicians, and the travelling public—especially the last named. There is an instructive introduction by Professor S. J. Chapman, M.A., Dean of the Faculty of Commerce in the University of Manchester. He says the work contains a more exhaustive description of railway charges in this country, and of the legal limitations imposed upon them, than is to be found in any other work. The book is divided into eight sections or chapters, dealing with (1) the question generally; (2) rates by goods train; (3) rates for traffic by passenger train; (4) ordinary fares; (5) tourist fares; (6) excursion fares; (7) season and traders' tickets, and (8) workmen's fares. All these are interesting, but as a trade journal, we can only take notice of the rates for traffic by goods train. The author gives an explanation of the method of fixing local rates and through rates, and shows how these affect agricultural produce. We looked with some curiosity to see what he had to say about the alleged preference in rates for foreign produce as against home produce, and we are sorry to say he contents himself by quoting the Report of the Departmental Committee, published in a Blue-book in 1906. He quotes the conclusion of the Committee that ''the evidence tendered has failed to show that the railways were giving undue preferential treatment to foreign and colonial produce, as compared with home produce.'' This refers to agricultural and dairy produce. We do not see any reference to the rates charged for the carriage of imported goods over British railways when consigned from a foreign port. So many complaints of this form of preference have been made within the last year in trade journals and in the daily papers that Mr. Marriott cannot be ignorant of them. What the trading public want to know is why it cheaper to consign goods from Liverpool to London, vi New York, than direct from Liverpool by rail, and why it cheaper to consign goods by vessel from Hull t Sheffield or Birmingham, via Antwerp, than to send the by rail from Hull to their destination? We quite agr with what the author says about ''equal mileage'' rate It would be manifestly unjust to compel a company t carry goods over a line which had been very expensive i construction, or which, owing to gradients or other cause is expensive in working, at the same rate as that it charg over less costly lines. But what traders want to kno is why goods consigned from abroad to an inland tow and landed at one of our ports, are charged less carria than goods consigned by rail from that port? A co siderable amount of patience and skill has been expende in compiling this work, which, no doubt, will prove handy reference book on goods traffic for railway official but we fear it is too complicated to be of quick service busy traders, who must continue to rely upon the d cision of the officials. The chapters on ordinary fare tourist fares, traders' tickets, and workmen's tickets a more intelligible, and the information in them is we worth the price charged for the work. The book well printed (though some of the tabular matter is very small type) and nicely bound in crimson cloth.

The Life and Writings of William Henry Goss. Compil by his daughter, Miss Eva Adeline Goss, of Ba thomley, near Crewe, from whom it can be obtaine price 3s. It is also on sale by W. H. Smith & So Ltd., at their stalls.

The full title of this work is ''Fragments from the Li and Writings of William Henry Goss.'' The book com to us with a modest note from the compiler, who says ''In great diffidence I send you a copy of my poor book. We can assure her she need have none. She has perform her filial duty with discretion and ability. In the prefa she says: ''This memoir, having been compiled by me discharge of a promise given to my father shortly before h death, my duty in presenting it is to offer a humble apolo to my readers for such a pitiful attempt at literature. None is required. The late Mr. W. H. Goss was wide known even beyond the limits of the industry with whi he was associated, and all who had any personal acquai tance with him will read with sympathetic interest the ''Fragments from his Life and Writings,'' selected a arranged by his daughter. Many will read them wi interest, although they are not prepared to endorse all th contain. The late Mr. Goss was a very prolific writ and very diverse as well. When a man makes one subje a special study he will probably have much to say upon But Mr. Goss handled so many topics, and in such rap succession, that in some instances his writings were nece sarily of an ephemeral character. Then he wrote poetr too, and not a little of it either. His poetry was as vari as his prose, and though many examples of it are given these ''Fragments,'' it is probable it was of a more tran tory character. Mr. Goss was a very extensive contribut to the local press, to ''The Reliquary,'' and to some tra journals, including The Pottery Gazette. His artic on ''The Work of Josiah Wedgwood,'' from ''The Re quary'' of January, 1876, which is reproduced at leng is very interesting. His retort to certain Staffordshi potters who had declared their opinion that ''too mu fuss has been made about Wedgwood'' is both dignifi and crushing, and is worth quoting:—''These same m have grown wealthy by means of potting, and I need on reply to them that but for the genius and enterprise Josiah Wedgwood, which created a new industry, improv

and extended an old one, and drew the attention of the world to North Staffordshire as the market for all kinds of ceramic productions, they—the said wealthy potters—would as likely as not, at this moment, have been mere labourers or flunkeys, as some of their ancestors were until the extending ceramic industry absorbed them.'' Many reviews contributed to local papers are very interesting; that of Mr. S. Laing's book on ''Modern Science and Modern Thought'' is one of them. The letters to ''The Staffordshire Sentinel'' in vindication of the maligned potteries in 1875 are deservedly given in full, and they would be appropriate if inserted in ''The Sentinel'' to-day. The 420 pages of interesting reminiscences of a very interesting man are well worth reading.

Lead-Glazed Pottery. By Edwin Atlee Barber, A.M., Ph.D.—London: Hodder & Stoughton, 4s. net.

This is another in the series of useful art primers by Mr. E. A. Barber, curator of the Pennsylvanian Museum and School of Industrial Art, Philadelphia. Mr. Barber has already supplied primers on ''Tin Enamelled Pottery,'' ''Lead-Glazed Stoneware,'' and ''Artificial Soft Paste Porcelain.'' These ''Art Primers'' are intended to furnish in a compact form the most reliable information relating to the various industrial arts, for the use of collectors, students, and artisans. The booklets are designed to serve as permanent reference works on the various subjects treated. There are two varieties of lead-glazed pottery: (1) Earthenware of red, brown, or buff body (common clays) and (2) earthenware of white or cream-coloured body (white clay). The author quotes Dr. W. C. Prime, who says there is reason to believe that lead-glazed pottery was made in Italy from the eighth to the fifteenth century, at which time stanniferous enamel began to take its place on pottery which was to be decorated in colours. The ordinary varieties of earthenware continued to be glazed with lead down to the present day. Dr. Barber divides common lead-glazed pottery into four groups as follows:—(1) Plain glazed pottery, (2) Sgraffitto, or incised, (3) slip-decorated or slip-painted, and (4) modelled or moulded pottery. He gives short accounts of earthenware decoration in Italy, France, Germany, Holland, Austria, Switzerland, and England, and then, naturally, devotes more space to explaining the work done from the seventeenth century downwards in the United States. Then he deals with slip-decorated or slip-painted pottery in the various countries and in the United States. He tells us that the oldest piece of slip-ware found in Pennsylvania is a shaving-dish bearing the date 1733. This is in a private collection. The oldest example in the museum was probably produced previous to 1750. There is an illustration of this shaving-basin which is embellished with paintings of barbers' implements in white slip—a razor, scissors, comb, and cake of soap. ''In some respects the finest example of American slip-painted ware thus far discovered,'' says the author, ''is a large dish in the museum, 17½ inches in diameter, made in 1769.'' He gives an illustration of this also. The central decoration is a three-flowered tulip boldy traced in raised white slip, with bright green centres. There are forty-seven carefully produced illustrations. They are interesting as being very different from designs in British or other European museums. These examples are, of course, quite new to this country, and manufacturers here will be interested in them. The book is well printed (in New York, U.S.A.), amply indexed, and neatly and strongly bound in art cloth and gilt.

The China Clay Import of Harburg amounted last year to about 20,700 tons, showing a slight increase.

COMPENSATION FOR GLASSWORKERS' CATARACT.

A SECOND report has been issued by the Departmental Committee on Compensation for Industrial Diseases. When the first report was issued the inquiry into the liability of glassworkers to suffer from cataract was not concluded. The committee recently resumed their sittings and completed their task. They have accordingly presented this supplementary report on the subject, which is published as a Parliamentary paper.

Glassworkers' Cataract.

The committee in the course of their report say:—One of our number, Dr. Legge, H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories, has since made an exhaustive inquiry with a view to determining statistically the incidence of cataract, not only among bottle-makers, but among glassworkers generally. We print annexed to this his report on the subject and its appendices. He examined the eyes of no fewer than 513 persons exposed to furnace glare in glassworks, and, for purposes of comparison, of 278 persons not so exposed. He found that all classes of glass furnace workers appeared to suffer, and that in them between 30 to 40 years of age, opacities of one kind or another in the lens were about five times, between 41 to 50 about twice, and at 51 years of age and over, more than three times as frequent as in those engaged in other work. The difference in the character of the changes observed was very striking and of unmistakable significance. Thus, of the control persons examined, none had sought treatment for cataract, and in not more than three were the opacities such as to impair sight. Among the glassworkers in addition to six in whom a single extraction for cataract had been performed, and in one a double extraction, there were at least 25 others in whom the sight of one or other of the eyes was seriously impaired. Typical central posterior cortical change of varying degree was noted in 56 lenses of the 513 glassworkers and in two of the 278 control persons examined.

Approaching the problem from another side—that of superannuation from disablement by cataract—it was found that useful comparison could be made between the reported incidence of the malady on 10,549 members of the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society in receipt of reduced sick allowance, and that on 186 superannuated members of glass-bottle societies. The percentage of cataract in the former was only 0·78, and in the latter 22·6, although the average age in both was about the same—56 years.

The conclusion thus indicated is confirmed by the evidence of the witnesses who appeared before us. Special attention may be drawn to the medical evidence given on behalf of Pilkington Bros., Ltd., a firm of glass manufacturers at St. Helens employing some 4,000 workpeople. From that it appears that about one-half of these workpeople are exposed in the course of their work to the glare of molten glass, and that about one-half are not so exposed. Each half contributes equally to the number of cases of ordinary sickness, which are assisted by the sick club attached to the works. But all the cases of cataract which have come within the cognisance of that club have been from among the one-half of the men who are exposed to the glare and none have come from the other half.

Our further investigations lead us to the clear conclusion that cataract is many times more prevalent among men who work with molten glass than it is among the rest of the population. If the only question to be considered were whether it would be right to require employers in this trade to compensate the workpeople who contract this disease, as the employers in other industries are required to compensate their workpeople who contract other trade diseases, notwithstanding that cataract is a disease also contracted by persons who do not work with molten glass, we should have recommended its addition to the schedule on the same footing as the other diseases there included.

But we have been obliged to take into account the probable effect of such a course upon the prospects of employment of the men affected. The disease is one of very slow growth. For many years the efficiency of the workman at his trade is little, if at all, affected. During that period it would be impossible for him to claim that the disease had incapacitated him and that he ought to be compensated. But at any time an ophthalmoscopic examination of the eyes would clearly reveal the disease in an incipient stage, forecasting the possible ultimate incapacity of the workman. If the law required that half-wages should be paid during the rest of the life of an artizan who had lost his technical skill through cataract, it would not be unnatural to expect that employers would insist that their men should submit to an examination of the eyes: that no employer would engage a workman, seeking employment, who showed traces of the malady; and that some employers would even dismiss workmen so affected before the time arrived when a claim for compensation could be established.

The witnesses who appeared on behalf of the employers said these results would certainly ensue, while those who spoke on behalf of the workmen were divided in opinion on the subject.

The report continues:—After devoting to the question long

and careful consideration, we have arrived at the conclusion that if the disease were scheduled in the same manner as other industrial diseases, the workpeople in the glass trade would lose more than they would gain; that employers would be likely to impose a medical examination of the eyes; that men, who from any cause were out of work and who revealed symptoms of opacity in the lens, would find their chances of obtaining fresh employment seriously prejudiced, in spite of the fact that they might remain thoroughly efficient for many years longer; and that in some cases dismissals from present situations might take place.

There is, however, an alternative course. The operation for the removal of cataract is attended by practically no danger, and among glassworkers usually enables them to obtain employment again, sometimes even at the highly skilled work on which they had been formerly engaged. If the period in respect of which compensation were made payable were limited to the time necessary to cover the period of incapacity immediately preceding and succeeding the operation, a just relief would be given to the workmen, while the burden on the trade would be reduced to such very small proportions that we cannot believe that the employers would incur the expense of arranging for periodical medical examinations or be guilty of the harshness of dismissing men whom they knew to be suffering from a slowly ripening cataract. The Workmen's Compensation Act enables such a limitation to be effected without further legislation, for Section 8 of the Act empowers the Secretary of State to extend the provisions of the section to diseases other than those first scheduled, "either without modification or subject to such modifications as may be contained in the order."

We recommend that "Cataract in Glassworkers" be added to the first column of the schedule of industrial diseases for which compensation may be claimed; that "processes in the manufacture of glass involving exposure to the glare of molten glass" be added to the second column; but that the compensation should be made payable only in cases where an operation is undergone and for a period not exceeding six months.

THE BELGIAN GLASS INDUSTRY.

A BRITISH Consular Report just issued states that the situation in the glass making industry of Belgium during 1907 was not so flourishing as had hitherto been the case, and the forecast that 1907 would show a falling-off was realised. The production of window glass more especially declined, principally on account of the very severe competition offered by other countries and the consequent falling-off of orders placed with Belgian makers. The situation has been gradually becoming worse during the last two years, and several works have been compelled from lack of demand to temporarily shut down, while others have had to restrict their production. The prices of raw material, which have been at a fair level, remain stationary, and despite a decrease in wages, the selling prices have recently been so low as to leave scarcely any profit. This does not apply to the syndicate for the sale of window-glass, established towards the end of 1906, to regulate the exports to China, Canada, and India. The plate glass industry was in a more flourishing condition during 1907 on account of the influence of the International Plate Glass Syndicate formed by all manufacturers of plate glass in Belgium, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. The demand for plate glass from Belgium in 1907 was up to the average, and prices were practically unchanged, though a slight rise took place which compensated manufacturers for the loss occasioned by slightly diminished production. The syndicate just referred to takes upon itself to do away with over-production by imposing a cessation of work upon factories, which amounts to nearly 10 days a month for certain periods, thus keeping the supply and demand almost at a level. It is to the action of the syndicate in doing away with the bad results consequent upon over-production that the existing state of the plate glass industry is, in a large measure, if not entirely, to be attributed. The exports of glass (and indeed of other manufactures) do not necessarily show the position of the industry in the country, but they are to a certain extent an indication of the production, though not of the profits accruing thereto. In regard to glass exports from Belgium, the total of all classes amounted in 1907 to 249,948 tons, having a value of £3,374,424; but these figures show a considerable decline when compared with the 1906 exports, which amounted to 291,270 tons, valued at £4,258,545, the falling-off thus being 41,322 tons, and £884,121. Window-glass and polished plate glass form by far the most important qualities of the glass exported, and other figures are given in Annex 31, which show the exports to all countries, with those to the United Kingdom and to British possessions separately. The value of the total exports of polished glass and ordinary window glass from Belgium during 1907 was £1,086,768 and £1,454,264 respectively. It is unnecessary to give details of the exports, since they can be seen upon reference to the annex mentioned, but it may be interesting to draw attention to the large quantity of both plate and window glass which is sent to Great Britain and to British possessions generally. So large is this trade that the British Empire and Egypt receive considerabl more than half of the Belgian plate glass exported, and close upo half that of window glass exported. Thus the British market i almost essential to the welfare of Belgium's glass industry. I regard to the present state of the window-glass industry, littl of an encouraging nature can be said, for the position is bad an the outlook by no means encouraging. In March of this yea (1908) 28 firms were engaged in the manufacturing of glass, havin a total of 48 furnaces. Out of this total there were 5 for coloure glass and of the remaining 43 only 17 were in activity, the 26 other being idle, either for repairs or on account of bad times. Notwith standing the greatly reduced production there still seems to b an excess of supply over demand, and the crisis in the glass industr may be said to be without precedent. No satisfactory end to th existing situation appears to be in view, prices being at such an ebb that it seems doubtful whether they can possibly go any lower The only stable feature of the window-glass industry appears to b provided by the *comptoir*, or syndicate, referred to above, which i receiving orders with comparative regularity from India, China, an Canada. Great Britain, which is Belgium's chief market, is orderin but little glass, and the same applies to most other countries. It i stated in the industrial press that a window-glass factory is shortl to be erected in Pekin, financed entirely by Chinese capital an supplied with British machinery, which will be another blow t Belgian glass making, as indicating a tendency towards the remova of another of its markets. The failure of several Belgian glas factories has recently been announced, and it is said that workme are being taken from this country for a new glass factory which ha been established in Japan. Manufacturers now appear to b united in agreeing that the only means of improving the positio is for the output to be even further curtailed in view of the smal demand, and this will probably be the course adopted until bette times arrive. The plate glass trade, though by no means flourishing is nevertheless in a fairly sound position, owing to the internationa syndicate's action, according to general opinion, though the pro duction has of necessity to be very limited. Indeed the figure given for the percentage of reduction in 1908 show how great ha been the falling-off of demand since the beginning of the year i the plate glass industry. The first quarter of 1908 showed a reduc tion in the average output of 28 per cent.; this reduction increase in April to 48 per cent. and since May has been as low as 60 per cent of the average. Notwithstanding this diminution of output, there are considerable stocks on hand in Belgium. It is expected, how ever, that the later months of 1908 will be more prosperous than th early parts of the year, and an improvement is expected from th American market.

The following are the statistics of glass exports from Belgium during the first six months of 1908:—The total exports amounted t 104,515 tons, valued at £1,333,000, which show a very considerable decrease compared with the first six months of 1907. The window glass exports were 73,127 tons and £585,000, a decline of 24,577 tons and £196,640 compared with 1907, while those of polished plate glass amounted to 13,320 tons and £372,960, a falling off of 7,03 tons and £196,920. The latest reports from the glass-making centres, at the time of forwarding this report, show a slight im provement in the condition of the window-glass industry, thoug the situation is still very uncertain. During the last few weeks more orders have been received, and certain firms have engagement to be fulfilled in September, though up to the present there is n improvement on the prevailing low prices. It is, however, anti cipated that the production of window-glass at the end of Augus will reach about 50 per cent. of the average normal output, an that an eventual rise in prices will take place.

Wages in the glass industry have recently been considerably reduced, owing to the lessening of output, and the general condi tions of the market, and means are resorted to to keep the hand usually employed partially at work by (1) employing them fo only a certain number of days in each month, and (2) by employing three men to do the work of two men under ordinary circumstance or two men to do one man's work. Glass blowers, for instance, ar now receiving £6 16s. per month each for three men doing two men' work, this being the average wage. The men (youths of 17 to 1 years of age) who lift the glass out of the furnaces, known as "firs gatherers," receive from £2 8s. to £3 4s. per month, while "second gatherers" who prepare the glass for blowing are paid £6 per month each for three men doing two men's work. Glass splitters receive from £12 to £16 per month net wages after deductions for breakages and for the purchase of diamond cutters; glass flatteners are paid from £6 to £6 8s. per month, also for three men doing two men' work, while the other classes of workers are paid as follows pe month:—Firemen, £4 8s. to £5 12s.; cutters and verifiers of choice glass, £5 12s. to £6; box-makers, £8 (approximate); chief glass flattener, £8; chief material man, £10. In addition, the latte receives a bonus calculated in proportion to the output, which may bring his salary up to £20 per month.

China and Glass to the value of about £2,400 are annually imported into Mosul (Turkey).

SOME CHINA SHOPS IN SCOTLAND.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

EDINBURGH.

(*Continued from page* 1295.)

MR. J. A. NISBET, porcelain and glass warehouse, 96, George-st., has only been established here about six months. He has a lofty shop, fitted up in the most modern style for a high-class trade. George-st. is a wide thoroughfare running parallel with Princes-st., and is accounted a good business locality. The shop had not been associated with the china and glass trade until it came into the hands of Mr. Nisbet, but the public will soon recognise its position in the trade. Mr. Nisbet, as proprietor, will give No. 96, George-st. much of the prestige of an old-established business. Indeed, he commenced there with an old connection already under his control, having bought the retail glass and china business carried on so long by Mr. A. D. Jenkinson at No. 10, Princes-st. Mr. Nisbet was for over twenty-six years in the employment of Mr. Jenkinson, who has now relinquished the retail business. He had previously been for eleven years actively associated with John Millar & Co., china and glass merchants, Edinburgh, so that his experience in the trade is both extensive and varied. He transferred the business from 10, Princes-st. to the central and convenient premises in George-st., where he is now comfortably settled. Mr. Nisbet's courtesy and affability are well known in Edinburgh, and they will prove invaluable assets to him in his new enterprise. He understands every detail of the trade, an advantage a retail dealer does not always possess. He announces that he will personally attend to any special requirements of customers, and will undertake matchings and repairs. He takes over the well-known equestrian trade mark used by Mr. Jenkinson, which now becomes his property. Mr. Nisbet is well-known to manufacturers in our industry, and he has the good wishes of them all (in which we join them) for his future success.

THE PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION, LTD., have large new premises at 80, George-st. They have quite an imposing entrance to their ground floor. Unlike the majority of supply associations, they appear to invite customers by a liberal display of goods (even food stuffs) at the entrance and in the windows. I am not sure whether they supply members only, or whether they cater for the public generally. If the latter, and tickets of membership are not required, the exposure of wares to attract strangers can be accounted for. They have the usual "departments," and I inquired my way to the glass and china rooms, which I found were upstairs. Of course there is a convenient "lift," so that the top floor is almost as accessible as the ground floor. The Association has an excellent collection of glass, china and earthenware, one section of a very large showroom being devoted to them. I found the manager of the department, Mr. A. C. McCall, has had an extensive experience



MR. J. A. NISBET, EDINBURGH.

in the trade, having been associated with Mr. A. Jenkinson for thirty-six years. When Mr. Jenkinson gave up the retail trade, Mr. McCall accepted his present position. He has not yet had time to arrange things exactly to his liking, but he makes a very good show of household pottery and glass in various grades. Good medium class lines are in the majority, but there are high class goods as well. The goods are all well shown; the dinner ware and tea ware especially are seen at a glance as the customer walks past them. In dinner ware this is an important consideration. A vegetable dish and plate of each pattern should be so placed that both shape and decoration can be judged without handling. As a rule it is the ornamentation of a dinner service that first arrests attention, and an intending buyer should be able to say whether a pattern pleases her or not, without lifting the piece. Of course, if a lady seems to favour any particular sample, the salesman will at once lift it out of its position among others, and will place it by itself on a small table with a white cover. The Association delivers goods by its own motor delivery van in the various districts of the city and suburbs, three times a week. The van not only delivers goods, but collects orders for the next delivery. They supply groceries, meat, wines, bread, &c., and, of course, china and glass can be delivered with them in any quantities.

Mr. John Steele, china, glass and stoneware merchant, 9, Union-place, has a not very large, but very well-arranged shop opposite the wide space formed by the commencement of Leith-walk. It is a compact shop, very tastefully and conveniently fitted with a neat window display. The business is under the personal supervision of the proprietor, who has had the business fifteen years. Mr. Steele does a good class trade. He has on show both pottery and glass from the best houses, and they are up-to-date both as to form and ornament. Sound judgment has been exercised in selecting the stock, for there is nothing inartistic. Mr. Steele is doing much to cultivate amongst his customers a preference for art forms. These can now be obtained in inexpensive goods, but public taste is very whimsical, sometimes running on lines that are offensive to good taste. Dealers like Mr. Steele have it in their power silently to cultivate good taste in their customers, by offering them artistic shapes and pleasing decorations with which they will never get tired. Mr. Steele is doing this.

McDougall & Sons, manufacturers, have, as one of their numerous branches a capital shop at 21, Northbridge, Edinburgh. I shall have something to say about their headquarters in Glasgow. The Edinburgh depôt is well situated in a good business thoroughfare, and the premises are nicely arranged and well stocked with the various grades of glass, china, and earthenware. The windows are attractively dressed. One is devoted principally to best goods—richly enamelled decorations and hand-painted china by most of the best makers. The other window contains useful goods of a less expensive class There are pretty patterns in tea and breakfast ware, dinner and toilet ware, and dainty afternoon tea sets and trinket sets. Glassware is also prominently shown, both useful and ornamental, and in great variety.

J. & M. Reid, china, glass and earthenware merchants, 26, Queensferry-st. Mr. Reid was unfortunately away when I called. I had not an opportunity of looking at their premises, for those in charge of them were labouring under some disadvantage by reason of extensive alterations being made to the premises next door. I hope to call and see Mr. Reid on my next visit.

J. & R. Allan, Ltd., 80 to 86, South Bridge, are general drapers and house furnishers, but are also glass and china dealers on an extensive scale. The business is one of the oldest of its kind in Edinburgh, and was founded early in the last century by Mr. James Spittal, who held the important office of Lord Provost, and was knighted. Though an excellent business even then, it was little in comparison to what it has since become. Under the energetic management of J. & R. Allan it has increased rapidly. In course of time they added one department after another until the "drapery business" become a modern "Stores" and amongst other house furnishings, china, glass and earthenware were added. Following the trend of modern methods the "firm" became a company with limited liability. They have a splendid frontage to South Bridge, with many large plate glass windows. The drapery departments are quite palatial, but they do not concern our readers. I had to pass through part of them on my way to the china department, but I scarcely felt at home amongst so much femininity. I was conducted to a large and really good display of pottery and glass downstairs. I understand that though not a new department, it was one of the latest additions to this many-sided business. As usual I presented my card and asked to see the manager of the department. In a moment (quicker than the messenger could have done) the manager came with the card in his hand, and greeted me very cordially. I was very pleased to meet Mr. H. J. Thwaites, whom I had known for many years in a responsible appointment in London. Mr. Thwaites is well known in the trade, and will be remembered as a member of the board of management of the Pottery and Glass Trades Benevolent Institution. I understand he has held his present position about four years. I do not know what the department was like when he took it over, but as I saw it, it is now in every respect worthy of the distinguished house of J. & R. Allan, and of the high-class business they do. Those who know Messrs. Allan's trade will say I could not pay the department a higher compliment. The better classes of goods predominate, and they are advantageously arranged. Nearly all the best manufacturers of pottery and glass are represented in the rooms. Medium and cheaper priced goods in all lines are stocked, and a good assortment at medium prices is on show, but the whole department maintains the character of the house for superior goods. Knowing the complaint so frequently made in the South, I asked Mr. Thwaites if his customers were inclined to buy lower-priced goods. He thinks not. As a rule he finds them willing to pay a fair price for a good article rather than take an inferior one simply because it is cheaper. In large stores like this one department feeds another. When a customer is buying drapery, a courteous invitation to "step down and look at our beautiful china" will frequently be accepted by a lady who has a little time to spare. If she has a little money to spare also the neat and artistic things she will see at a glance in this department will induce her to spend some of it. Of course, in a glass and china shop pure and simple, the ground floor is the proper place for the sale-room, but it will be seen that it is not so disadvantageous to have a china department of a large "Stores" in the basement, as some would suppose. A lady will accept an invitation to go *down* a few steps, when she would at once decline to go *up* stairs, even by means of an elevator. I would rather have the glass and china trade conducted on its own merits than as an appendage to other industries, but the departmental store has become popular. Customers have nothing to fear when the department is controlled by a gentleman who has had a thorough training in the china and glass trades. Anyone in the trade on looking round Messrs. Allans' department will see that the buyer understands his business. The goods are of good quality, are all up-to-date, are in good taste, and have been selected with careful discrimination.

Patrick Thomson, Ltd., North Bridge, have a very exten-

ve range of premises, with a fine frontage to North-bridge· he company are drapers principally, but they conduct usiness on the "Stores" system, combining a number f retail industries under one roof. They have a fully quipped glass and china department under the manage- ient of Mr. Brown, an experienced buyer. The stock a large one, embracing practically all classes of useful nd ornamental pottery and glass. They appear, how- ver, to pay more attention to useful domestic lines. 'he aim of the company is to supply serviceable wares at easonable prices. Indeed this principle is adopted hrough all their departments, and they invite customers ho are frugal by the description they give of their house s "The store that aids economists." They have a good election of toilet ware, dinner ware, tea and breakfast vare, in plain, printed, and enamelled patterns. They how some pretty patterns in trinket sets, of which they eem to make a special feature. Some of the trays are in riginal shapes. They price their tea sets for twenty-one ieces (half tea sets) as well as for forty pieces—the usual et. The company have a large business, and keep a heavy tock of pottery and glass. They have an established con- ection, and are well situated f or a passing trade ; while they also do a rather extensive mail-order usiness.

Miss C. Duncanson, glass and china rooms, 16, Hay- market-terrace, has a very attractive, though not very large hop. She is able to make a good show of both useful and rnamental pottery and glass for domestic purposes, and ne that answers all the requirements of the neighbour- hood. Indeed, without knowing exactly what those re- quirements were, my first impression was that the goods I saw when I entered her shop rather exceeded them. But Miss Duncanson soon removed that idea. She takes pleasure in her business, and has evidently mastered the many intricacies of it. For a shop the size of hers the proportion of best goods is large, and they are the best. I ventured to remark upon this without disparaging Haymarket-terrace as a shopping thoroughfare. It was explained to me that though a little beyond the area covered by Princes-st. and George-st. Miss Duncanson's is a "West End" shop, and that expression has exactly the same significance in Edinburgh as it has in London. There is a fairly good passing trade, but there is a large residential district behind and beyond, and from this her customers are drawn. She has been established there fourteen years, and in that time has built up a good family connection. She knows the "points" in both good pottery and good glass, and is well able to explain them to customers who are unacquainted with them. As a business woman she has a tactful, agreeable manner, and I can understand that customers who have done business with her are likely to continue to do it.

Frank Butcher, Ltd., 21, South Bridge, and 6 to 10, Earl Grey-st., are wholesale and retail glass, china, and earthenware merchants. The retail business in South Bridge is carried on in an attractive shop, well situated in a busy thoroughfare. The window is well arranged with domestic wares. Very pretty dinner sets are shown in various decorations, and samples of tea ware below them. A special sale at reduced prices was in progress at the time of my visit, and a miscellaneous selection of both pottery and glass was offered. This was to be continued for a few days only to clear out some goods in order to make room for new shapes and patterns. I saw one of the managers at the Earl Grey-st. shop also. This is their wholesale depot, and a busy one it is. They keep a large stock which they distribute to dealers for many miles round. They undertake matching and repairs for their customers, and are in other respects full of enterprise.

DUNDEE.

About sixty miles north-east from Edinburgh, on the north bank of the river Tay, is Dundee, a seaport, and a royal and Parliamentary borough, with a population of 161,000. It is an important commercial centre, ranking, perhaps, next to Glasgow and Edinburgh. In the past Dundee has had its full share of war and disaster, having on more than one occasion been "reduced to ashes" (as historians say) by invaders. Quite a large number of royal and other important persons have resided in and near Dundee, and some of the most stirring incidents of Scottish history have been associated with it. To-day its importance is of a more satisfactory character. Only a century ago there was but a small quay in the shape of a crooked wall, while now there is a noble harbour—one of the busiest and best in the United Kingdom. For some time the manufacture of linen was the principal industry, but jute has displaced it. The total annual value of the goods manufactured from jute is estimated at £3,800,000, while the annual value of linen manufactures is only £450,000, The jute industry is a remarkable development of modern enterprise. I knew very little about the matter till my recent visit. But when I learnt that something like 40,000 customers of Dundee glass and china dealers are employed in connection with the industry I became interested in it. It seems the fibres of two plants extensively cultivated in India are utilised in the production of jute, and that it is used by the manufacturers of Dundee as a substitute for flax and tow in the production of sail-cloths, sacking, and kindred articles. The large jute factories are amongst the best buildings. Residents in the South are familiar with Dundee marmalade. Other industries are sugar-refining, rope-making, candle-making and engineering. It is the business of the retail dealers in Dundee to cater for the workers in all these, and they appear to do it with energy. The streets are, generally speaking, well laid out, and in the well-appointed shops of the principal thoroughfares there is to be seen a stock of all personal and domestic requisites, as diversified as possible, and by no means behind the times as to style. I have no doubt it is the same in other industries, but in the pottery and glass trades the wants of all classes in Dundee are well catered for.

Frains, wholesale and retail glass and china merchants, Frain's Buildings, Castle-st., Dundee, are amongst the most enterprising houses in Scotland. The business will soon attain its eightieth year, having been established in 1829. Frain's Buildings have a handsome frontage to Castle-st., with eight capacious windows, skilfully dressed. The premises extend a considerable distance in the rear of the front shops, and contain well-arranged showrooms, stockrooms, warehouses, workshops, packing-rooms, &c. They have been rebuilt within the last few years expressly for the firm's business, so that every department is arranged and fitted in the manner most convenient for its particular requirements. The electric light is installed from top to bottom throughout the premises, and there is telephone communication between all the departments. I had a short but particularly interesting interview with Mr. Frain, and found him very courteous. He is, however, a very busy man, and he does not disguise the fact, so that some visitors who do not realise the value of a business man's time might misconstrue his reception of them. I soon understood that he was responsible for the most important developments of the business. He has had a very thorough training and lifelong experience in the china and glass trades. He was apprenticed to his father, and then spent some years in the Staffordshire Potteries and other business centres, during which he not only mastered the intricacies of the pottery and glass trades, but gained an

insight into business methods generally. He possesses a marvellous faculty of organisation. That I saw exemplified in his private office quite as strikingly as in the methodical arrangements which prevail right through the establishment. His office is on the ground floor, and is really a glass enclosure in the midst of the showrooms. As he sits at his desk he has an arrangement of mirrors by which he can see customers and callers without being seen, He has at his right hand a row of "buttons" by which he can summon an assistant from any of the numerous departments, and he can if he wishes speak to them all by telephone. The same methodical completeness is found in every department. Frains stock every class of useful and ornamental pottery and glass, from the most expensive to the cheapest. They show samples of the best, from every leading British and foreign manufactory. I do not know any shop that can present a more comprehensive selection of china and glass for the workman's home, for the middle-class buyer with artistic tastes, for the well-to-do customer who wants the best regardless of cost, and for the lover and purchaser of art wares. Mr. Frain is to be congratulated upon his effective arrangements for the display of goods, for the comfort of his customers, and for convenience and economy in working. All through the premises there are evidences of the energy, foresight, and enterprise of the proprietor, who personally controls the business. The firm's eight beautiful windows form one of the principal shopping features of Dundee. I do not know how many showrooms they have, but they are all attractively arranged. Twelve years ago the proprietors of THE POTTERY GAZETTE offered, amongst other prizes, one for "the best photograph of an interior of a china and glass shop," and Messrs. Frain were highly commended for their excellent picture. We give an illustration of one of their large showrooms, with a portion of the large saloon at the back. A few years since Mr. Frain added an "Oriental Department" in which are shown specimens of the beautiful and unique productions of the Far East. These are not limited to a few pieces; there is a large and extensive stock of them. Though in the same building, these Oriental furnishings are quite separate from the china and glass business. In addition to artistic and costly pieces, this Oriental Bazaar contains a large number of curious nicknacks, the skilful work of the Japanese and Chinese. Frains are china and glass dealers, but a few years ago, when the Corporation of Dundee decided to undertake electric lighting, Mr. Frain was quick to see the possibilities of the trade in electric fittings, and at once made arrangements for the agency of the Edison & Swan Company. His idea was that, as the china trade was not very bright just then, it would be well to supplement it. He did so with great success, and has now a very extensive department devoted to electric lighting. He has experts and a number of skilled workmen in his service, and now undertakes all kinds of electrical work. As this branch alone would be enough to occupy the time of most men, and as he manages it in conjunction with his huge glass and china business, it will be realised that I did not exaggerate when I said Mr. Frain was a busy man. Mr. Frain sets an excellent example to other dealers in stocking lines that properly belong to the pottery and glass dealers, but are persistently neglected by them. For instance, I noticed that amongst other exceptional lines, he has a large stock of "bell glasses" used in connection with the French system of gardening now extensively adopted in this country. Some months ago I asked a glass and china dealer for one of these, and he said, "Oh, they are not in my line!" Mr. Frain also shows Doulton's neat stoves for oil, gas, or electricity. They are of pottery, and easily handled, and I am surprised pottery dealers do not stock them. These are goods that any enterprising dealer can keep—if he will. But I also saw



ONE OF THE SHOW ROOMS, FRAINS, DUNDEE.

everal specialities made exclusively for the firm and to be obtained only through them. Amongst the last-named, Mr. Frain has patented several features in individual communion cups for church use, and has appointed agents for the sale of them in all the larger cities of the kingdom. Mr. Frain believes in advertising, and at the corner of two principal streets he has a large sign announcing the firm's name, address, and business. This is illuminated after dark, showing the words in alternating colours.

Mr. A. Carr, 115, Nethergate-corner, and 2, 4, and 6, South Tay-st., wholesale and retail glass and china dealer, certainly does not hide his light under a bushel. No one blessed with eyesight could possibly walk up Nethergate without noticing his very attractive shop at a corner, near the Queen's Hotel. He calls his premises "Carr's Cash China Corner." I suppose he says "Corner" instead of "Shop" for the sake of alliteration. But the description is true all the same. There are several striking features about this shop. In the first place, it has a good position in a wide street. The woodwork is all right, and there is an unusually large window display. One fine window faces "Nethergate," and there are six windows facing Tay-st. There is the announcement in large letters over each frontage: "Carr For China." Mr. Carr is a good man of business, and has ideas of his own. He has only been a short time at the present address, but



he is already well known and well talked about in Dundee. He was busy in his packing-room when I called, and when he came to me he had the appearance of a man hard at work. It was morning when I called, and he was doing some carpentering. I found he was fond of that work, and he is apparently used to it, for he explained that he had fitted up the shop entirely himself. I can only say it was well done, with several variations from accepted methods, but they were all improvements. The arrangement of stock inside the shop was excellent, but the window displays would do credit to the most experienced dresser in the trade. I said so, and thus made the discovery that window-dressing was his forte. He has made it his particular study, and with good success. He has not been very long in the china trade. He was for many years connected with some large stores, and it was there he practised window-dressing. I remarked that there was a great difference between dressing a window with drapery and one with pottery and glass. "Yes," he replied, "but the end aimed at is the same—to obtain an artistic and therefore effective display of the goods shown. You have simply to learn to adapt your means—that is, your goods—to that end, and the principle governing that application is the same with pottery and glass as with other things for sale." I mention this interesting chat with Mr. Carr in order that dealers may be encouraged to pay more attention to their windows. The window is in many cases the best advertisement a retail dealer can have, and the most should be made of it. Mr. Carr is a young man, full of energy and enthusiasm, and he is putting both into his business. He has one window devoted to wedding gifts, and there is a permanent and bold announcement to that effect, over the window and outside. Persons walking on the other side of the street see the words—"Wedding Gifts"—staring them in the face day after day; so that when they want to make a wedding (or any other) present, they will probably remember Carr's. He turns his former experience to advantage now. Knowing the partiality of ladies for "bargains," Mr. Carr labels one of his windows "Bargain Window," and in it he places goods that are presumably "reduced." At any rate, if he has any sets or pieces that he wants to clear out, this is where he will put them. I did not see Mr. Carr's other windows under normal conditions, for at the time of my visit he was having a special sale, and he was offering wares in a very exceptional way. He had them grouped in sections, all at one price. They were not tumbled together like "job lots." They were all nicely arranged—articles at one price shown together. The tickets explained the position. They read "All at 1d. each," "All at 2s. 6d. each," "All at 10s. each," and "All at 20s. each." They were arranged in rotation, so that if a customer wanted a shilling article he would know where to look for it. Many intermediate prices were named besides those I have quoted. Of course, this plan is only possible where there is ample window space. I understand that at other times the windows contain dinner, tea, and breakfast services, dinner services, and toilet sets, and nice assortments of glass goods. Mr. Carr has utilised his space to the best advantage, and has an entrance for goods at the back, close to his packing room and stock rooms. He deals in Oriental goods, old prints, antique china, and other articles of vertu. He strongly believes in advertising and in advertisements of others. He says he spent twice the amount of his first year's rent in advertising, with the result that in three years he extended from the shop at the furthest end of the block shown in the illustration, to the corner one in the principal street, converting four single shops into one as shown. Mr. Carr says he selected most of the makers for his varied stock from their advertisements in The Pottery Gazette, which he finds helpful and interesting every month.

Malcolm Brothers, 35 to 49, Commercial-st., are complete house furnishers with an extensive china and glass department. They have a representative stock of all domestic goods supplied by our trades, the medium and cheaper grades predominating. I had not the pleasure of seeing their buyer, so I did not obtain any particulars about their trade beyond what I could see at a glance. They had just acquired the entire stock of a china dealer in the town, and they were announcing a special sale of it at half price "as a standing advertisement for the china department of their business." They were advertising largely "China at Half Price." They state their object in selling these goods so cheaply is to make friends and customers for future business.

Mr. William McBurney, china merchant, is well known in our trades, and also to the public in Scotland. "McBurney's China Halls" are popular institutions. I saw Mr. McBurney at 14, Whitehall-st. There is another of his china halls at 41, Murraygate, Dundee. Mr. McBurney has had a long experience in the trade. He has been thirty-two years in Dundee, and in that time he has seen many changes in the place and the people, but the popularity of his china halls seems to remain. They all have an attractive appearance, and are well-stocked with a good assortment of glass, china, earthenware,

Rockingham and foreign fancy goods. The Dundee "halls" are handsomely fitted, in harmony with the artistic and fancy goods displayed. The aim seems to be to supply useful and ornamental goods at reasonable prices. Mr. McBurney has displayed considerable enterprise in opening his establishments. He was the first dealer I have heard of to call his shop a "China Hall." China rooms and china depôts we had in abundance, but Mr. McBurney gave us the first "China Hall." He may be interested in knowing that the term was introduced into the United States a year or two ago, and that this week a firm has been registered in Boston, U.S.A., under the name of "The China Hall Company," wholesale and retail pottery and glass dealers. Perhaps he does know it. It would not surprise me to learn that Mr. McBurney was interested in it.

Mr. James Valentine, 59, Reform-st. This is one of the specially interesting places which I discover from time to time in the course of my wanderings. I suppose I must call it a "shop" because it is a place where goods are sold retail, and I suppose I must describe it as a "china shop" because china—and the very best of china too—is sold there. But it is as unlike the usual glass and china shop as it well could be. It is a single-fronted shop, not very large, but very aristocratic in appearance. In speaking of the goods displayed in some of our best shops, I say they are "high class." Mr. Valentine's stock consists entirely of very high class specialities. I found enough to interest me for some minutes in looking at the windows from the outside; but inside there was enough to have interested me for hours if I could have devoted them to my visit. As usual, on entering I presented my card to the young lady who approached me and asked to see "Mr. Valentine." She said the manageress was not in just then, and asked if there was anything she could do for me. I briefly explained the purpose of my visit, and on learning the time the manageress was expected to return, I said I would call again at that hour. I did so, and then saw Miss Christie, who explained that for business purposes she was "Mr. Valentine," as she had entire control of the business—bought all the stock and superintended the sale of it. A man or woman who takes an intelligent interest in the trade could learn to buy and sell glass, china, and earthenware for domestic use in a few years. But only a person endowed with innate artistic faculties could possibly conduct such a unique business as this. And even with those faculties, the necessary ability could only be acquired by very considerable practical experience Whether Miss Christie made the business what it is, or the business made Miss Christie what she is, I have no means of knowing. One thing, however, I am sure of, although she has a number of clever intelligent assistants (I discovered this fact before she arrived)—all ladies—Miss Christie is not only the head, but the life and soul of the business. A look round the shop satisfied me that Mr. James Valentine catered only for persons of very refined tastes and of ample means. The stock is a collection of works of art, art manufactures, china, glass, cabinet goods, brass work, silver goods, ivory, leather work, fans, costly feathers and plumes, British and foreign jewellery, beautiful belts, necklets, combs, hat-pins, and innumerable other feminine requisites. There is a very choice display of pottery and glass for domestic use of the highest class, including the newest and best productions of home and foreign manufactures. In china and porcelain, there are specialities in breakfast, dinner, tea and coffee, and dessert services. In faience, vases, figures, groups, and many small ornaments. In pottery, Lancastrian, delft, Rouge Flambé, Lunéville, Ruskin, Gien Navarre, &c. There are also specialities in rock crystal, in British hand-made plain and richly cut glass, and specimens of the beautiful productions of Baccarat and other foreign glass makers. Services, bowls, vases, in great diversity of form, and artistic glass decorations for the table. Chinese and Japanese cloisonné for the person, the table, dining room, hall, &c. I cannot (and need not here) speak in detail of all the other features of this remarkable collection. Table and standard lamps and lamp and candle shades, handsome electroliers, writing sets, inkstands in ormolu, oxydised filigree work, &c. Sheraton bookstands, blotters and stationery cases, brackets, tables, &c. Jewel boxes, glove, handkerchief, tie. and blouse boxes, and bags of all kinds. No. 59, Reform-st., is a warehouse of specialities in goods useful and ornamental, and often both in combination, but principally for presentation purposes. It is a recognised depôt for wedding and birthday gifts, complimentary presents, school and athletic prizes; but they are all of the highest class. I was shown a very handsome folding fan which had been made specially for a customer as a present to Mrs. Winston Churchill on the occasion of her marriage. Miss Christie took some pains to point out to me the fineness and costliness of the feathers, and the exquisite ornamentation of the *panaches* or outer



Mr. James Valentine, Dundee.

guards, but I am not equal to describing them. All I know is that it was a beautiful, dainty, but expensive present. When Miss Christie is asked to suggest a suitable artiele for presentation, she does not overlook the artistic china and poreelain, and the bright and richly ornamented British glass, of which she has such beautiful examples. I had not had the pleasure of meeting the lady before, but to give a true account of my impressions of her after only an hour's interview might lead strangers to think I was flattering her, and I am sure the publication of such an account here would be distasteful to her. After what I have said, however, I need only add that she is a well-informed, clever, business woman, with a wonderfully quiek pereeption and the true artistic temperament. Her business is her pleasure, and to listen for half an hour as she speaks with enthusiasm about the things she deals in is an education in the applieation of art to industry.

Mrs. James Maclean, "Drummond Castle" China Warehouse, Greenmarket, Dundee, is a wholesale and retail glass, ehina, and earthenware dealer. This is an old-established business, having been founded about sixty years ago. It is about twenty years since it eame into the hands of the late Mr. James Maclean. It had been subjected to varying fortunes, and on his death some years ago, his widow came into possession of it under not very advantageous eircumstances. Mrs. Maclean had assisted her husband to a considerable extent, and was well aequainted with all the details of the business, wholesale and retail. It was not an easy one to work, consisting of a large wholesale trade in eheaper goods, and a market trade in medium class goods. The latter had to be done out of doors in the square in front of the shop. We give an illustration of the stand set out in the large market square. This stand is electrically lighted with two arc lamps of 1,000 candle power each, and is, we believe, the only stall of the kind so lighted in the country. Mrs. Maclean eonducted this herself, and with considerable sueeess. She was dependent upon her business, and, like a sensible woman, she did not waste time in useless regrets, but set to work immediately on the death of her husband, and re-organised the business with considerable energy. Her friends expressed their doubts as to the wisdom of her eonduet, but she has fully justified the deeision she arrived at so suddenly, and has now an extensive and satisfactory connection. She is assisted by her son, and when I ealled I found both of them at the curious and antiquated premises shown in the aeeompanying illustration. Externally it is as unlike what is understood by the term "glass and china



Mrs. James Maclean, Dundee.

warehouse" as it well eould be. It is a stone building of four stories. There is a large basement, used as a warehouse. The main floor is approached by some six or seven steps, and the front portion is used as a show room and general sale room, while the apartment in the rear is used as a stock room. The stock is a large one, including all artieles of earthenware, ehina, and glass used for domestic purposes. There are some high-class goods amongst them, but the majority are medium class goods from all the principal makers, British and Continental. The wholesale trade, with small shop-keepers in outlying districts and with hawkers, I could understand, and I could also see that the situation was a good one for a market trade, but I was a little puzzled to know how a private retail trade could be done there. The goods were there right enough, but I could not imagine retail eustomers mounting those steps to buy ehina or glass. But Mrs. Maclean says they do, and that she has an established and regular connection with many of the families in the distriet. She explained that her three classes of business—the wholesale, retail, and market trades—do not interfere with each other. Interest in Mrs. Maclean's business is greatly increased by the fact that it is carried on in what is considered the most ancient building in the city. The building was formerly known as Drummond Castle, the seat of the Earl of Drummond, who frequently entertained King James IV. there. It dates from the sixteenth century, and was originally a large square building. Though it has lost its once beautiful features, it is still interesting. It originally had bold corner towers, battlemented and spired. The deeply recessed and



Mrs. James Maclean's China Stall.

heavily moulded arcading of the lower story indicates the unique and dignified structure it must have been. The main floors of the premises (now the front and back show rooms) are structurally in their original form, when they were one large room 37 feet long by 17 feet wide, and 9 ft. 2 in. from floor to ceiling. After the Earl of Drummond's occupancy the building became an urban residence for gentlepeople, and the incidents upon which Grant founded his novel of "The Yellow Frigate" are said to have occurred here. The large apartment (now divided) was elaborately decorated with panels embellished with paintings of landscapes in the style of the early eighteenth century. On leaving Mrs. Maclean's, I went to the Free Library and referred to a large folio work, "Old Dundee," by A. C. Lamb, from which some of the above particulars are taken. Mrs. Maclean had already shown me the moulded panels referred to, many of which are still perfect, and the dim outlines of painting can be traced. The dust of two centuries has hidden the paintings, but I should think it has also preserved them. If, therefore, the accumulation could be carefully removed an interesting disclosure might be made. The premises were for a long time used as a customs house. About a century ago they passed into private hands, and were in 1878 sold to the Corporation under the Improvement Acts. They form an interesting link with the past, and it is remarkable how many pottery and glass shops furnish these links. It has been my pleasure to describe many of them in these pages. Without reference I can remember one at Salisbury, another at Chester, yet another at Bristol. There are others which I do not remember at the moment.

ABERDEEN.

Aberdeen is a famous royal city, the principal seaport in the north of Scotland, and the fourth Scottish town in population, in industry, and in wealth. Its streets seem to have been very narrow and steep until the fairy-like change wrought by the Improvement Act of 1800. The whole aspect of the place was altered; wide and nearly level thoroughfares were formed, and squares and terraces were built. The work of transformation has gone steadily on for a century, and now Aberdeen is a really elegant and well-built town, with perhaps more fine buildings than any other place of its size. The building-material principally used is the light-grey native granite. This is used so extensively that Aberdeen is now widely known as the "Granite City." The finest building in this city of granite palaces is the "Marischal College," or University Buildings, in the heart of the city. New extensions were opened by the King and Queen in September, 1906, and complete a remarkable pile of granite buildings, far too numerous to mention here, but all devoted to the teaching of science. I had not time to hunt up other notable buildings, but my business took me into the most famous streets. The chief thoroughfare is Union-street, one of the noblest business streets in the world. It is not so long as Oxford-street, London, or Broadway, New York, but it is fully seventy feet wide, and for rather more than a mile there are buildings of granite quite as imposing as those which are on each side of the Holborn Viaduct in London. I had ample opportunity of admiring these striking shops and other public places on a bright morning as I made my way to call on

Mr. J. W. Baker. The Royal Glass and China Galleries, 136 and 138, Union-street, occupy a favourable position in the finest street in the city. The shop has a noble frontage to Union-street, and the fact that a high-class trade is done there is evident from the well-appointed exterior, from the class of goods shown in the window, and especially from the artistic arrangement of them. I handed my card to a young lady in the shop, and said I should like to see Mr. Baker. She took the message, and the next minute I had the agreeable surprise to be cordially greeted by Mr. Baker, in whom I found an old and respected acquaintance whom I had not seen for several years. It is a pleasant sensation when one is nearly six hundred miles from home to be recognised by a former friend. It was also a great pleasure to me to meet Mr. Baker under such favourable conditions. A few words sufficed to explain the position. The business is Mr. Baker's own, and it is one that would do credit to any dealer in the West End of London. I make the comparison because it appears to be customary in all trades to speak of a "London West End" shop as the high-water mark of retail trading. I will not presume to express any opinion on shops in other industries, but as far as china and glass ("porcelain and crystal," some would say) shops are concerned, I have seen several in the provinces that equal any in the West End of the Metropolis. Mr. Baker's "Royal Glass and China Galleries," for instance. Mr. Baker has had a most suitable training for the position he now occupies. It would be folly for anyone to assume control of such a business without exceptional qualifications, obtainable only by experience—and plenty of it. Mr. Baker had the advantage of spending some of his early business years at a manufactory. He was afterwards appointed London representative of the Coalport China Company. From there he went to John Ford & Co., of Edinburgh, being appointed manager of their business at 136 and 138, Union-st., Aberdeen. He remained with them in that capacity until changes in their firm caused them to close the business. He then continued it on his own account, and it is no disparagement of John Ford & Co. to say that Mr. Baker has improved the trade. He has maintained the high-class character of the business carried on by his predecessors; and, while he has succeeded in retaining most of the former customers, he has made many new ones. I can easily describe the class of goods I saw in the window, in the salerooms, and in the showrooms. I have only to say that they included "the best of everything in china and glass," and, I may add, the newest. Of course, Mr. Baker stocks medium-class goods and some cheap stock lines. He does not parade these, but keeps them for those who ask for them; and they are asked for, even in a shop like Mr. Baker's, more frequently than is known. He has a good connection amongst the aristocracy, and his object is to submit to them as good a selection of porcelain and glass as they can find in any other house. From the brief inspection I made of his stock, I have no hesitation in saying that he does so. I was pleased to hear him say that he does as much as he possibly can in British-made goods. He keeps some foreign lines, but he makes it a rule to recommend home productions. He holds the appointment, by Royal Warrant, of Purveyor to His Majesty King Edward, with authority to use the Royal Arms. The accompanying illustration of the central section of the ground floor shows, as well as can be shown in black and white, the class of wares on show and the effective manner in which they are displayed. Mr. Baker is well known in the trade, and many who read this will be as pleased as I was to hear of his success, and will join me in wishing him a long and prosperous career.

McDougall & Sons, glass, china, and earthenware dealers, have two branches in Aberdeen—one at 111 and the other at 500, Union-street. The firm have branches at Edinburgh and Ayr, and their headquarters at Glasgow. I shall have something to say about my visit to their chief depôt, and my references to the goods there will apply to those seen at their branches. They are an enterprising firm, and their branch shops are well looked after. I had a short interview with Miss M. Porter, who has charge of their principal shop in Union-street, Aberdeen,



CENTRAL SECTION OF MR, J, W. BAKER'S ROYAL GLASS AND CHINA GALLERIES, ABERDEEN,

and was able to congratulate her upon the very excellent arrangement of her stock. Miss Porter understands the trades, and, what is of equal importance, she understands the requirements and the special tastes of the people of Aberdeen. In retail trade—in whatever line—an important essential is to know how to please your customers.

Mr. James McBurney, whose principal shops at Dundee I have already referred to, has a capital shop at 51, Union-street. There is a large and well-assorted display of useful and ornamental glass, china, and earthenware. The manager was out of town on the day I called; but, as I had already spoken of Mr. McBurney's business, I did not make a second call in Aberdeen.

Pratt & Keith, Union-st., are drapers and general furnishers, with a well-stocked glass and china department. They occupy a magnificent block of buildings in the best part of Union-st. jointly with the Palace Hotel. They have the extensive ground floor with frontages to two streets, while the hotel uses the upper floors. The china department, under the charge of Mr. Petsie, is fully equipped for a good medium-class trade in useful and ornamental glass, china, and earthenware, useful domestic goods predominating.

The Northern Co-operative Co., Ltd., have their principal depôt at 54,Loch-street. They are something more than what is usually understood as "Stores." They literally provide everything a householder wants. In addition to drapery, hardware, and furniture—usual stores' commodities—the company supply groceries, butchers' meat, and coals. When I add that they also provide glass and china, it will be understood that our goods are introduced as side lines. They have a good selection of medium-class and cheap goods. They distribute from Loch-street to their numerous branches. I did not call at any of these, so I did not see their pottery and glass exposed for sale. Judging from their head offices, they must do an extensive trade.

(*To be continued.*)

POTTERY PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE pottery industry of the United States seems to have suffered to a larger extent from the financial depression of 1907 than did the other branches of the clay-working industries, as is shown by the figures just published by the U.S. Geological Survey. The total value of pottery products reported was $30,143,474, as compared with $31,440,884—a decrease of $1,297,410, or 4·13 per cent.; in 1906 the increase over 1905 was $3,521,990, or 12·62 per cent. Compared with 1905, however, the 1907 figures are much larger, $2,224,580, or 7·97 per cent. The value of the pottery products of 1907 is more than twice as great as it was in 1898—$14,589,224; so it is only by comparison with 1906 that 1907 was small. The imports of pottery showed the small increase in 1907 over 1906—$354,510, or 2·68 per cent.—compared with the increase in 1906 over 1905 of $1,255,040, or 10·48 per cent. At present the domestic production is nearly three-fourths of the consumption. Its proportion to consumption declined slightly in 1907, but its trend in previous years has been steadily upward, and no doubt it will continue to increase until eventually the domestic potter will supply the demand for the higher grades of his wares just as he now supplies the lower grades. The general tendency in quality of ware of the domestic pottery is undoubtedly upward, and the fact that there was a marked advance made during 1907 in the production of a distinctively American china augurs well for the future of the industry. The potters—some of them at least—seem to be making every effort to remove the stigma that has rested o "American pottery." Red earthenware is the commones pottery product, being made from almost any red-bric clay. The total value of this ware in 1907 was $845,465, a compared with $909,262 in 1906—a loss of $63,797, o 7·02 per cent. The total value for 1907 was greater b $64,828, or 8·30 per cent., than in 1905, when it wa $780,637. This product was reported by 186 produce in 1906 and by 193 in 1907. In 1906 it constituted 2·8 per cent. of all pottery products and 2·80 per cent. in 190 The total value of stoneware and yellow and Rockingha wares was $4,280,601 in 1907 and $4,193,884 in 1906—gain in 1907 of $86,717, or 2·07 per cent. The number firms reporting decreased from 255 in 1906 to 219 in 190 In point of value, these wares are one of the three mos important classes, being 14·20 per cent. of all potter products in 1907 and 13·34 in 1906. The wares embrace under the heading C. C. ware—white granite, semi-porcelai ware, and semi-vitreous porcelain ware—are the mos important pottery products from a monetary standar produced in the country, their value being $13,913,680 i 1907, as compared with $14,152,503 in 1906—a decreas of $238,823, or 1·69 per cent. In 1905 these product were valued at $13,196,614, so that it will be seen tha 1907, while showing a small loss as against 1906, exceede the production of 1905 in value by $717,066, or 5·43 pe cent. The wares embraced in this column represent th general household wares and compose the bulk of what i known as "pottery." China, including bone china, delf and Belleek ware, showed a slight increase in value fro $1,787,776 in 1906 to $1,930,669 in 1907—a gain o $142,893, or 7·99 per cent. Two more producers reporte these wares for 1907 than for 1906—14 in 1906 and 16 i 1907. Sanitary ware being used almost exclusively i construction work, showed a decline in sympathy with th decrease in building operations. The decrease in value this ware in 1907, however, was small, being $235,088, 4·61 per cent.; the value for 1907 was $4,863,222, agains $5,098,310 for 1906 and $4,580,145 for 1905. This wa constituted 16·21 per cent. of the pottery products i 1906 and 16·13 per cent. in 1907. The products of th porcelain electrical supply branch of the pottery industry being, like those of sanitary ware, used in constructio work, fell off in value in 1907 as compared with 1906 t the extent of $224,513, or 7·91 per cent. The value of th product in 1907 was greater, however, than that for 190 a year of great prosperity. In 1906 this product wa 9·03 per cent. of the pottery products, and in 1907 it wa 8·67 per cent. The number of firms reporting potter sales fell from 540 in 1906 to 509 in 1907. The valuc the white ware, exclusive of sanitary ware and porcelai electrical supplies, was $15,844,349 in 1907, agains $15,940,279 in 1906—a loss of $95,930, or only 0·6 of 1 pe cent. This total for white ware in 1907 is greater b $1,089,005, or 7·38 per cent., than the total for 190 These products composed 52·56 per cent. of the potter products in 1907 and 50·70 per cent. in 1906; if sanitar ware and porcelain electrical supplies be added, most which are made of high-grade body, the total value these products in 1907 would be $23,321,342, or 77·37 pe cent. of all pottery products. The pottery imports int the United States in 1907 were valued at $13,585,612, an the production at $30,143,474—a total of $43,729,08 After deducting the exports, domestic $1,131,641, an foreign $36,538, there appears to have been a net con sumption of $42,560,907, of which the domestic productio was 70·82 per cent. In 1906 the domestic production wa 72·26 per cent. of the consumption, and in 1905 it wa 71·81 per cent. The highest proportion reached was 72·9 per cent. in 1902.

"NEW ART" IN THE POTTERIES.*

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

A YEAR or two ago there appeared in one of our principal Art publications a rather scathing article on the backwardness of the Pottery Industry in matters relating to the new development of decorative Art. It was pointed out, and the facts could not be denied, that whereas most of the other manufacturers—wall paper, jewellery, house decoration, lace and textile industries generally, had developed along the lines of the modern movement-Pottery manufacturers alone remained still in the same old grooves without apparently attempting to modernise their styles. The subject was discussed from a non-technical point of view, which, of course, militated somewhat against its effectiveness, but, notwithstanding, a very good case was made out against the effete and non-progressive potter. We may commence our remarks by at once admitting the truth of the indictment. We are at least ten years behind the times in the matter of modern decoration. The fact that one or two ardent spirits have overleaped the barrier, and have achieved success to a gratifying degree in no way militates against the general impeachment. The rank and file of manufacturers are still thrashing the same old dead horse that they were twenty years ago, and although alterations have taken place, as pointed out in a previous article, yet the alterations aro more connected with processes than decoration pure and simple. The chromo transfer and the aerograph have supplied variations, but the sticking of a lithograph on the side of a piece of ware and the blowing of various colours around it cannot by any stretch of the term be classified as a new decoration—it is simply a variation of the old hand-painting and ground-laying.

What then, we may ask, is this development of artistic decoration referred to as having been adopted by other allied manufacturers ? this modern style or "new art" as it is often called ?

First of all it is only new or modern in the sense that it has never been adapted or developed extensively till the last ten or twelve years. The principles that underlie it aro as old as the hills. All decoration is the conventionalisation or adaptation of natural forms to certain purposes. We see it in its rudest and most elementary form in the ornamentation of the weapons of savages, and indeed, in the tattooing of the savages themselves. These are undoubtedly sheer imitations of natural objects, animals, birds, &c., limited in their resemblance by the skill of the artificer and the stubbornness of the material, and it is the exigencies of materials, and the limitations of development being subjected to use and handiness, that have shaped and modified these direct imitations of nature. Gradually, through the ages, various peoples imitating one another in their conceptions of these natural objects adopted a similar method of translating them to the material to bo decorated, the delineation, say, of a lion became stereotyped and conventionalised, and however unliko what we now would consider a good representation of a lion, it got to be recognised as the proper presentment of that noble animal.

The next development was the use of these conventional forms, not as imitations, but for the grace and beauty of the forms themselves, in short, as ornament simply. Imitations of various natural objects became less marked, and varied among nationalities evolving different treatment and progression in other directions. Thus we have the distinctive styles of Greek, Roman, Byzantine, &c., each a separate development of practically the same original forms up to the renaissance, which marked the epoch when we ceased to advance on these natural lines and adopted a freer and more graceful interpretation of the older styles. This running into extremes, resulted in the last of the modern styles the Rococo. Now tho Rococo was the epitome of extravagance, and has always been regarded by purists in decoration as debased and bad, but its popularity was great, and it was not until some twelve years ago that the first beginnings of a new method were tentatively put forth. As is usual in all changes of fashion the extreme opposite was aimed at. The Glasgow and Viennese schools arose and we were treated to plain and angular furniture, wall papers with tree patterns —inspired to all appearance by the trees in children's boxes of toys— and plant forms that looked as though the original had grown in a cellar, with long sinuous winding stems clustered together. Seriously speaking, the early new art productions were thoroughly and systematically ugly and ungraceful. It was the inevitable reaction from the florid and extravagant Rococo. Later developments, however, show much modification of this severity, and elegance of line and beauty of proportion are once more allowed to have some part in the construction of designs. The chief characteristics of the later forms of this style are definite conventionalisations of natural forms in as simple a way as is consistent with the form selected. Balance without actual symmetry, flatness, or very low relief, and in colour simplicity of tone, and solid masses without or with very restrained light and shade or modelling. Of course, the style is changing and being developed in many ways, mostly in the direction of more ornateness and less simplicity.

Such then, briefly, is the new art which we potters are charged with neglecting. What can we justly ascribe as the reasons for this impeachment of the ultra-artistic world ? It may be primarily stated, to our shame, that the designer in the Potteries occupies a position that is fatal to true advance. Three parts of his time are taken up with administrative work, and during the other part he is supposed to be finding out what other manufacturers are doing. If a traveller finds on his round that a certain thing is the "rage," well, that is the thing he wants, and if he can get the designer at the works to produce something nearly the same to sell at a fraction less, that is the nearest approach to bliss that he is likely to experience on this side the grave. A friend of the writer's applying for a position as designer some months ago, was asked as a question of the utmost importance by the manufacturer, "How do you find out what is going (i.e., selling) ?" This seems to be a sine quâ non for a designer. No wants to originate that may mean loss, but a good designer is one that can pry around and adopt any ideas that have chanced to be successful, or are thought to be successful. This is an unenviable position for a man with artistic tendencies, but if he is to retain his post he has to sink these tendencies and do as his confreres do. Of course the manufacturer in nine cases out of ten has no glimmering of what is artistic, many of them are actually suspicious of Art. I have heard of one manufacturer objecting to one of his designer's productions as "too Arty"; he would have none of it. To such a state have we come !

What, may we ask, is the use of the Art teaching in the various excellent schools in the district if the tenets and theories that are inculcated so seriously, and the practice so sedulously followed, result in the budding designer being confronted with this state of things when he emerges equipped for the fray ? The relation of art to pottery for the most part is not considered at all by the majority of our manufacturers. They have no principles for their guidance, but go groping along hoping to strike something that will hit the market; that the market would adapt itself to better things if it were allowed, does not enter into their calculations at all. Is it possible that a housewife would refrain from buying dinner plates, and the family eat their meals direct from the table, if a good and artistic design adorned the plates ? But the public do not get the chance of selecting, the dealer, middleman, and buyer intervene. The public get what is left, shall we say the dregs ?

That it is not the public who are at fault may be easily seen by comparing the designs of dress stuffs, curtains, and textile materials generally, of wall papers, book-covers, and even Christmas cards, with most pottery designs. Wall papers and silks, perhaps, show as great an advance as any, owing to the enterprise of manufacturers employing such artists as Morris, Lewis F. Day, Walter Crane and others. Tho public did not cease clothing their walls with paper becauso the designs became artistic; as Tennyson said, "We needs must love the highest when we see it." And it is the duty, and would be the profit of pottery manufacturers to give the public a chance of elevating its taste. Pottery making has fallen on evil days in more senses than one. Perhaps some day it will be realised that so far as cheapness is concerned we shall never compete with the Germans, and that some other avenue leading to success must be found; and possibly then it may dawn on us that a sound and reliable article, artistic and good, may be given a chance, and the insensate cutting of prices abolished. What we really want are a few more master minds—another Wedgwood, a Minton, a Campbell, or a Doulton, all business men, who had ideas of the dignity and scope of pottery, who knew that the conceptions of genius and artistic ability were the right things to aim for. It is summed up in the late L. Arnoux's advice to the writer in his young aspiring days. "You must do your best, the money will come." But to do your artistic best in the potting trade to-day is the way for the money to stay away. It is a decadent period we are passing through, that is to say, it is to be hoped we are passing through it, but the other side is not visible yet. This may be pessimism, but the first step towards improvement is to realise our present position.

It is perhaps a pity that the decoration of pottery does not partake more of the nature of a craft than a manufacture, especially as regards ornamental articles. Much has been done in other countries by State intervention, as, for instance, in the lace-making industry. Instruction has been provided free; the best designers have been employed to provide patterns, and where a few years ago a few miserable families living from hand to mouth, owing to the extortions of the middle-man and the poverty of the productions, existed; prosperous villages are in evidence, the inhabitants all employed in artistic and properly paid work, which finds a ready market. It is, of course, hopeless to expect any assistance of this kind from our practical Government, and possibly the diversity of the processes of ware-decorating are against this method, but still it is possible that some modification of these principles might not be incapable of realisation. The one thing that is certain is that some method must be found for rescuing the Art of the Potter from the depths to which it has sunk, and that speedily, or what were the glories of this British industry will permanently disappear from amongst us.

* This article was received early in November, before the discussion on "Pottery Decoration" had commenced.—EDS. P. G.

POTTERY AT THE "IDEAL HOME" EXHIBITION.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

(*Concluded from page* 1297.)

MR. W. HOWSON TAYLOR, West Smethwick, Birmingham, had a very fine show of "Ruskin Pottery" in the gallery. This is in every sense a highly artistic production with unique features. In forms, colourings, and glazes, Mr. Howson Taylor has ideals of his own, and he aims at them more than at features in which other potters have been successful. He does not adhere rigidly to formulæ, not even his own; and, like other artistic potters, he is frequently rewarded by new and beautiful effects. He has obtained high distinction at former great exhibitions, and now at the "Franco-British" he has been awarded the Grand Prize for his artistic ceramics. At the "Ideal Home" Exhibition he presented "Ruskin Pottery" in its endless variety of form and ornamentation. He showed vases, flower-pots, butter dishes, bowls, loving-cups, candesticks, lamps, ink-pots, tobacco-jars, and many other things in everyday use. Many of these are in quaint, original, but always artistic shapes, decorated with new colourings and glazes, his glazes being all leadless. He has been for some time experimenting with special metallic colours fired at high temperatures, and, like other chemist-potters, he has produced some beautiful effects. He exhibited beautiful blues, greens, yellows, turquoise, and combinations of several of them. He showed peach-bloom, sang-de-bœuf, crystallines, and lustres of great beauty. He had a good display of those pretty artistic miniature lines in which he excels. Buttons for ladies' dresses, hat-pins, studs, cuff-links, and scarf-pins are amongst his specialities. He exhibited some beautiful enamels for insertion in gold work, silver, and copper.



MR. W. HOWSON TAYLOR.

JULES LANG & SON, 16, Bury-st., St. Mary Axe, E.C., exhibited their "Jules" home fruit preserving jar in white flint glass. The jars were shown in three sizes, with a fluid capacity of about 19, 34, and 65 oz. respectively. We described these jars recently. They are fitted with a triple fastener, consisting of a metal screw band, a glass cap, and an indiarubber ring, by which they can be hermetically sealed.

Porcelain and Earthenware to the value of £12,000 were exported from Yokohama during 1907.

Legal.

Is China Clay a Mineral?—In the Court of Appeal on Nov. 23, the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Moulton and Farwell dismissed an appeal of the Great Western Railway Co. against a decision of Mr. Justice Eve, dismissing an action brought by the company against the Carpalla United China Clay Co. and others. The question at issue was whether the defendants were entitled to work and excavate china clay close to and under the land belonging to the plaintiff company. If china clay is to be regarded as a mineral, then the defendants are legally entitled to excavate it. Mr. Justice Eve held that it is a mineral, and accordingly gave judgment for the defendants, and their Lordships affirmed his decision.

China Dealer's Affairs.—In the City of London Court, on Nov. 17, before his Honour Judge Rentoul, K.C., F. W. Neuberger & Co., 5, Dyers-buildings, Holborn, sought to enforce payment of £4 due from Mr. Jacobs, trading as M. Jacobs & Co., china dealers, Wilton-rd., Pimlico. Defendant said he could not pay the debt. He had had a meeting of his creditors, who numbered 25, and they had all accepted a composition of 5s. in the pound, except the plaintiffs. Mr. Neuberger said he thought they were not justified in taking it. Defendant could easily pay their account in full. Defendant said he was entirely without means and was living with his parents. He sold his business to his father, and the money all went to his creditors. The Court ordered payment of 1s. a month.

Lead Poisoning: Manufacturers Exonerated.—On Nov. 23, at Lambeth, Mr. J. Troutbeck held an inquest concerning the death of H. Argent, a worker at Doulton's, Ltd., Lambeth Potteries. Dr. J. Dunlop, of Upper Kennington-lane, said that the cause of death was lead poisoning, which was not necessarily recent. Dr. Freyberger gave the results of his post-mortem examination, and said that it was unquestionably a death from lead poisoning. There seemed to have been no very recent absorption of lead. Mr. H. G. Budden, works manager for Doulton, Ltd., said he had never been led to suppose that Argent was suffering from lead poisoning until January last. As far as possible Argent was afterwards given

utdoor employment. A standard of safety in the solubility of the ead used was set up by the Home Office, and his firm had always ept below it. Up to three years ago they were using lead glaze of onsiderably higher solubility than now, and Argent might have ontracted lead poisoning before that period. The conditions of orking were better now, and the danger was very slight. The oroner said that no kind of responsibility as regarded that court ould rest on the firm, who had not only obeyed the law, but had one more than the law required. A verdict of death from lead oisoning was returned.

Action against Telephone Co.—Some time ago, A. Cunningham ; Co., glass merchants, 60 Home-st., Edinburgh, sued the National 'elephone Co., Ltd., in the Edinburgh Sheriff Court for damages mounting to £26 15s., in consequence of glass in their premises aving been damaged by water, which, on examination, was dis-overed to be due to operations on the part of the defenders in aying or carryng telephone wires through the roof of the pursuers' remises, and to the defenders' failure to restore part of the roof perated on into a proper or water-tight condition, this resulting n water percolating through the roof on to glass, and rendering it ractically useless. Sheriff Guy dismissed the action and found the ursuers liable in expenses. On appeal Sheriff Maconochie now inds in fact in terms of the first five findings in fact contained in the nterlocutor appealed against ; quoad ultra recalls the interlocutor nd sustains the appeal ; finds further in fact that the damage omplained of was caused through the fault of the defenders ; finds n law that the defenders are liable in respect of the damage to pay o the pursuers the sum of £19, being the sum agreed upon between he parties as due to the pursuers in the event of it being found hat the defenders are liable in damages ; and grants decree against he defenders for payment of that sum ; and finds the defenders iable to the pursuers in the expenses of process, including those of he appeal.

Railway Claim against Potters.—At Stoke County Court, on Nov. 13, before Judge Ruegg, K.C., R. H. & S. L. Plant, china manu-facturers of Longton, were sued by the North Staffordshire Railway Co. to recover £4 19s. 9d. for cartage of empty crates and casks. Mr. E. Hills, who appeared on behalf of the plaintiff company, said that altogether there were nine actions entered in the court, three by the North Staffordshire Railway Co., as plaintiffs, three by the Midland Railway Co., and three by the London and North-Western Railway Co., but they all raised the same point, and were all against the same three defendants. The first defendants were Messrs. R. H. & S. L. Plant, the second Messrs. Barker, and the third Messrs. Cartwright & Edwards. The claim for £4 19s. 9d. was repre-sented by one penny in respect of every crate carted. This was a charge which had been made and paid for over twenty years. Up to June, 1906, the charge was twopence, but in that month it was lowered. In 1906 the defendants, who, amongst others, apparently considered it was a charge that they ought not to be compelled to pay, made representations to the Board of Trade to that effect. They got no remedy, however, and in September the defendants refused to pay these charges. He submitted that in the first place he was entitled to recover, because there was a contract in which the defendants agreed to pay tyhis penn for delivery. It was a charge they knew was being made for services they required to be rendered ; it had been made and paid up to a certain time without objection, and at the time the objection was taken the defendants did not cease to require the services to be rendered. Counsel quoted from the rate book and the classification book of the plaintiff company, showing that the liability for payment of the charge, which was a supplemental charge in North Staffordshire alone, for the delivery of returned empties was clearly set forth. Mr. G. Ross, North Staffordshire Railway agent at Longton, was called to prove that the defendants had declined to pay the charge. For the defence Mr. B. C. Brough said that he proposed to show that the action of the plaintiffs in making this charge was illegal, unfair, and unreason-able. His Honour pointed out that the questions of the fairness and reasonableness of the charge did not enter into that action. After a prolonged legal argument Mr. Brough intimated that he was prepared to leave the case entirely in the hands of his Honour. In giving judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs on the higher scale, the Judge suggested that if some arrangement could be made to put the rate on the consignor the whole of the hardship might be avoided.

A China Clay Agency.—On Nov. 11 the case of the West of England China Stone and Clay Company v. Grose & Stocker came before Mr. Justice Neville in the Chancery Division upon an application by the defendants to have the action transferred from the Chancery to the King's Bench Division of the High Court. Mr. G. Brown, K.C., who made the application, said that the principal ground for it was that the general nature of the action was, of necessity, in the nature of a commercial cause, and was one that obviously could be better tried before a commercial court and a jury. There were also allega-tions of fraud made which the defendants were most anxious should be tried by a jury. Though the statement of claim had not been delivered, it had been drawn up and made an exhibit to an affidavit file upon the application, and he would refer to it as showing the nature of the action. The plaintiffs were seven companies, who were dealers in clay, and the defendants were a number of people who acted as their agents, though some of them were sued as executors. An agreement was entered into with the predecessors of the defendant firm, and in 1866 Grose Bros. were appointed agents for the sale of Cornish clay practically all over the world. In the year 1890 there was a change in the firm, and again in 1894, and in 1906 it became constituted as it now was. The first-men-tioned plaintiffs were the selling agents, and the defendants were to act as agents so long as they gave satisfaction. There was no agreement in writing, but it appeared that they were to receive the clay in bulk, split it up into small parcels, and pay the cost of dis-tributing it, putting it in wagons, &c. For this they were to receive a fair remuneration to recoup them for their expenses, and be paid a fair interest on the capital employed in the business. That had been the course of dealing for forty years, including fifteen years in respect of which accounts were asked for. The defendants' re-muneration depended upon the differences in the prices at which the goods were invoiced and the prices charged, and the plaintiffs' allegation generally was that for years the defendants had been charging prices which gave them too much remuneration. Mr. Brown : It was alleged that the defendants never accounted to the plaintiffs for the higher prices charged to customers over the lower prices charged to the agents. Of course they did not, because they were entitled to keep the difference. Under these circumstances he asked the Court to transfer the whole matter, including the defendants' counter-claim for damages, to the King's Bench Division where it could be expeditiously disposed of. His Lordship said he saw no reason why the matter could not be properly tried in the Chancery Division, and dismissed the application with costs. Counsel for the plaintiffs was not called upon. Leave to appeal was refused.

Employees' Wages during Illness.—In the City of London Court, on Oct. 27, before His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a case of interest to the trade was disposed of, in which A. W. Elkins, clerk, 2, Stapleston-parade, Crouch End, sued his late em-ployers, Olivier & Co., china and glass merchants, 13, Australian-avenue, E.C. for £6 damages for wrongful dismissal. Mr. Good, for the plaintiff, said he was formerly the defendants' ledger clerk at a salary of 30s. per week. Plaintiff was engaged in August of last year, and after working for defendants until May 7, he became ill. He wrote and told defendants of his illness, and on May 10 he sent a doctor's certificate. The illness proved to be a little worse than he at first thought, and he wrote and told his employers he would probably be away for three weeks. The illness continued, and on May 19 defendants sent plaintiff £3, two weeks' wages. On May 19 defendants sent to say they hoped plaintiff would soon be back. Then on Wednesday, June 2, they terminated the engage-ment, and said they would not keep the position open any more for him. As soon as plaintiff was well he went to the defendants, but his services were refused. He therefore now claimed four weeks' wages from May 16 to the termination of the notice of June 2. For the defendants a representative (Mr. Rand) said they con-sidered that the plaintiff's behaviour had been very high-handed. They did not want to be hard on the plaintiff, but the truth was that after 6.30 in the evening when he left the defendants, plaintiff was running a business of his own, and he worked so hard at it that it brought about the illness which the defendants were now asked to pay for. Plaintiff had pericarditis owing to overwork. As soon as plaintiff's illness started witness was instructed to discharge him. Out of consideration for his wife, witness did not do that. Plaintiff was a bit lazy. Instead of him "bucking up" he stayed longer at a convalescent home than there was any need for. They had treated him very well. If defendants' manager had known plaintiff was running a separate business of his own at night, he would have "sacked" him at once. Judge Lumley Smith observed that if a clerk was ill that did not put an end to his services. His wages had to be paid all the same. Defendants seemed to have treated plaintiff very well, but not having been "sacked" at the outset why should they not pay him his wages up to the expiration of the notice. Mr. Rand : Because he made himself ill in his own business. Plaintiff said he did not work abnormally hard in his own time. Mr. Rand added that plaintiff had to rise at six a.m. to look after his own business. Judge Lumley Smith said the notice of June 2 was given on a Wednesday. Plaintiff was claiming that the notice could only be given on the following Saturday. That was not his (the Judge's) view. A notice to leave could easily be given on a Wednesday, and it would terminate on the following Wednesday. There was no reason why a notice should not be given in the middle of a week. He would have to knock off something from plaintiff's claim in respect of that. The defendants could not prove that plaintiff made himself ill in his own business. Judgment for the plaintiff for five guineas and costs.

The Porcelain Imports of Salonica during 1907 were valued at £3,370. Germany supplied £2,800 worth and the remainder came from Austria-Hungary.

FAMILIAR FACES IN THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

MR. J. DONALD BENION, J.P.

SCOTLAND has long been remarkable for its industrial and commercial progress, while to Scotchmen must be accorded the credit for many of the most successful industrial undertakings in other countries. Unhappily, persons whose claim to recognition has been acquired in a life of commercial activity are not always appreciated as they should be by the public at large. But those who are intimately acquainted with the great manufacturing and distributing firms of the United Kingdom know that the members of them are amongst the most estimable of people. The qualities possessed by successful business men are for the most part commendable from other than the merely commercial point of view. I have no doubt this is so in other trades. I know it is in the trades represented by this GAZETTE. It is easy to explain why it should be. The man who has gone through a proper course of training in a pottery, or as a distributor, of pottery and glass, has been subjected to a wholesome discipline that not only makes for his success in business, but qualifies him for the responsible duties of life.



[*Photo by A. D. Watson, Edinburgh.*
MR. J. DONALD BENION, J.P.

Mr. J. Donald Benion has the advantage of having been well trained in both the manufacturing and distributing branches of the pottery trade. I knew something of his early career before I went to Edinburgh, but it was only after a short interview with him that it occurred to me he would make an interesting subject for one of our sketches. After some persuasion, he consented to answer a few questions I put to him with that object. The information he kindly gave me I have been able to supplement by particulars obtained from other sources. When I called on John Donald & Co., Bristo Port, Bristo-place, Edinburgh, it was with the sole object of giving the account of their extensive business which appeared last month. Mr. J. Donald Benion is now the sole proprietor of that business. His father, Mr. William Benion, was a native of Church Stretton, Salop, and was a pottery specialist, first in Staffordshire, and afterwards in Glasgow, where the subject of this sketch was born. His mother and the late Dr. Livingstone, the great African explorer, were at school together at Blantyre, near Glasgow. He was first educated at St. John's Academy, Glasgow, and afterwards was placed under the care of private tutors. He seems quite early to have taken an interest in pottery. His uncle, Mr. John Donald—after whom he was named—was head of the Clyde Pottery Co., Greenock. Mr. Donald was also the principal in the firm of John Donald & Co., Bristo Port, Edinburgh. Young Mr. Benion entered his uncle's pottery very early, and when he was sixteen years of age he was placed in control of the glost warehous He then had charge of all employed in the warehouse an packing and crate-making departments. He had also t superintend the despatch of all orders both for the hom and foreign customers, and to instruct the manager as t the quantities of goods he had to make. He was at th Clyde Pottery several years, and during that time h made periodical visits to the Staffordshire Potteries, whe he made a point of studying the potter's art, and of notin the progress made in the use of machines, and the applica tion of methods. He was at this time a diligent studer of pottery manufacture, though he had not the advantag of any technical school or art class to assist him.

At his uncle's request he joined the retail business John Donald & Co., at Edinburgh, and filled variou positions there in rotation—as assistant buyer, occasiona traveller, and eventually he was appointed general manage He succeeded in opening new ground for the firm in nearl every part of Scotland. As his predecessor in the manage ment had commenced business on his own account, M Benion found it was necessary to make special efforts t recover as much as possible of the business he had take with him. This he succeeded in doing beyond his expecta tions. The business began to improve under his manage ment, and it has continued to increase under his energeti supervision. Mr Benion is a strict disciplinarian, and hi business method is seen in every department to-day There is no doubt whatever that his remarkable capacit for organisation, coupled with his knowledge of the detail of the business, has been the secret of the firm's success He learnt much from his late uncle, Mr. John Donald, wh was not only one of the most urbane and companionabl of men, but was a shrewd and clever man of business a well. He was highly respected in business circles and i the city. He was a town councillor and a Justice of th Peace. Mr. Benion speaks with quite filial regard of th kindness of his uncle, who, he said, "introduced me int good society in the town, and made my leisure hours ver pleasant and happy." Mr. Donald had numerous engage ments, and so Mr. Benion was left very much to himse to carry on the business without his aid. "But," sai Mr. Benion, "the retail trade was very prosperous i those days."

Mr. Benion was admitted a partner in 1883. His uncl Mr. John Donald, died in 1887, and Mr. Benion, who wa then junior partner, carried on the business for the trustee of his uncle's estate till 1896, when he acquired the busines and became sole proprietor—which he is to-day. He i full of vitality—mental and physical—and I understan that his marvellous energy is responsible for all th developments of the huge business he now controls. H has extended it from time to time until it is to-day on of the largest wholesale and retail businesses in our trad in Scotland. While he was junior partner, his uncle an himself were honoured by being appointed by specia warrant purveyors of china and glass to Her late Majest Queen Victoria. This was in 1886. When King Edwar VII. succeeded to the throne, the same honour was con ferred on Mr. Benion, in his own name, "trading a John Donald & Co." In addition to a number c auxilliary assistants whose services are periodically re quired, Mr. Benion has twenty-four regular employees a Bristo Port, and it was pleasant to hear him speak s highly, so kindly, of them all. He told me their numbe in answer to my inquiry, and then added "I am proud t say they are all faithful and always do their duty. I d not think any employer about here has a better or a mor efficient staff." My interview with Mr. Benion enable me to understand this. If I could have interviewed th employees, I am sure they would have spoken quite a highly and as kindly about him.

It was impossible to be in Mr. Benion's company, even for the part of a day I spent with him, without noticing his extraordinary intellectuality. This was more in evidence when our conversation diverged from business matters. When I am away from home on business I do not follow public matters so closely as when I have my London morning paper regularly before, and at, breakfast. I asked Mr. Benion a question on some current topics, and was surprised at the fulness and clearness of his information on the subject, knowing how engrossed he is in his business. This led me to remark, "You are well up in the news of the day, Mr. Benion?" "Well," he replied, "I read the daily newspapers regularly every morning from six-thirty till eight. I have done so for the last 35 years, so that I am in a position to hold my own, if neeessary, in controversy on most public questions."

I discovered myself that he was a well-read man and was fully conversant with Shakespeare and many other poets, but I have learnt since that he has more than an average acquaintance with the literature of science, history, philosophy, and biography. Although he undertakes the general control of his huge business himself, he leads a very active life outside business, and has a record that should shame some of us. He is a Justice of the Peace for the "County of the City of Edinburgh"; he served as a volunteer for seven years in the Greenock Highlanders, and wore the Black Watch tartan kilt. About that time, during the Fenian outbreak, he answered the call of the Greenock magistracy and became a special constable. At one time he took his share in public speaking on political questions, but does not now; he is a member of a municipal committee; he takes great interest in the literary and musical world, and has been in succession secretary, vice-president, and president for many years of a literary and dramatic society, and is considered very good as an elocutionist and as a dramatic and musical critic. He was also an oarsman on the Clyde in his early days. For seven years he was choir master (voluntary) at Greenock. He takes great interest in philanthropic work, and is an active member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. I learn that he is very charitably disposed, with strong sympathies for those in distress.

With the example of "Who's Who?" in my mind, I asked Mr. Benion what his favourite recreations were. He replied, "Golfing, fishing, and travelling." His greatest pleasure, roaming through art galleries. He has been fond of travelling all his life, having visited the Continent upwards of a dozen times. He is familiar with all the principal cities in Europe and many of the smaller towns. He has visited the greater part of North America and Canada, the United States, and Morocco, Brittany, Normandy, and the Mediterranean, the Canaries and Madeira. But I could see that even now, in spite of all these attractive diversions, he is first and above all a man of business. He told me that he had devoted practically the greater part of his life to the study of the best business methods. The result is seen in the organisation and conduct of his own business. If Mr. Benion would only take the trouble to publish some account of the countless simple yet effective regulations which make his business run so smoothly and so pleasantly for all engaged in it, he would confer a benefit on the trade. He is a fine example of the benefits of reading and travelling, and he has that great advantage to a well-read man—a retentive memory. I am sure his social friends must find him a warm-hearted, genial, and entertaining companion. He is full of vivacity, in the prime of life, the picture of health—and a bachelor!

A COMMERCIAL'S COMPLAINT.

(BY OUR POTTERIES CORRESPONDENT.)

WHILE in conversation a few weeks ago with a commercial traveller representing a prominent local firm of earthenware manufacturers, I was much interested to hear some remarks which fell from him as to the extent to which members of his profession sometimes find themselves dependent on external considerations for the orders they get. He had just returned, when I met him, from what he described as the worst and most unproductive journey he had ever experienced in the West of England. He said that during the whole of his experience—and it is not by any means a short one—he had never found orders so hard to pick up. Not only was trade bad in most districts, but other things. he said, had been very much against him. "In what way?" I asked. "Well," he replied, "the last week I was out it rained hard for three days, and it's not much good calling on a shopkeeper for orders when it rains. He's not doing much business himself, and he won't give anybody else any." My informant went on to say that on other days in the same week he called at one town where there was a fair proceeding, and at another where a race meeting was in progress, and both those events militated against the booking of orders. "Why," he observed, "if you call on a dealer at such times the chances are you never get a chance of showing your things at all. You go in the shop, introduce yourself, and remark that you've got a nice lot of new samples which you'd like to show. The shopkeeper tells you at once that he can't be bothered to look at them because it's the 'races,' the 'wakes,' or the 'mop,' as the case may be. That there is nobody in the shop doesn't make the slightest difference, because nobody would attempt to show his samples when customers are waiting to be served. It may be that there has not been anyone in the shop for half an hour, but the shopkeeper will still insist that he's very busy. 'I shan't take up a quarter of an hour of your time,' you say. 'Not a bit of use,' says the dealer. 'Don't trouble to undo your samples. Just look at all these people coming down the street!' You look through the shop window and see a troop of men with field glasses slung over their shoulders coming along. The shopkeeper apparently expects them all to walk into his shop and purchase crates of ware to take with them on to the racecourse. Should the party be composed of young people eager to see 'all the fun of the fair,' its just the same—he expects them all to come into the shop, until they've passed by. When they've gone you resume the attack, but to little purpose. He says he's busy, and nothing will convince him that he is not, so long as he can see crowds of people in the street outside. He doesn't want to see your samples, he says he's overstocked. Christmas may be coming and you may have a particularly, choice lot of samples, but 'he's got no use for them,' or else 'he's given his order the previous day to Messrs. X. & Co.'" That, concluded my friend, was the sort of reception he had several times met with during the journey he had just completed, and I sympathised with him a good deal as I shook hands and bade him be of good cheer. Other people, besides china and earthenware dealers, I am afraid, are prone to persuade themselves that they are busy when they are not; and as for the rain—well, most of us are creatures of moods, and nobody is inclined to take the most cheerful outlook, whether as to trade or anything else, when it is "raining cats and dogs."

Tips to Buyers.—We rather discourage these things in England, but a Transatlantic trade journal has an article headed, "Tips to Busy Buyers." They will want a "Bribery and Corruption Act" there soon if this goes on.

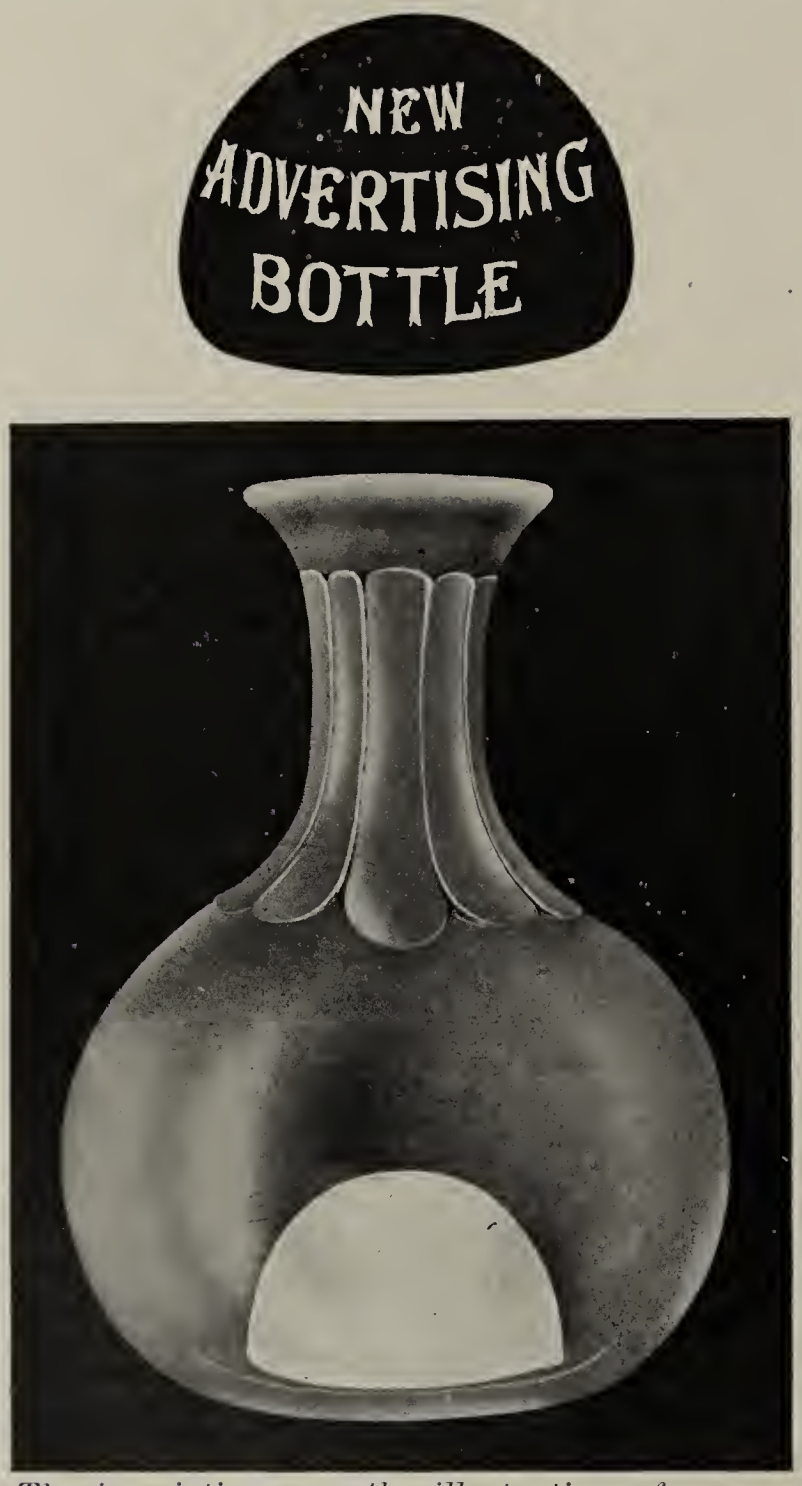
SOME GLASS AND POTTERY WORKS IN SCOTLAND.

(BY A "POTTERY GAZETTE" SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

(*Continued from page* 1306.)

JOHN BAIRD, LTD., GLASGOW.

THE company are manufacturers of cut, engraved, etched, and decorated flint glass, and have very extensive works at Bishop-street, Port Dundas, Glasgow. I was fortunate in meeting Mr. Baird himself, the principal, and he kindly accompanied me round their numerous departments and explained many of their special methods.



The inscription over the illustration, of course, appears on the bottle in the space indicated. The lower illustration shows the size of the space when the bottle is empty, the upper the magnified appearance of the letters when it is full. The letters are in white, on a background of blue or red.

Their business is a unique one, and very different from what is usually meant by the term "glass manufacturers." They have really two businesses, carried on quite separately, though in adjacent large premises. One consists of bevelling, silvering, gilding, and embossing sheet and plate glass, including cutting, bevelling, and polishing circular glasses for ships' lights. I was greatly interested in what I saw in that branch, but as it does not concern the industry represented by this GAZETTE I shall only speak about the branch in which my readers *are* interested.

The company have a very large business in cutting, engraving, etching, and embossing all kinds of glass for domestic table purposes and for ships' use. Also gas, lamp, electric, and incandescent light globes. I was especially interested in the advertising novelties, which form so large a proportion of the company's output. I have to thank Mr. Baird for the patience with which he explained many of the processes I saw in operation. To speak frankly, I had not before fully realised the magnitude of the trade done in glassware solely for advertising purposes. Jugs, carafes, tumblers, square decanters, old Dutch decanters, in great variety, are supplied in many styles of decoration for this purpose. The decorations include enamels, white and coloured, etchings, sand-blasting, engraving, &c. Most of the decorations I saw were accomplished by applied enamel colours. The devices were transferred from prepared paper patterns, and were fixed by firing in special kilns. Some of these designs are made more prominent by a background of white enamel, which is also fixed permanently by firing. I saw in course of execution orders from a dozen or more well-known firms in the distilling, brewing, and bottling trades. Many of the designs are elaborate and beautifully executed. Some of the work is exceedingly fine, giving much sharper and more delicate results. This is due to the company's special process, and to their method of "backing." The accompanying illustration shows an advertising speciality which was introduced by the company, and has become very popular. The centre of the bottom of the bottle is raised in the form of a globe into the interior, and on this is printed any required device. Mostly they are the customers' own advertisements, the letters being ruby on a white groundwork, or *vice versa*. When the bottle is empty the inscription appears in its normal size, but when the bottle is filled with water the announcement is magnified, and appears twice its size. Our illustration shows a bottle with the enamel letters. The inscription on the empty bottle appears small, but with the bottle full the inscription is magnified. This is a very attractive advertisement, especially when in white enamel with coloured background. I saw scores of young women and girls engaged in this transfer work, which they accomplish with great rapidity and accuracy. The firing is carried out (by men, of course) in improved kilns, in which the temperature is regulated to a great nicety. It must be hot enough to fix the enamel permanently, but not hot enough to distort the glass.

In another department glass show-cards were being prepared. These are rectangular, oblong, or oval. Some of them are large, with elaborate, artistic designs, and are heavily gilt. The stock of glassware undecorated is, necessarily, a large one, and, to a great extent, in shapes reserved to particular customers. Cut glass barrels and bottles in many shapes are kept in stock. I saw some very handsome large glass urns for spirits, with richly cut stoppers, with inscriptions enamelled in gold on a coloured ground. There are some brewers' and distillers' mirror show-cards in effective designs. These large and interesting works are well worth visiting by dealers in our trades. They might do a good business in suggesting advertising novelties to users, and Messrs. John Baird, Ltd., will always send prices and samples when requested by any one in our trade.

THE "NAUTILUS" PORCELAIN COMPANY

are manufacturers of fine art porcelain at Possil Pottery, Glasgow. The works are only a short ride by electric car from the centre of the city and in a direct line.

Although pottery is an old Glasgow industry, these works do not make any claim to antiquity ; indeed, this is probably one of the youngest potteries in Scotland, yet it produces some of the finest wares. The company commenced business in another part of Glasgow, but about twelve or thirteen years ago they acquired the site at Possil Park, and erected the present works. They have at various times added to the number of their ovens and increased their plant by the latest and best machinery and appliances. The company grind the whole of the raw materials they use, both for their china and earthenware, and are in other respects self-contained. They manufacture a large variety of useful domestic requisites in a semi-porcelain body. These include miscellaneous table ware, such as teapots, cheese stands and covers, jugs, fruit dishes in various sizes, biscuit boxes, handled mugs, and vases in printed and decorated patterns. They make also a number of flower-pots in artistic shapes and tastefully decorated. But in the South they are best known as manufacturers of the fine ivory body china, known as "Nautilus" porcelain. The name of the ware (and of the company) must have been suggested by the shell-like characteristics of their special porcelain. These are the extraordinary lightness of the body and beautiful sheen of the surface. The articles are all delicate and artistic, whether for use or ornament. "Nautilus" porcelain is art ware of a high class, and it is artistically decorated. There are hand-painted ornamentations of tea-services, of trinket sets and dessert services, fruit-trays and plaques. Perhaps the most beautiful productions of the company are in their well-known basket or wicker work. The delicacy of this fine handwork can only be realised by inspection. It is seen to advantage in the dainty bowls, dishes, and gipsy baskets, and in the larger handled bowls used for flowers or cards. The delicate tints and remarkable lightness of the artistic forms and designs make "Nautilus" porcelain most appropriate for presentation purposes. There is a very extensive range of heraldic and view ware in fancy and useful shapes. The larger productions of the company include table centre-pieces for fruit or flowers, jardinieres and side pieces, vases and plaques, all fine porcelain beautifully modelled.

J. & M. P. Bell & Co., Ltd., Glasgow Pottery, are manufacturers of porcelain and earthenware, their speciality being fine sanitary ware. Their productions do not concern our readers as trade commodities, but they are exceedingly interesting, both on account of their variety and quality. The range of cabinet stands and ship cabinet stands is very large, including a number of their own patented and registered specialities. They make sitzbaths, foot baths, child baths, and bath knob handles and shields.

I called on Messrs. A. & R. Cochran, St. Rollox Flint Glass Works, but I am sorry I was not fortunate enough to meet with anyone who could give me any information, and I was unable to call again. I will make an early call on them when next I am in Glasgow.

Reichenberg Hollow Glassware Industry.—The Austrian Department for the Encouragement of Industries proposes the following measures for stimulating the hollow glassware industry in the Reichenberg district :—Erection of an experimental furnace, the appointment of one or more experts to visit German glass works ; establishment of central workshops for glassworkers ; tariff revision to favour exportation. It is also proposed to open a drawing office for the production of new designs for glassware in connection with the trade schools at Steinschönau and Haida, together with the provision of special lectures and an experimental workshop equipped with the newest technical appliances.

THE WEST OF ENGLAND CLAY TRADE.

(specially contributed.)

ALL kinds of timber can be utilised for clay working, and consequently the clay district, although naturally well wooded, presents, like most mining centres, a comparatively barren aspect, for timber is always in demand, and when winter gales sweep up the Devon valleys, overthrowing the top-heavy, shallow-rooted elm and lofty fir, the owner may be sure of a ready purchaser amongst the clay merchants for these "windfalls." Elm and fir timber is used for stay boards, clay sheds, run planks, planking, and the slobs for bed place boards. Ash timber is used for wheelbarrows, and for most tools and tool sticks, excepting the "bittle" or "biddle," a wooden mallet for driving wedges. The "biddle" must be made of "holm" (holly) or apple. Apple wood is the best, because of its natural toughness and other superior qualities derived from those superstitious rites paid to the apple tree in Devonshire ; although there are few farmers now who care to turn out and repeat rhymes, sing verses, and drink cyder in the shade of the old apple tree. The tops and chips were formerly the property of the sawyers and "fellers," or of anyone who cared to carry them away, and "stealing no robbery." If the merchant who caught any youthful marauders loaded with boughs and took any notice at all, it would be to beg them to be careful not to go too near the shafts or fall in the cisterns. Ash twigs and branches were used for the ashen fagot, if it happened to be cut at Christmas time, not otherwise, as ashen fagots must be made of freshly cut wood. When the trees in the immediate vicinity of the pits become scarce, the merchant is compelled to go further afield for his wood. Some props come to South Devon from Ireland, but lately a large quantity of pit wood has been drawn from the borders of Dartmoor, where tens of thousands of trees have been planted. In purchasing large or small lots of clay timber when standing, it is important that the purchaser should first count the cost of felling and hauling. Felling is paid at the rate of one halfpenny per cubic foot, and hauling, 3d., 4d. or 5d. ditto. This 5d. rate covers the cost of hauling from the moor, and includes delivery at the clay pits.

When sinking clay shafts, Scotch fir is usually employed for frames on account of its strength, and also because it is very plentiful. Many of the Scotch fir plantations that supplied pit stays used by the old workers were said to have had a political significance. Those squires who favoured the Stuarts planted Scotch, and adherents of William of Orange planted lime trees, but the probability is that there but was little sentiment about the matter. It is more likely that the small expense necessary led to the judicious planting of barren hillside and desolate wastes. Clay shafts are "squared in" to one of the three following sizes, 10 ft. by 6 ft. 6 in., 11 ft. 6 in. by 6 ft. 6 in., or 10 ft. by 7 ft. There does not seem to be any particular reason for the different sizes, but some firms prefer one size and some another. When a good body of clay, which it is decided to mine, has been located by boring, the meat earth is taken off for some distance around, where it is proposed to sink and put back in heaps, to be used at some future time for making good the worked ground. So much earth had been buried that there was every probability that unless it was put back meat earth would become as costly as clay. The road for carts to remove the clay raised must be planned out, and a course for the water to be pumped from the pit. When the shaft has been sunk to a depth of five feet, and at every subsequent five feet sinking, operations are suspended for timbering. The sides are wreathed with gorse and withy. This

is called by the clay men, "fraith," "wraith," or "wreathe"; the "wreathe" is to prevent the loose gravel or sand from running into the pit. Wreathe is bought from the farmers in seams of twelve fagots, irrespective of weight. Pipe and brick manufacturers, who also purchase wreathe, but under the name of "packing," as it is laid between goods on rail, buy by the hundred fagots. Each fagot must be of an agreed weight, or at least average that weight. When well wreathed, stakes called "uprights" are placed against the wreathe, about two dozen stakes to a round, eight at each side and four each end of the pit. Timbers for framing must girth 8 inches. The four lengths of timber for the frame must be cut to size, so that when well "married" (dovetailed) the frame will fit snugly in the pit.

Every frame rests on four studdles, one at each corner. The studdle is a log of from 12 to 16 inches long, and also girths 8 inches. The distance between the frames, that is, the length of the studdle, is governed by the nature of the ground. In treacherous ground the frames are much closer together. Each frame is further strengthened by centre boards placed across the centre of the pit, dividing the shaft. The pump and ladders are in one half, and the clay bucket goes up and down the other. Each time the pit is timbered, the bottom frame is fastened by a long chain from the surface, known as a hanging or sinking chain. When the seam of clay that is to be worked is reached, the timbering is only temporary and merely for safety until the bottom of the seam is reached. When through the clay a well from 3 to 6 feet is sunk to catch the water to be pumped out of the shaft and levels. The well is timbered precisely in the same way as the pit, and the flooring of the pit is laid across the mouth of the well. The temporary timbers can now be removed, and four long studdles are put in, connecting the frames at the top and bottom of the seam. The pit will now stand firmly, without the hanging chains, which can be removed. Levels are now driven into the clay to a distance of from 50 to 100 feet. The depth of the shaft may be anything from 20 to 120 feet. Short ladders of about 20 feet long rest on planks placed across the shaft, which ladders must be chained and not fixed in a vertical or overhanging position, but inclined at as convenient an angle as the space will allow, in accordance with the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, abstracts of which must be posted on the works. The levels are well timbered with pit props. A 5 ft. 6 in. length of timber, called a "long bottom," is laid on the floor of the level. Two 5 ft. 6 in. posts rest on the "long bottom," and support a 4 ft. 6 in. "overhead," making a framework similar to the sill of a door, except that the overhead is a foot shorter than the long-bottom. When the levels are dry and the clay does not drive very much, small bottom pieces are used instead of long ones. The short timber is 12 inches square and 4 to 5 inches thick, and is used to rest the posts on, so that the weight "up over" could not drive the posts down through the clay. It should have been mentioned that the two frames at the top of the shaft are not divided by studdles, so that as the shaft sinks the top frame can gradually be raised by putting pieces of wood in, as many inches thick as the pit has fallen away. Then, too, the first three sets of timbers in a level often have one six-foot post, the next two, 5 ft. 9 in. posts, and afterward the 5 ft. 6 in. ones commence. The reason for having the longer uprights is to enable the men to tip up their clay from the wheelbarrows when they drive them to the mouth of the level, without going out of the level and standing in the shaft, and thus incurring the danger of anything falling on them from the surface. The corners of the pit between the levels are carefully staked with extra large uprights.

The buckets must not be used by the miners for ascending or descending, but the ladders only are employed for this. The bucket for sinking a shaft is smaller than that used for raising the clay from the levels. Most frames take from 30 to 32 feet of fir poles and, as many of these will be unable to bear the strain, which is great, and may smash; and as sometimes whole levels and shafts of timber are lost entirely, this will give some idea of the enormous quantity of British timber trees swallowed up in clay mining. The white clay pits, in which the "balls" are cut are 22 ft., 23 ft., or 24 ft. square, and are stayed with foreign balk timber of about a foot square. Three of these large stays are used in a "tier," and the stays in every alternate tier run in an opposite direction to the other tier, or crossways. Wreathe and uprights are also used. Thick elm stay boards are placed against the sides, and a great number of small boards known as "narrows" used. As every square pit has a margin of clay left, these are cut as foresides, and here a similar method of timbering as adopted, wreathe and uprights, &c., but fir stays are used, all running across the narrow part of the pit.

The American Tariff.—The probable increase or decrease in United States tariff rates has been much discussed lately. According to the "Glass and Pottery World" of New York, the home potters do not expect any reduction in the import duty on pottery, and are jubilant. Mr. Taft, speaking at Sioux City, Iowa, said:—My own impression, without being familiar with the schedules as an expert, is that in most cases the operation of the protective tariff has been normal, the cost of production has been reduced, and therefore the revision with respect to those schedules should be downward. There are a few, pottery is one, in which no such change has taken place. Indeed the change in that case has been the other way, and in that respect probably the tariff ought to be raised."

The Austrian Pottery Trade.—The Austrian china and pottery ware factories still complain of a lack of business, and numerous establishments have had to allow holiday shifts. Although in very many cases the hours of work have been reduced to five (and often to four) days per week, in all directions factories are mostly working to stock whilst many firms usually making special lines are now producing staple white goods merely to prevent the necessity of dismissing their hands. Sales to home dealers continue poor. There is a heavy drop noticeable in orders and home trade is consequently not compensating for the stoppage in exports. The American crisis has had a very dire effect, many orders being cancelled and the goods consequently thrown on factors' hands. American trade will, it is believed, revive shortly, but so far there are no signs of any such reanimation. The firms which used to work solely for abroad were compelled, by the stoppage of trade with America and abroad, to turn their attention to home markets, and have consequently assisted in enhancing the accumulation of stocks at home—an accumulation which has been rendered all the more acute for the following reason. On July 1, last, the arrangement between the Porcelain Factories' Cartel and the Dealers' Unions came into force, whereby dealers were bound to buy from the Cartel, which, in its turn, was bound to sell solely to the dealers belonging thereto. Now, on the one hand, before the Cartel became an established fact, factories sold as much as they could to dealers on the old conditions; dealers, on the other hand, had bought all they could for cover for some time ahead in those lines popular with the public but not sold by the factories joining the Cartel. This complication of circumstances has co-operated to increase stocks in dealers' hands to such an extent that a parallel can hardly be found, and naturally fresh orders are being given very sparingly.

EXPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, GLASS AND GLASSWARE (British Products) FOR OCTOBER, 1908.

	Quantities. Month ended Oct. 31.		Quantities. Ten Months ended Oct. 31.		Value. Month ended Oct. 31.		Value. Ten Months ended Oct. 31.	
CHINA OR PORCELAIN, AND EARTHENWARE.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
To Germany ..... cwts.	6,292	5,397	84,639	72,758	£8,567	£4,650	£73,452	£51,991
„ France ..... „	3,492	2,688	45,993	33,149	7,524	6,377	54,428	60,082
„ United States of America ..... „	48,003	25,772	437,730	320,463	59,313	36,757	522,653	411,623
„ Brazil ..... „	16,013	21,114	169,758	206,420	11,615	8,698	127,563	101,057
„ Argentine Republic ..... „	30,909	28,015	289,305	251,829	18,024	17,859	146,470	163,894
„ British South Africa ..... „	7,749	5,895	99,134	67,740	6,144	8,160	70,593	63,113
„ British East Indies..... „	21,786	21,239	252,606	266,067	14,232	15,062	136,045	152,819
„ Australia ..... „	20,670	17,471	180,441	156,967	24,433	17,024	207,585	176,337
„ New Zealand ..... „	9,380	9,254	71,931	76,169	14,886	14,184	103,669	95,642
„ Canada ..... „	34,349	30,285	276,500	336,647	29,951	18,304	247,575	228,435
„ Other Countries ..... „	108,974	87,820	861,502	821,616	61,568	51,246	519,050	487,749
MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:								
Porcelain Chinaware, and Parian..... „	2,168	2,120	17,776	16,892	20,657	15,624	156,620	116,456
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „		6,836		67,905		4,997		59,747
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... „	151,942	7,428	1318272	82.284	193,347	6,746	1,649,569	61,594
Sanitary Ware ..... „		16,900		153,911		25,178		226,792
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica) ..... „		88,288		959,013		115,389		1,220,824
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	1,134	679	2,094	7,045	1,212	1,126	2,502	11,085
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	139,374	126,151	1,306,053	1,258,560	24,360	21,033	246.595	212,240
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) „	13,599	6,548	125,344	64,215	16,681	8,228	153,801	84,004
GLASS.								
To British South Africa.....value £	—	—	—	—	7,832	5,298	54,593	47,856
„ Other Countries .. .. „	—	—	—	—	123,167	124,847	1,119,395	1,080,790
MADE UP AS FOLLOWS								
Plate Glass .....cwts.	12,248	18,027	124,883	138,602	20,020	29,084	205,602	227,304
Flint Glass ..... „	6,670	6,624	60,247	50,018	21,568	20,008	180,897	155,466
Glass Bottles .....gross	79,205	65,825	721,611	621,759	52,062	43,024	468,774	420,506
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	41,488	44,673	395,114	392,865	37,349	38,029	318,715	325,370

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS FOR OCTOBER.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian..cwts.	4,691	6,691	44,862	50,517	23,389	28,557	217,853	228,551
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „		371		3,081		206		1,127
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving) ..... „	31,137	2,390	280,650	22,936	60,283	1,556	550,241	15,024
Sanitary Ware .... „		10		467		21		1,029
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)..... „		22,961		230,819		47,017		469,082
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	—	5	183	179	—	22	547	640
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	15,314	8,052	68,181	78,996	2,122	1,751	12,963	25,662
Other sorts (including Electrical Ware, Door Fittingsand Chemical Ware) „	2,166	1,921	21,205	19,209	2,640	2,938	27,610	29,621
Window and German Sheet Glass „	130,735	109,171	1,057,470	978,573	77,679	59,817	597,577	557,919
Plate Glass ..... „	28,219	30,413	346,391	276,080	36,066	38,763	426,508	346,055
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	75,006	64,331	654,100	586,509	112,755	94,887	968,568	869,187
Glass Bottles.....gross	123,903	93,388	1,212,431	1,214,420	51,987	40,394	507,565	505,666
Glass Manufactures, other sorts....cwts.	968	354	10,971	5,069	1,178	560	13,814	7,310

IMPORTS OF CHINA, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS (Foreign and Colonial Merchandise) FOR OCTOBER.

Porcelain, Chinaware, and Parian ...cwts.	2,104	2,265	15,746	18,146	11,800	10,935	75,532	87,687
Floor Tiles for Tesselated Pavement „		—		34		—		60
All other Tiles (except Roofing and Street Paving)..... „	684	—	13,193	221	1,910	—	27,805	241
Sanitary Ware..... „		—		52		—		196
Other Earthenware (including semi-Porcelain, and Majolica)..... ..... „		401		5,194		1,257		12,845
Jet, Rock'm, and Glazed Terra-cotta „	—	—	15	2	—	—	42	5
Red, Stone, Brown and Yellow Ware „	9	11	570	1,915	27	36	176	1,914
Other sorts(including Electrical Ware, Door Fittings and Chemical Ware) „	2	149	127	320	3	144	252	592
Window and German Sheet Glass „	873	855	7,125	7,121	411	391	3,255	3,816
Plate Glass ..... „	280	363	4,029	1,660	374	388	4,544	1,836
Flint, plain, cut, or ornamented, and other Manufactures of Flint Glass „	537	541	5,849	4,315	1,397	1,901	13,308	15,008
Glass Bottles .....gross	9,865	3,294	47,073	45,196	4,853	1,600	26,482	23,446
Glass Manufactures of other sorts ..cwts.	811	539	6,397	4,237	1,714	1,175	15,591	10,136

EARTHENWARE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Compiled from the returns of D. Inglis & Co.

	Shipments, Sept. 27 to Oct. 28, 1908.	Corresponding period, 1907.	Exports, Jan. 1 to Oct. 28, 1908.	Corresponding period, 1907.
	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.
To Boston	459	420	4,687	5,441
„ New York	600	666	5,155	6,351
„ Baltimore	1,136	1,854	14,699	16,837
„ Philadelphia	386	204	3,997	2,091
„ New Orleans	104	696	3,743	6,270
„ Newport News	31	—	590	1,759
„ San Francisco	173	20	242	512
„ Portland, Me.	117	374	4,030	5,125
„ Galveston	46	353	759	1,838
„ Portland, Or.	—	—	—	109
„ Inland Points	83	83	704	884
Total	3,135	4,670	38,606	47,227

Trade Notes.

The Editors are always glad to receive items of trade intelligence, such as removals, new premises, personal items, &c.; also marked local newspapers.

Mr. J. E. Heselwood has opened a glass, china, &c., store in Northgate, Darlington.

Mr. R. Parnell, crockery, &e., agent, has opened a show room at 2, Tipping-st., Cannon-st., Manchester.

David Inglis & Co. advise us that after Dec. 1 their address is to be Tower Buildings, Water-st., Liverpool.

Mr. P. I. Waddington, of 3, Thorne-rd., Doncaster, Yorkshire, glass bottle manufacturer, left estate to the value of £33,214.

J. H. Weatherby & Sons, Ltd., point out that the capital of their new company is £10,000, instead of £1,000, as was stated in our last issue.

Mr. E. Schmatolla, engineer, of 317, High Holborn, W.C., has published, at the price of 1s., an illustrated pamphlet on Producer Gas firing and the advantages of gas firing over the direct use of coal.

October seems to be a fairly favourable month for china, glass, and earthenware dealers. No persons engaged in those trades were gazetted as bankrupt in England and Wales during October, 1908, or the same month of 1907.

Mr. James A. Cox, of Compton House Pottery, 42, Old Compton-street, Soho, W., died at his private residence on Nov. 21. Communications can be addressed to his son, Mr. Frank E. Cox, 19, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.

The Glass and China business carried on by Mr. G. R. Lister has been transferred to his son, Tom Lister, who will carry it on at the old address, 30, Bridge-st., Keighley This establishment has been carried on in the family name for over 100 years.

Unmanufactured Clay to the weight of 59,285 tons and valued at £61,708 (including 4,250 tons of fire-clay, valued at £3,241) was exported from the United Kingdom during the month of October. The quantity shows an increase, but the total value is lower than in October of last year.

Baker Bros. (Hanley), Ltd.—This company has been registered, with a capital of £1,000 in £1 shares, to take over the business of sanitary and general earthenware manufacturers carried on by S. Baker and C. Baker at the Marlborough Pottery, Union-st., Hanley, as "Baker Bros."

Mr. Charles Waine, china manufacturer, Sutherland-rd., Longton, has appointed Mr. Thomas Porter, 60, Gamage-buildings, Holborn, E.C., his representative for London and district. Mr. Porter has a full range of samples of tea sets and other china goods on show, especially a fine display of "arms china," and the well known "Queen's ware."

Stafford House (Edinburgh), Ltd.—This company has been registered, with a capital of £2,500 in £1 shares, to take over the business of dealers in glass, china, and earthenware, carried on by Frank Butcher, Ltd., at 6 and 10, Earl Grey-st., and South-bridge-st., Edinburgh, and to adopt an agreement with H. T. Robinson. The subscribers are F. W. Harris and A. B. Llewellyn, both of Burslem.

Mrs. S. Jacobs, 61, Wilton-rd., Victoria Station, S.W., dealer in china, glass, and hardware, writes as follows:—In your current issue you have inserted a notice of the meeting of creditors called to consider the affairs of "Maurice Jacobs, trading as S. Jacobs." This is incorrect, as he was trading as "M. Jacobs & Co." I have now bought this business, and am carrying on same under my own name.

Mr. W. A. Peake, tile manufacturer, Hanford, died at his residence at Hanford, on Nov. 13, after a short illness, in his 63rd year. The late Mr. Peake was a well-known agriculturist as well as a tile manufacturer, and he resided at the Bank House Farm. He was a member of the Stone Board of Guardians and of the Rural District Council. He was a useful public man and was greatly esteemed by his employees and respected by his neighbours.

The Franco-British Exhibition.—We gave a list of the awards to British exhibitors of pottery and glass last month. We are unable yet to obtain a list of awards to French exhibitors. We applied for one several times to the authorities during the run of the exhibition, and at their suggestion wrote twice to Paris for a copy of the list, without success. We will continue to endeavour to obtain a copy and hope to be able to publish extracts from it next month.

Bullers, Ltd.—The report of the directors for the year ended July 31 states that the accounts, after paying directors' fees and managing directors' salaries, show a profit of £14,659, which, with £1,247 brought forward, makes a total of £15,906. This is not sufficient to declare any further dividend on the ordinary shares. The interest on the preference shares, £7,500, and dividends of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, £7,500, have been paid, leaving a balance of £906 which the directors propose to carry forward.

The New Arbitration Court.—In an editorial note on this subject in our last issue, we remarked upon the circumstanee that in the 33 names of employers and employed who had aceepted invitations to aet as members of the Court of Arbitration, our industries were not represented. We now learn that Mr. William Burton, of Clifton Junetion, was invited to serve, but his aceeptanee of the invitation had not been reeeived when the lists were sent out. We are pleased to find that Mr. Burton's name is now on the panel of employers.

A Fire oecurred at a china and glass shop in the High-rd., Tottenham, on Nov. 16. When the outbreak was discovered, the oeeupants, Mr. and Mrs. Farrow, with their two little boys, were in bed, and it was impossible for them to escape by means of the staircase. A blanket was procured, and the two children were thrown into this from the window, and eseaped injury. Mrs. Farrow jumped from the shop parapet, and reeeived a serious eut on the leg from broken glass. The flames were eonfined to the lower part of the premises.

Mr. J. L. Carter, glass and china rooms, 15, Market-head, Derby, has sent us a eopy of his nieely got up illustrated catalogue of 70 pages, with a dozen beautifully eoloured insets of pages of useful and ornamental goods. The illustrations on every page are eorreet reproduetions of shapes, patterns and colours of the latest productions in dinner, tea, and toilet ware, miseellaneous earthenware and ehina and glass goods of all kinds. It is a very eomprehensive and nieely printed book of referenee, and we commend Mr. Carter for his enterprise in produeing it.

Books on Ceramics, &c.—We have received, from the Manchester Public Free Libraries, a catalogue of books on eeramics, glassware, ornamental metal work, enamels and jade, in the Free Referenee Library, King-st., Manchester. It is a useful referenee book, and persons resident in Lancashire, who are interested in pottery and glass, are fortunate to have such a collection so near them. In addition to works on pottery and poreelain, there are biog aphies of potters, and referenees to magazine artieles in various bound volumes. There is also an index to authors and editors.

Christmas Boxes and Bribery.—The question of Chistmas boxes again having been raised, the Executive Committee of the Seeret Commissions and Bribery Prevention League, Ineorporated, desires to express onee more its opinion that, while it is impossible to define exactly what is and what is not illegal in this eonneetion under the Prevention of Corruption Aet, there is undoubtedly grave risk attaehed to the giving of Christmas boxes to any person employed without first bringing the faet to the knowledge of the person's employer. The offiees of the League, whieh has a large and inereasing membership, are at 3, Oxford-eourt, Cannon-st., London, E.C.

New Trade Marks in Class 16 advertised for registration up to Nov. 18 were as follows :—SYP. 307,091. Teapots and coffee-pots ineluded in the class. The Right Hon. D. M. B. H. Coehrane, Earl of Dundonald, 34, Portman-square, W.——IMPULSIO. 305,845. Porous reeeptacles (sold independently of any eontents) eonstrueted wholly or principally of earthenware. F. J. de Bruno-Austin, trading as the Impulsio Co., Woodville, Chureh-grove, Hampton Wiek, Middlesex.——LLAMA. 306,278. Sanitary and earthenware goods ineluded in this elass, but not ineluding earthenware jars or flagons or other earthenware vessels included in this elass, sold empty, that is to say, independently of any contents, and not ineluding any goods of a like kind. Twyfords, Ltd., Cliff Vale Potteries, Hanley, Staffs.

Early English Pottery.—A few choice examples of early English pottery were included in Messrs. Sotheby's sale on Nov. 6. A Bow figure of Woodward, the actor, in the character of "The Fine Gentleman," and the companion figure of Kitty Clive in erinoline dress, holding a lap-dog—£25 (Stoner); a pair of Minton oviform vases and covers, finely decorated in pâte-sur-pâte by Solon, richly gilt, 15 in. high—£30 (Amor); a pair of Chelsea figures of a rustie boy and girl holding open baskets, with apple bloossom and May-flower baekgrounds, gold anehor mark—£44 (Hamlett); a Chelsea vase with floriated handles, gros-bleu ground, riehly gilt in peaeoeks and other birds, 15 in. high—£35 (Henley); and a eurious Lambeth Pottery figure of a lady in embroidered dress, with initials and date in blue, "I.S.A. 1619"—£15 10s. (Fenton). The three days' sale realised a total of £2,696 14s. 6d.

Tenders Accepted.—The tender of Seagrave Bros., Kentish Town-rd., has been aceepted by Hammersmith Counеil for the supply of bottles to be used by the inspector when taking samples under the Food and Drugs Aets, at the following rates :—8 oz. bottles, 10s. 6d. per gross; 1 lb. honey jars (metal serew eap), 19s. per gross. The estimated total number of bottles and jars required up to March 31, 1909, is estimated at four gross.——Leyton U.D.C. has received the following tenders for glass for schools :—Day & Clark (accepted for schools on west side of Great Eastern Railway): (a) English window glass, 21 oz., eut to sizes, ineluding putty: (1) clear per foot super, 2½d.; (2) ground per foot super, 4d.; (3) enamelled per foot super, 4½d.; (b) Hartley's rough plate, ⅛ in., 3d. per foot super. Dickson & Head: (a-1) 3d., (2) 4d., (3) 4½d.; (b) 2¼d. G. J. Young, (a-1) 3¼d., (2) 3¾d., (3) 4¼d.; (b) 3¼d. Young & Marten (accepted for schools on east side of Great Eastern Railway): (a-1) 2¾d., (2) 3½d., (3) 4¼d., (b) 3¼d.

Irish-Made Bottles for Ireland.—At the monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Belfast Vintners' Assoeiation, held on Nov. 3, a deputation from the Bottle Workers' Society laid their views before the Board, urging the formation of a company to manufacture glass bottles locally. They pointed out that about 100,000 gross of bottles were imported yearly into Belfast harbour, apart from what eame by rail, and that the local output amounted to barely one-third of that quantity. The Board, having considered the matter, adopted the following resolution :—"That, having heard the views of a deputation from the bottle workers of Belfast in referenee to the importation of foreign bottles into the city greatly in excess of the quantity locally manufactured, and the proposed formation of a loeal bottle manufacturing eoneern, we eonsider the proposal worthy of our members' eonsideration and support, inasmuch as it would be a new industry giving home employment; and, all things being equal, we promise our patronage and support to the new company."

Lead Poisoning.—The total number of eases of lead poisoning reported to the Home Offiee under the Faetory and Workshop Act, during Oetober, was 66, and there were 4 deaths during the month. In addition to the above, 31 eases of lead poisoning (6 of which were fatal) were reported during October among house painters and plumbers. During the 10 months ending October, 1908, the total number of cases of lead poisoning was 557 and 25 deaths, as eompared with 455 cases and 23 deaths under the Aet in the same period last year. Among house painters and plumbers there were 189 cases of lead poisoning and 33 deaths in the first ten months of this year, as eompared with 140 eases and 32 deaths in the same months last year. In the ehina and earthenware trades there were 10 reported cases of lead poisoning and 1 death in October this year, as eompared with 21 reported eases, but no death in the same month last year. In the 10 months ending October, 1908, there were 105 reported eases and 10 deaths connected with the pottery trades, as eompared with 86 reported eases and 8 deaths in the same period last year.

Old Mortgages and Charges.—The following statements of the total amounts outstanding on July 1 in respect of mortgages and charges created prior to that date, and not required to be registered under Section 14 of the Companies Act, 1900, have been filed pursuant to Section 12 of the Companies Act, 1907 :—Palatinate China and Fire Clay Estates, Ltd. (Germany and London)—mortgage, dated 1899, securing £9,000.——Robinson, Son & Co., Ltd. (glass manufacturers, Warrington)—mortgage, dated 1879, securing £9,000.——Barkers & Kent (Ltd.), china manufacturers, Longton—mortgage debentures, dated 1897, securing £6,000.——Barker Bros. (Ltd.), china manufacturers, Longton—mortgage debentures dated 1900, securing £10,000.——John Lumb & Co., Ltd. (glass bottle manufacturers, Castleford)—mortgage, dated 1906, securing £1,100.——Crown Staffordshire Porcelain Co., Ltd. — indentures, dated 1898 and 1905, securing £1,904.——F. & R. Pratt & Co., Ltd. (china manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent)—debentures, securing £6,000 (no date).

Presentation to a Glassworker.—The staff employed by Kilner Bros., Ltd., glass bottle manufacturers, King's-cross, were called together on Nov. 12 to meet the principals and managers of the firm—Mr. G. W. Kilner, Mr. F. Kilner, Mr. Wiltshire (manager), and the heads of the various departments. Mr. G. W. Kilner, in addressing the staff, referred to the present unsatisfactory state of trade, and said that there was little doubt a reduced staff could easily accomplish the work in hand. But he was anxious as far as possible to avoid making any reductions unless absolutely compelled to do so. If he could avoid displacing any of them during the winter he would feel satisfied that some at least would feel grateful for such consideration. He hoped that when things changed and business improved, they would not forget what had happened in their case, and if a little extra pressure was required it would be given without reluctance. But that was not the sole reason he had called them together that afternoon. They would recollect the length of time Mr. Harry Merryweather had been with the firm, and he was anxious to recognise his 40 years' service in some practical shape. During the last three years Mr. Merryweather had lost only ten hours—he was rather afraid some of them might reach that limit of lost time in one week. He had great pleasure in the name of the firm in presenting to Mr. Merryweather a gold watch with a suitable inscription, which he hoped he would treasure as a memento of good wishes for his future. The recipient briefly responded, and the proceedings then closed.

Company Liens Registered.—Baker Bros. (Hanley), Ltd. (earthenware manufacturers).—A debenture to secure £200, charged on the company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital, has been registered. Holder : R. Fielding, Blackpool.——Sowerby's Ellison Glass Works, Ltd. (Gateshead).—A mortgage to secure £1,000, charged on freehold hereditaments in East-st. and Coulthards-lane, Gateshead, was filed on Oct. 5, pursuant to order of Court. Holder : Sir Andrew Noble, Bart., Jesmond Dene, Newcastle-on-Tyne.——F. H. Barker, Rhead & Co., Ltd. (potters, Hanley and Manchester).—Particulars of £1,000 debentures have been filed, the amount of the present issue being £750. Property charged : The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No trustees. A mortgage and a surrender in pursuance thereof to secure £600 was also registered on Oct. 29, 1908, pursuant to order of Court. Property charged : Atlas Tile Works, Vine. st. Hanley. Holder : T. Griffiths, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.——F. G. Russell & Co., Ltd. (earthenware dealers, Bristol and Cardiff).—Particulars of £2,500 debentures have been filed, the whole amount being issued. Property charged : The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.——Robinson & Leadbeater, Ltd. (porcelain manufacturers, Stoke-on-Trent).—A further charge and mortgage to secure £700, charged on land and parian manufactory, workshops, warehouses, hereditaments, and premises in Wolfe-st. and Back Globe-st., and land with dwelling-houses thereon, Nos. 6 and 7, Back Globe-st., Stoke-on-Trent, has been registered. Holders : Leek & Moorlands Building Society.——Deal Potteries, Ltd.—A debenture, to secure £200, charged on the company's property, present and future, has been registered.

The English Ceramic Society.—At a meeting held on Nov. 14, at Longton (Mr. F. H. Wedgwood presiding), Dr. A. B. Searle read a paper dealing with the application of glazes to porous fire-clay. He discussed various difficulties met with in the process of manufacturing, and remarked that, after all, even the cleverest chemist and most painstaking investigator knew very little of the extremely interesting and highly paradoxical subject of glazes. Referring to the frequency of failures and the difficulties met with in producing successful coloured glazes for fire clay goods, Dr. Searle said he was convinced that it was worse than useless for a manufacturer to undertake to contract for the supply of a large number of articles, glazed with a certain coloured glaze, unless he had already made a number equal to his order. It was extremely difficult to produce uniformity of colour at the high temperature obtaining in the kilns. The nature of the goods must be fully considered before any attempt to glaze them, as the nature had an enormous influence on the kind of glaze to be used ; in other words, according to the bodies so must the glaze be hard, soft, or intermediate, and the goods must be fired under suitable conditions. A full knowledge of the physical and chemical composition of the bodies was, therefore, essential to secure good results. Having explained the stage in which the fire-clay best took the glaze, Dr. Searle said that the pressures to which the clay was subjected were often excessive. Pressmakers vied in producing machines of enormous pressing power, which was neither useful nor necessary. He advised tests with green clay, and said he had found the clays of the South and Midlands exhibit many curious vagaries, while converse conditions were seen in northern clays. Clay was a largely complex and curious substance, and not a simple material like the metals. Only by a knowledge of its complexities and vagaries could the glazer hope to be successful.

A Midland Captain of Industry.—Under this heading "The Birmingham Gazette" has an appreciatory sketch of Mr. Congreve Jackson, managing director of Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd., Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge. After some interesting particulars of the Stourbridge glass trade generally, and of the Company's position in it, the writer relates the circumstances under which the firm "shook off the shackles of a too conservative trade unionism that was handicapping an inherently difficult trade. Notice was given by the firm to their men that certain rules should be mitigated, or that the men should withdraw from a too exacting trade union. The glassmakers refused to meet either of these proposals. The situation required resolute handling, but there was no hesitation on Mr. Jackson's part. The notices took effect, the men left, and the Dennis Works were depleted of some of the most highly-skilled workers in the country. Undeterred by the prospect, however, Mr. Jackson started afresh with a number of younger men, non-unionists, to whose training in the craft some time and care were devoted, and presently a few of the more intelligent and enlightened craftsmen who had forsaken their livelihood at the dictate of their

officials, gave up a ridiculous contest and volunteered work again on the terms of the non-unionist policy down by the firm. This example was gradually owed by others, until at the end of a couple of years Dennis Works had its full complement of operatives of all les, comprising not only many of the old workmen, but ers from elsewhere who were equally tired of idleness the sake of mere rules of no real import. The result a complete vindication of the employers' policy, for le has extended, and the Dennis Works have since em-yed more men than at any former period in the history of firm, while the workers receive the maximum rates of es paid in the district.'' The article concludes: 'ariff Reform probably embodies Mr. Jackson's political d from first to last. At any rate, beyond this com-cial question, which has such an intimate bearing on prosperity of the industry to which his business career been entirely devoted, he makes no parade of his con-ions. He has always been too busy, as he would you, to become a public man. He takes an interest in cational affairs locally, and his home lies close beside works. A man of strong will and proved capacity, Congreve Jackson justifies the responsible place ch he holds in the British glass industry.''

The Benevolent Institution.—A most successful variety ertainment was given on behalf of the '' Pottery and ss Trades Benevolent Institution '' at the King's eatre, Covent Garden, London, on Nov. 11. The ertainment was organised by the board of management, part of the special effort they are making to strengthen financial position of the Institution. There was a house, and the entertainment, which was of a very h order, was thoroughly enjoyed. Among upwards hirty popular artistes who generously gave their services, may mention Miss Ida René, Miss José Collins, Miss ty Gordon, Miss Beatrice Cowley, The Marriotts (silent ntal telepathy), Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. George Mozart, l Messrs. Claff and Tremayne. There was an efficient hestra under the able direction of Mr. T. W. Thurban, l Miss Beatrice Cowley, who has before delighted us at Institution concerts, officiated as accompanist, in addition to giving some of her '' Songs at the Piano.'' We do not profess to be critical judges of musical and variety entertainments, but the members of the audience evidently were, and the reception accorded to the artistes indicated unqualified approval of their performances. We venture, however, to make reference to the astounding and highly interesting display given by Mr. and Mrs. Marriott. We have seen many exhibitions of thought reading, but never anything so successful or so absolutely inexplicable as that given by them. The lady sits blindfolded on the stage, and her husband walks all over the theatre and receives all sorts of articles from the audience, but utters no word, yet his wife immediately describes them. She took part in a game of cribbage played by visitors in a distant part of the house, naming each card correctly as played. There was no visible or audible communication between the performers, and yet the clever Mrs. Marriott described anything submitted to her husband. How is it done ? Persons engaged in the glass and potting trades are accustomed to what other people would consider '' mysteries,'' but those present were completely puzzled by the Marriotts. We think the audience missed a chance of puzzling them. If one of them had asked Mr. Marriott how many pieces there were in three dozens of rockingham tea pots, we should perhaps have enjoyed the spectacle of seeing Mrs. Marriott beaten for once. Fortunately for the performers, the audience were too much interested in them to think about '' pots.'' The board of management are to be congratulated on a good entertainment and on the fact that the benefit to the Institution is expected to be nearly £100. The principal credit for the success of the evening is due to the secretary of the Institution, Mr. A. J. Prickett, and to Mr. John Porter, the hon. stage manager, who have devoted much time and labour to the preliminary arrangements, and to securing the services of such a talented company. As usual, Messrs. Harrods' Stores lent the grand piano. Mrs. Fred Shorter kindly gave and sold flowers, and confectionery by Messrs. Fullers, Ltd., was on sale on behalf of the funds.



A Field of "Cloches." [*Photo. by "Topical."*

Glassware for Gardeners.—Our illustration shows a new outlet for the product of our glass factories. The "cloches" (bells) depicted are used in intensive culture on a system introduced from France by which vegetables, &c., are "forced" by growing them in specially prepared soils under the hand-glasses illustrated. A succession of crops can thus be raised, and by securing early markets a good profit is made. The mats between the rows of glasses are used for shading when the heat of the sun is too powerful. The photo was taken on a farm at Thatcham, where the system is in operation.

Obituary.

THOMAS GREENWOOD.—Aged 57.

WITH deep sorrow we announce the death of Mr. Thomas Greenwood, the senior partner in our firm, one of the founders and proprietors of THE POTTERY GAZETTE. Mr. Greenwood died at his residence, Frith Knowl, Elstree, Herts, on Monday morning, November 9, from heart failure. His health had not been good since his return from Japan, which country he visited rather more than a year ago on a combined business and health trip. Passing through Canada, he arrived in Japan in August. Unfortunately during the ensuing week there were very heavy rains, followed by extensive floods throughout Japan, and Mr. Greenwood was forced to stay at Nikko ten days, owing to the roads and railway being impassable. At that time the drinking-water became contaminated, and fresh food was not available. This had a very bad effect on his health, which culminated in serious internal symptoms last winter, after his return. During the summer he partially shook off these troubles, and was able to give some attention to business for several months. Heart weakness, a legacy from previous attacks of influenza, began, however, to be apparent, and though he was taking much-needed rest, and received every possible care and attention, this eventually proved fatal.



[*Photo. by Ellis & Walery, Baker-street, W.*

MR. THOMAS GREENWOOD.

Though not of extreme age, as reckoned by mere length of years, Mr. Greenwood had crowded into his busy life an amount of work such as few can compass in a much longer period. He was a native of Woodley, near Stockport, where his boyhood was passed, and where he received at the village school the beginnings of his education, which he supplemented to a great extent by omnivorous reading at Manchester and other public libraries. He was also assisted in his studies by the Rev. W. Urwick, M.A., Congregational minister. At a very early age Mr. Greenwood began his business career as a clerk, and later as cashier with Mr. George Ward, hat manufacturer, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of the business. He left Mr. Ward to become a traveller with a Sheffield firm. But he was still taking a keen interest in public libraries, and was impressed with the value of the help he had received from them. He soon gave up his situation to take charge of a branch library in Sheffield. After about three years of this work, Mr. Greenwood joined the staff of "The Ironmonger," and moved to London. He looked back with pleasure to the commencement of his trade journal experience with the proprietors of "The Ironmonger." He himself once wrote:—"Taking survey through the years, it is no mere flattery to say t to work under Messrs. Morgan Brothers brought with an inspiration and a practical training of high order."

His next change was to combine with one of his colleagu the late Mr. W. Hoseason Smith, in starting a publish business on their own account, as Smith, Greenwood Co. With this business, which became Scott, Greenw & Co. on Mr. Smith's retirement 21 years later, a Scott, Greenwood & Son on the admission of Mr. Gre wood's son, Mr. Edgar Greenwood, to partnersh in 1906, Mr. Greenwood was connected up to the time his decease. The first pa ners, to use Mr. Greenwoo own phrase, "capitali their energy," all their tention at the commen ment being devoted to production of trade journa "The Pottery Gazett was founded in 187 "The Hatters' Gazette" 1875, and "The Oil Colour Trades Journal" a monthly—"The Oil Colourman's Journal"— 1879. This became weekly publication in present form in 1904. T technical book departm was commenced by the is of "The Art of Glass," s followed by the "Man of Practical Potting which has run throu several editions. Ma original volumes by Brit experts and translati from eminent foreign writ have since been publish The business will be carr on as hitherto, under management of Mr. Ed Greenwood, who has had years' experience of tr journal work and has b associated with his fat during the last twelve ye

Throughout the whole of his strenuous and succes business career, the deceased actively assisted the library movement by giving lectures, writing boo and carrying on a voluminous correspondence, wh greatly taxed his time and strength. He was the aut of "Public Libraries: A History of the Movement a Manual for the Organisation and Management of Ra supported Libraries," and several other useful wo He wrote an appreciation of Edward Edwards, chief pioneer of free libraries, and had the satisfactio perpetuating his memory by placing a granite monum over his grave at Niton, Isle of Wight. Mr. Greenw accumulated a magnificent collection of books and writi on the subject of libraries and bibliography, which presented to the Corporation of Manchester a few yo ago with a handsome endowment for its maintena In return for this gift he was offered the freedom of City of Manchester. At other times he was also offe various public honours, all of which he modestly decli Besides his public munificence, he was privately a ge ous benefactor to many individuals and causes. We m leave it to others to record the many incidents in

enuous, useful life of our late respected chief. He was keen observer of men and things, a great and eareful ıder, and a lover of nature. Always fond of travelling, was for some years a Fellow of the Royal Geographical ciety, and visited the European and American conti- nts, South Africa and the West Indies, besides Japan. iis is not the place for eulogy, but we have suffered an eparable loss, and it is only as the sense of it comes home us that we realise how much our revered principal was us. As one of the editors of this journal, he has always en an energetie and consistent supporter of the industries represent. He has been most persistent in urging glass d china dealers to eneourage by all means in their power e sale of British pottery and glass, in preferenee to foreign ade goods. His was a most kindly, eourteous, and nial disposition, and his decease will be sincerely and eply regretted by all who knew him. The firm have ken great interest the Pottery and lass Trades Benevo- nt Institution, and ıve been annual bscribers from its undation. The late r. Greenwood was ıe of the first viee- esidents.

He leaves a widow, ıe son, and two arried daughters. remation took place Golder's Green ter a serviee in the rematorium chapel n Nov. 12, and the emains were interred the family vault at latherlow Congrega- ional Churchyard, ear Stoekport, on aturday, Nov. 14. he serviee at Golder's reen was eonducted y the Rev. Chas. leming-Williams, inister of Rectory- oad Congregational hureh, London, N., f which ehureh Mr. reenwood was a mem- er up to the time of is death, and that at latherlow by the Rev. r. Powiek, M.A. In ddition to members f the family, and nany personal friends nd literary aequain- ances, the obsequies t Golders Green were attended by Mr. A. J. Prickett, epresenting the Board of Management of the Benevolent nstitution, and by the whole of the firm's staff.



Mr. Ernest Brooke.

ERNEST BROOKE. Aged 47.

WE regret to record the death of Mr Ernest Brooke, a popular and esteemed member of the Town Council of Stoke-on-Trent and a talented designer and engraver. Some of the finest engravings used by well-known pottery manufaeturers have been executed by him. Though his health had not been sound for a long time, the illness which proved fatal was only a short one. He was present at several public and social funetions up to the end of October. On the 31st of that month he attended a friendly assembly of the Bowling Club at Wolstanton, of which he was a member. He was obliged to leave early, suffering from what he eonsidered a bad cold. The medical gentlemen, however, found serious trouble, and on Nov. 6 an operation for appendieitis was successfully performed. Complications, however, ensued, and after fluctuations which raised alternate hopes and fears in the minds of his friends he died early in the morning of Nov. 16 at his residence, Harding House, Stoke-on-Trent.

Deceased was elected a member of the Town Council of Stoke, and proved a very energetie councillor. He served on many eommittees, and took spccial interest in the Museum. He took an active part in several local matters, to which, as a trade journal, we need not refer. He was the son of the late Mr. Wm. Brooke, and was born at Park House, Stoke, in 1861. The late Mr. Ernest Brooke was what may be termed a born artist. An engraver and designer himself of conspicuous ability, he came of a family of engravers. His father, the late Mr. Wm. Brooke, was famous for his steel engravings of celebrated paintings, and at the same time did some very excellent work for the pottery trades. But the most famous member of this family of engravers was the grandfather of the deceased, Mr. Wm. Brooke, of Tunstall, without doubt the best engraver the Staffordshire pottery trade has produced. This much may be justly conceded without describing him as "the actual inventor of printing on pottery." Shaw refers to him in his "History of the Staffordshire Potteries" (p. 226), and there is no doubt he did much to perfect an invention which was the result of the simultaneous labours of many minds. He did some beautiful work for the first William Adams. The late Councillor Ernest Brooke lent to the Museum at Stoke a specimen of early printing on pottery, the engraving for which is ascribed to his famous grandfather. The deceased received his early education at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and for some years was a student at the art classes at the Wedgwood Institute, Burslem. He has worthily maintained the reputation of his family as designers and engravers. He was a kind-hearted, sympathetic man, full of vivacity, and took a prominent part in movements of a philan-

thropic character. He was the life and soul of social gatherings which he attended, and was much sought after for such functions. He had a keen and ready wit, but was always careful not to give offence to anyone by the display of it. The funeral took place at Hartshill Cemetery on Nov. 19, and in addition to a large number of relatives and friends there were present representatives from many public bodies, institutions and associations with which he was connected. Much sympathy is felt for his widow, who has herself scarcely recovered from a recent serious illness.

DAVID JONES.—Aged 56.

WE sincerely regret to announce the sudden death of Mr. David Jones, managing director of Wardle & Co., Ltd., Washington Works, Hanley. Mr. Jones was at the works most of the day on Tuesday, Nov. 17, but was taken ill early on the following morning, and his medical attendant was at once sent for. It was soon realised that the attack was a serious one, and his son-in-law, Dr. Turner, remained in constant attendance on him. Dr. Shufflebotham was present frequently during the day. Mr. Jones was able to talk freely with his relatives, but he unexpectedly passed away about half-past seven the same evening. Nov. 18. The immediate cause of death was myocarditis. The deceased had only quite recently made arrangements for partially retiring from business at the end of the year. He had been living at Snow-hill, Shelton, until a week ago, when he removed to "Inglewood," Queen's-road, Hartshill, where he died. Mr. Jones was elected a member of the Hanley Town Council in 1891, but retired in 1897, owing to pressure of business engagements. By his death a familiar figure has been removed from the active business circle of manufacturers in Hanley, to which town he was deeply attached by many ties—family, friendly, business, masonic, muncipal, and charitable. Towards his family he was always kind and considerate, his first thought always being for others, and they, with those who enjoyed his close friendship, will greatly miss him. His association with manufacturing interests commenced 34 years ago, when he joined the firm founded by his father-in-law nearly 20 years before. It was under the direction and management of the deceased that the firm of Wardle & Co. attained such a world-wide reputation. He was of a kindly but particularly sensitive nature, and was everywhere held in great esteem. It is a testimony to his worth that he is deeply lamented by the whole staff and the workpeople at the manufactory. He was an active Freemason, and attained the highest office in each order of which he was a member. That he retained the affection and esteem of all to the end was witnessed by the respect shown to his memory on the occasion of his funeral, which took place at Hanley Cemetery on Nov. 21. The deceased lost his wife eight years ago, but he leaves five daughters, three of whom are married.

SIR JOEL JOSEPH DUVEEN.—Aged 65.

THE world has lost one of the most enthusiastic experts in Oriental porcelain by the death of Sir J. J. Duveen, which occurred at Hyères on Nov. 9. He had gone south to spend the winter in the hope of re-establishing his health, though his condition was regarded as serious. He was the son of a Government official in Holland, and after a short experience in commercial life in his native country he became interested in trade between Holland and England. In connection with his business as a merchant he came to reside in Hull. He has always shown a strong partiality for blue and white china, and he bought he could of old specimens he met with. In time he acqu a large collection, which became an object of interest other lovers of antiques, and he received such flatte compliments on his judgment as a collector that he led to devote himself wholly to buying and selling w of art. He came to London and opened a depôt in Oxf street for the sale and purchase of antiques. He wa successful in dealing with tapestry as with china, astonished some of his contemporaries by his sound, criti judgment in buying pictures. He was a constant attend at Christie's whenever any Old Masters were offered, a when he bought the portrait of Lady Louisa Manners Hoffner for £14,700, we believe he gave the highest ever made in an auction room for a single painting. great forte, however, was Oriental porcelain, and judgment in that was perhaps unsurpassed by that any other expert. He was a spirited buyer at auctio and his numerous purchases of porcelain and glass unprecedented prices have always been justified. will be remembered that at the Anglesey sale he astonish everyone by giving £4,000 for a ewer and cover in ro crystal, silver gilt. It was through him that the fam Garland collection of Chinese porcelain, now in the N York Museum, was bought for £120,000. But his fi last year eclipsed this by the purchase of the Kann c lection, for which it was said a million pounds were pa He presented to the nation Mr. John S. Sargent's portr of Miss Ellen Terry, and in May last he also presented to t country of his adoption a new wing to the Tate Galle In announcing this gift at a meeting of the National A Collectors' Fund in May last year, Mr. Lewis Harcou said: "I am glad to take this opportunity of tendering Mr. Duveen the grateful thanks of the public and all a lovers for his splendid gift to the nation." The bo was brought to England and interred in the Jewish Cem tery, Willesden, on Nov. 13. He was knighted last yea The deceased leaves a widow, eight sons and four daughte

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A MEETING of the Chamber was held on November at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, M Cecil Wedgwood in the chair. Mr. T. C. Moo alluding to the discussion which took place at t last meeting, on the method of compiling trad statistics, said the departmental committee appointed t consider the statistical returns of trade had submitted their repor He was pleased to say that those points which the Chamber aske him to lay before the committee had been adopted.

In the course of a discussion on the United States Tariff, th secretary said he had been told on the authority of persons who ha studied the subject, that there was not likely to be an increas but that if there was an increase at all, he was given to understan it would not be on British earthenware, but on china. This wa in order to compete with German china. The secretary said however, he did not give this as an authoritative report.

THE UNITED STATES TARIFF AND BRITISH POTTERY.

The North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce has courteously sent in the following "facts about Tariff reform in the Unite States and British Pottery."

HIGHER POTTERY DUTIES.

Mr. Taft in late speeches alluded to the pottery schedule as being one of the items in the tariff on which the duties would be increased referring to the competition of our domestic potteries with those o Germany. Some facts as to the pottery schedule may be interesting to the public.

In the Dingley Bill, passed in 1897 and now in operation, the tariff on white ware crockery and china is 55 per cent., and on ornamented or decorated 60 per cent. plus the duty on outside packages (crates and casks, which are costly abroad); also in addition to this is the abolition of the damage law allowance for excessive breakage on voyage of importation, which carries the average duty or protection up to over 70 per cent.

Schedule B. Crockery and glass come home to the great mass of consumers being in use in every family in the United States, rich or poor

The movement to increase the duty comes from the pottery manufacturers, chiefly in Ohio, and New Jersey, who, demanding more protection, instead of asking for more than present rates ad valorem, seek to place it in the specific class, so much per 100 pounds, or so much per dozen pieces, a subtle way of placing many lines in the prohibited class. Specific duties on many articles of commerce are practicable and necessary. They are in use between England and France, also in Germany, but as the tariff between those countries on pottery and glass amounts to but a few shillings per package, whereas the duty into this country would be ten or twenty times as much.

The attempt to raise the already high tariff rates by a specific method is really to befog the question, so that the consumer cannot tell what protection is.

The Home Market Club claims that protection is of little value unless it prohibits. When the Dingley Bill came over to the Senate ten years ago, the same attempt was made by the potters of Ohio and New Jersey. Telegrams came in upon Senators Aldrich and Allison from them, saying unless specific duties were enacted raising the tariff above the Dingley rates the pottery industry in this country would be paralysed, and the smoke would cease to rise from the big pottery chimneys. Senator Hanna and others pushed it, but the Senate committee refused to change the Dingley scale. What happened ? No paralysis ! chimneys continued to smoke just as before ! and the industry has progressed and thrived. Fortunes have been made in New Jersey and Ohio, the product has steadily increased under the 70 per cent. tariff tax, and while some potteries have suffered from the panic year, or from unfortunate management, it is thriving, and pottery making has ceased to be one of "the infant industries." Like the steel trust, members of the U.S. Potters' Association sell their sanitary pottery less to Canadian and foreign plumbers than to American plumbers. Should the great mass of consumers suffer new and additional burdens to satisfy an industry that has grown to large proportions ? How can we export our products to Germany, France, and other countries if we put unfriendly tariff barriers against their products, which would mean less revenue and higher prices to our consumers ? If it gets abroad in the land that tariff revision means increased cost to the consumers of articles of common necessity, will they not call a halt when they mark their ballot in the silent booth ?

Foreign Notes.

Porcelain and Earthenware to the value of £254,100 were exported from Japan during the first six months of the current year. The figures are less than those for the corresponding periods of either of the two preceding years.

Fr. Boseck & Co., of Haida (Bohemia), were awarded a Grand Prix at the International Exhibition, Toulouse, for their exhibit of ornamented porcelain; the silver "Medaille des Collaborateurs" was conferred on Fräulein Frida Boseck.

Galveston Earthenware Imports during 1907 were valued at £38,727. The share of the United Kingdom was £13,190, that of Germany £19,712, and that of Austria-Hungary £2,243. H.M. Vice-Consul remarks :—Earthenware, chiefly the cheap Staffordshire ware, always commands a sale here.

The Death is announced of Dr. Max Simonis, chemist at the Royal Porcelain Works, Berlin, and the author of a number of publications in connection with the materials and processes of pottery making. The deceased, who was only twenty-six years of age, met his death while ascending Monte Cinto during a visit to Corsica.

Gillinder & Sons, of Franklin Flint Glass Works, Philadelphia, U.S.A., are makers of various kinds of glass, chiefly for lighting accessories. A number of patterns of globes and reflectors are illustrated in some neat booklets just issued by the firm. Glass trinket sets form another speciality of Gillinder & Sons' manufactures.

The Porzellanfabrik Fraureuth, A.G., of Fraureuth, proposes to reduce its capital to the extent of 320,000 marks, by substituting one new share for each five original shares, the margin of 16,000 marks resulting from this operation being covered by the issue of 16 additional shares. The priority rights of the original shares and their claim on arrears of preference dividends are also to be abolished.

Union of German Lamp Glass Makers.—This newly-established body, a development of the Lamp Glass Makers' Association, has been formed to regulate the price and production of the article. An office is to be opened in Dresden, and stringent regulations, drawn up for the infliction of fines on members contravening the terms of the agreement, sight drafts for the amount of the fines being deposited as security.

The Glassware Exports from Tréport and Eu (France) declined from 6,437 tons in 1906 to 5,991 tons in 1907. H.M. Vice-Consul remarks :—In the export of glassware, which is the principal article of local manufacture in the Tréport and Eu district, there was some falling-off. This decline has been increasing during the last two years, and it is probably connected with the strikes of glass workers.

Pottery Works at Bilbao.—A Bilbao firm are large makers of glazed pipes for sanitary and drainage purposes. They have recently commenced to manufacture water-closets under the superintendence of an expert brought from an important British factory. The local clay has not given, as yet, very good results, and a small cargo of clay from the United Kingdom has been imported for experimental work.

Mr. Henry Davenport, a native of Hanley, has died recently at Trenton, U.S.A. Upwards of thirty years ago he left England to accept an appointment at a New Jersey pottery. He remained in the same employ until his health failed him, and five years ago he resigned and commenced business as a china and glass merchant at Trenton, where he died on November 5, after a protracted illness. Mr. Davenport has relatives living in the Potteries.

The Bohemian Bead Industry.—The French vice-consul at Prague writes that the crisis in the Gablonz glass bead industry has had a very serious effect upon exports to the U.S.A. Every year America buys about a million dollars' worth of glass beads from Bohemia and Italy, but this year the trade has declined from 40 to 50 per cent. During the past two months, however, an improvement has taken place, and the losses experienced have already been almost made good. Gablonz, which formerly ranked first in the trade, has now lost her leading position, due to sharp Italian competition. Although Gablonz goods are said to be superior on the score of quality, Italian makes are not so expensive, and Gablonz manufacturers will have to devote all their skill and attention to business unless they wish to let the U.S.A. market slip right through their fingers. Prices, which have fallen during the crisis, are now advancing again, but Gablonz firms are going to book orders at any price with a view to retaining their hold of the American market at any cost.

POTTING MACHINERY.

THE severe competition they have had to face for some years past, and are still confronted with, has compelled pottery manufacturers to look in every direction for means to reduce the cost of the production of their wares. Important scientific discoveries, and new inventions and improvements in machines and appliances are being revealed constantly and the manufacturer who wants to hold his own in production must take full advantage of the facilities afforded by the research of the chemist, and the inventive skill of the engineer.

Edwards & Jones, Globe Engineering Works, Longton, have for nearly thirty years been devoting themselves to the invention and perfection of machinery for the economical production of pottery. Their special business has been to assist manufacturers in this direction, and with this object they have invented and patented a number of machines. Probably no person outside the trade has any idea of the number of processes, and the variety of machines em-

ployed before the clay becomes the vase. Many of them may be considered minor factors, but in pottery manufacture, as in everything else, much depends on little things. Pug-mills have long been employed for working up earthenware bodies, but china-clay has been treated by hand, and apparently so successfully that manufacturers have been content. Edwards & Jones, however, have invented, patented, and placed on the market a

PATENT CHINA CLAY PUG MILL,

for working up china clay in the same manner as coarser bodies have hitherto been dealt with. The pug mill is simple in construction, strong, and no small parts liable to



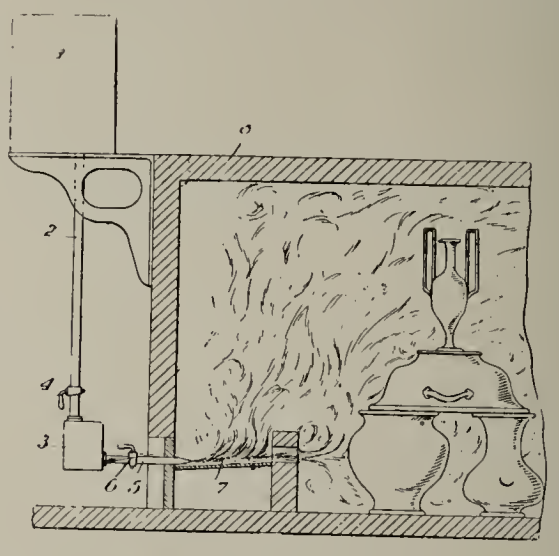
IMPROVED PATENT DISH-MAKING MACHINE.

get out of order easily. It does the work far more efficiently than any other process, as all air is absolutely expelled from the body, so that there is no possibiliity of bubbles appearing in the ware. But the principal advantage of the new mill is that while giving much better results it is a great labour-saving machine The new pug mill is belt-driven, and can be easily operated by any power. We have seen the original letters from a number of manufacturers of china, and all speak in most favourable terms of the convenience and economy it effects.

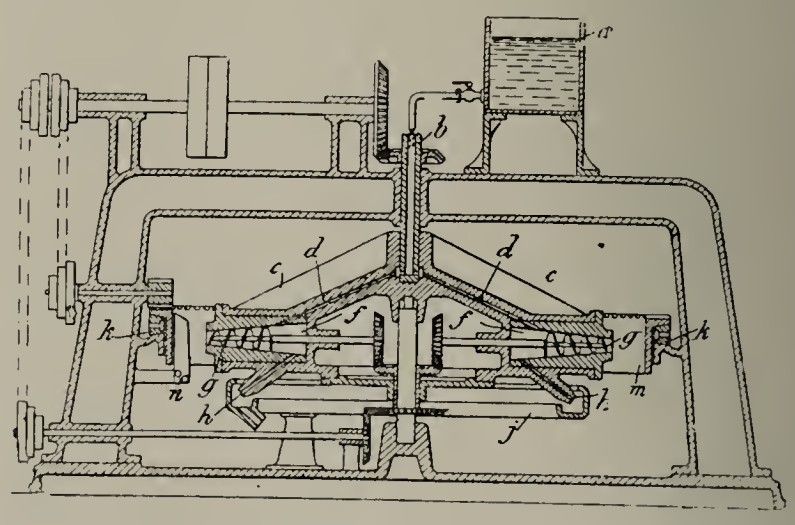
Edward & Jones have, amongst other specialities, an "Improved Patent Dish Machine," which will make all kinds of oval dishes, cover-dishes, bakers, fruit dishes, &c. The illustration shows the machine self-contained in its own iron frame, and will suit any rope race. The working parts are of specially hardened steel, truly machined and accurately fitted. It is very simple in construction, and perfect lubrication is secured, as the motion runs in an oil well. It is easily operated—in the same way as an ordinary plate-making machine. It is fitted with an adjustment by means of which any size oval dish can be made. The advantages are that dishes made from this machine are perfectly true and of uniform thickness. The firm have several other labour and time saving machines for pottery manufacture.

Novelties.

Petroleum-Fired Pottery Kiln.—According to Billon, petroleum is adapted to replace wood for firing enamelled pottery and to produce more brilliant colours, whilst being cheaper and easier to handle than coal. For this purpose he proposes to store the oil in a high-level tank: 1, to obtain a certain amount of pressure, the oil being conveyed through a down-pipe 2, to a distributor 3, the supply being cut off, when necessary, by a tap 4. A number of branch tubes 5 issue from the distributor and deliver the oil to a grate 7, inside the kiln 8, each tube being fitted with a tap 6. Instead of the oil being fed direct to the kiln, it may be supplied to a generator, where it is vaporised and afterwards injected on to the grate. The arrangement of the distributing tubes 5 ensures uniformity of baking in the different parts of the kiln, the rate of feed being regulated by the taps 6. The new method of firing can be applied to all kinds of existing kilns, without any other modification than the suitable arrangement of the grate.



Centrifugal Drying Machine for Pottery Body.—The centrifugal drying machine introduced by Sommerschuh and Spengler comprises a rotary drum fitted with a number of closed conical chambers, disposed radially and provided with endless screws. The mixture of clay and water is run from the tank, *a*, through the hollow tournal *b*, at the top of the drum *c*, and thence, by way of inclined lateral passages *d*, into the conical chambers *f*, containing the endless screws *g*. At the start the outlets at the outer extremity of the chambers f, are closed. As the drum rotates, the clay is driven into the tapered portion of the chambers *f*, whilst the water drains away, through the channels *h*, into the gutter *j*. After a certain time the



drum is stopped, the outlets of the conical chambers are opened, and after throwing into gear the driving mechanism of the endless screws, the machine is restarted, the speed of the screws being adjusted in such a manner that the quantity of dried clay forced out by the screws corresponds exactly to the amount of wet body fed in from the tank. The dried clay is discharged on to the annular trough *m*, running on bowls *k*, and is removed by the scraper *n*.

POTTERY DECORATION.

(BY OUR POTTERIES CORRESPONDENT.)

WE have been in the throes, during the past few weeks' of a discussion of a most important character on a subject of vital importance to us all—viz., the question of the future of pottery decoration in this country. The controversy has been waged in the columns of *The Staffordshire Sentinel*, and in the first instance it arose through a criticism which was levelled against the local schools of art on the ground that they do not offer students adequate instruction in the principles of pottery decoration. No sooner had this criticism been given to the world than champions of the schools of art arose, and proceeded to lay about them right lustily, denying that the instruction given at the art institutions is responsible for the inartistic character of some of the pottery made in the district to-day, and laying the blame at the door of the customer, the china and earthenware dealer, the manufacturer, or the workman, as the case may be. As the matter is one of much moment to every reader of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, it may be as well if I endeavour to summarise the numerous points which have been dealt with. To begin at the beginning, it should be explained that the South Kensington examiners, in their report for 1908 on selected works of the schools of art, criticise the pottery designs submitted to them rather severely, reporting that there is "a distinctly lower level of achievement in the designs all round." This, it is stated, is especially marked in the department of domestic ware, where many of the students seem to have had no training in the first principles of drawing and design. "Until our manufacturers will themselves take greater interest in the schools of art," say the examiners, "it is difficult to see how this state of affairs can be remedied." This paragraph furnished a correspondent with the text for some interesting speculations as to the extent to which our foreign trade in pottery might have been influenced, in its recent downward course, by "the degraded condition of artistic treatment" in the ware. Manufacturers, he opined, required a more cultivated taste to enable them to discriminate between the false and the true in decoration, and to prevent them from subserviating artistic feeling to cheapness of production. Artists, it was remarked *en passant*, were now regarded as more or less unnecessary and wasteful in the factory, owing largely, no doubt, to "the fatal facilities for so-called decorations afforded by such mechanical means as the aerograph and chromo transfers, which have been introduced so exclusively during the last twenty years or so."

Obviously this correspondent made an initial error in treating the examiners' report on the students' work as a report on the character of the ware produced in the factories. Instead of blaming the artists employed in factories, it would have been much more reasonable to blame the South Kensington system, which is probably at fault in the respect that its art masters here possess only a crude knowledge of the technical processes involved in the potting trade, and consequently their work, as some contend, has been largely in the direction of simply educating students as artists able to cover exhibition walls with their pictures. My own experience in this district is that different manufacturers entertain widely divergent views regarding the utility of the training given at the local art schools. I remember not long ago calling upon two of the most renowned art potters in the district in the course of a single afternoon, and I asked the heads of both firms the same question: "Do you find the art schools of any use to you in your business?" One of them replied, without a moment's hesitation: "None whatever," adding that the training of all his artists was done at his own works, under the supervision of his own chief designer. The other's reply was in absolutely contradictory terms He told me that not only did he find the art schools to be of the greatest service, but, by way of proving his assertion, he introduced me to a number of his most clever and promising artists, who had all gained much of their early experience at the institutions mentioned. The products of both these firms are known wherever the English language is spoken; both depend for their reputation upon the artistic character of their wares, and yet there is this striking difference between the two—that one says the art schools are of no use whatever to him, while the other is enthusiastic in their praise. Small wonder is it, then, that during the controversy now raging in the Potteries many views should have been expressed in flat contradiction of one another. Some of the statements made have been of a rather sweeping order. One writer, for instance, asserts that most manufacturers and travellers are "absolutely ignorant" on all questions of art, and that the buying agents and travellers are also "profoundly ignorant" on such matters, caring for nothing but what they think will sell. A champion of the art schools waxed highly sarcastic at "the latest abomination in rococo handles," and suggested that the method generally adopted by a manufacturer producing a new design was "to take last year's shape, add the previous year's handle, and then throw on a few designs in the fashion in which one would decorate a scrap-book." As regards the contention that the schools of art do not teach their students to design successful pottery this correspondent pleads guilty on behalf of the art schools, but goes on to say: "Nobody expects a student to go on repeating, as study, the atrocities he has been perpetrating in the daytime under the guidance of artistically uninformed travellers and middlemen. . . . It is as fruitless as flogging a dead horse to lecture the manufacturers, travellers, factors, and the general public because they produce, or purchase, badly designed pottery. Our only salvation is in the art school." Here is another extract from the flood of opinion which the controversy has caused to be expressed: "With regard to the artistic merit of our present-day productions, a glance at the china shops in the country shows that the number of inartistic shapes and designs which are being turned out are a disgrace to some of ou manufacturers. Why is this? Our capable artists are unable to get sufficient remuneration, and are allowed to leave the district in search of it, and the manufacturer pays small wages to second-rate men. There are plenty of clever designers in the district who are guided by the travellers with suggestions for the requirements of the trade. The traveller is the man who should know what those requirements are, but when manufacturers engage travellers without cultivated taste, the designer naturally gets no proper help." Among the other critics are several with a grievance to air. One of them complains that pictures of natural subjects are unsuitable for painting on pottery at all. He strongly objects to plates, for instance, being ornamented with pictures of Killarney, or of fish swimming in the water, his point being that it is incongruous to see glimpses of such subjects, now and then, beneath a serving of strawberries and cream! Another writer enters the fray to declaim against the designer who goes on year after year arranging "the same pretty little transfers round fluted pots—one year little pink roses and rococo handles, and the next little yellow roses and rococo handles, with as much gilding thrown in as the selling price will allow."

This gibe had the effect of tempting forth one of the maligned designers, who confesses that he is responsible for some of the most rococo handles in the district, but proceeds to take up the cudgels vigorously in defence of his fellow-designers. Much of the art of the Potteries is of a low-class character to-day, he says, for this reason, that when the average manufacturer is producing his new designs, his method of procedure is as follows:—"A designer receives a post-card: 'Please call to-day with designs for toilet shapes.' If he is a beginner, he carefully thinks out and neatly sketches some ideas, either on paper or in clay, and calls on the manufacturer to submit them. His designs may have taken him some days to prepare, and are probably the result of years of study and observation, but the manufacturer passes them through his hands like shuffling a pack of cards, and remarks (often before he has got quite through the shuffling): 'Nothing in our line here.' He then proceeds to call his art-director (the man who superintends the women who put the lithos on) and his traveller, telling the latter to bring so and so's catalogue. The designer is then shown some shape that is on the market, which he thinks, and perhaps remarks, is a 'mongrel.' 'Never mind,' says the manufacturer, 'it is selling, and we want one in that style.' Off he goes and prepares some more sketches 'in that style,' but tries, as he imagines, to improve 'that style' (which may be an Egyptian body with a flamboyant rococo handle and a nightmare top, decorated in a style that defies classification), and submits them. 'No,' he is told, 'these won't do.' Then he gets mad and says 'Art be hanged.' seizes his pencil and perpetrates another outrage on the district by giving the manufacturer what he wants, and the only thing he will pay for. The traveller, who generally has very little artistic taste—and boasts of the fact—remarks 'That's the thing,' and the designer forthwith proceeds to model the 'thing'." This version of an interview between a modern master potter and his designer is, of course, a caricature. The preparation of new shapes and designs is a matter of the utmost moment to every manufacturer; it means, to a large extent, the success or failure of his season's trade, and nobody in his senses would wilfully treat in so offhand a way the studied work of a clever artist. If the work submitted to him is neither studied nor clever, and gives no promise of commercial success, a manufacturer may be excused for sometimes bringing the guillotine into operation rather speedily; but that is quite a different case from that presented by the writer I have just quoted.

Some extremely interesting contributions to the discussion have come from the pen of Mr. John Currie, who, until a few years ago, was engaged in actual work here as a pottery artist, but who has recently won a reputation for himself in other directions, and was not long ago appointed an art inspector under the Government in Ireland. Mr. Currie thinks that manufacturers have only to blame themselves for bad trade if they go on "everlastingly producing the same old patterns." Fashions in pottery, he holds, have changed and the day of expensively and laboriously decorated ware, particularly pictorial china, is past, and it is necessary for those manufacturers who have not already done so to recognise this fact. He says that recently he visited a well-known pottery where one room was stocked with ware adorned with a kind of monster red cabbage rose, the colour of which gave quite a blood-

thirsty aspect to the place, and the manager complained of bad trade. "It is really difficult to say things hard enough in cases like these," comments Mr. Currie, and he asks, plaintively, "Do the designers and managers seriously think that, with the immense progress in things artistic of recent years people will support this state of things much longer? Let us," he goes on, "accept the new for the old, and instead of the stippling and fumbled execution, we will have the direct expression and rich invention of decorative art. Designers keenly alive to the present-day movement in modern European art are those who are required and whose work is earnestly to be desired." Mr. Currie has a bone to pick with the workpeople of the Potteries, because, he says, their hearts are not in their work, but in football, or some other such subject, and he alleges that the average worker in the Potteries never experiences the joy of producing a thing for its own sake, without which it is impossible to produce good workmanship. Inefficient in ability and devoid of ideas, he remarks, the workmen appear to go on without any regard for the world's progress. Finally he tilts at the master potter for his lack of faith in the art schools—"the only places where young designers can work with a free sprit and real interest." Mr. Currie sums up, to his own evident satisfaction, with the remark that, unless more encouragement is given to young decorators in the Potteries, the only apparent future for the trade in England seems to be the production of sanitary ware and white ware generally, or a barbarous and decadent form of degraded ware having a sale quite "out of it," compared with the productions of countries more wideawake.

The discussion which I have above summarised in rough and ready fashion must be productive of good if it serves to stimulate interest in the work of the art schools of the district. Some hard and unmerited things have been said of the manufacturers here, but it may be that the controversy will lead to the work of the art schools being more co-ordinated with that of the manufactory, with results mutually advantageous to both. The champions of the art schools may be sure of this, that if the schools are not supported by manufacturers as one would like them to be, there must be some very real ground for their apathy. Manufacturers, it must always be remembered, are fighting for trade, and have to face very keen competition in the world markets. It is no use producing wares, however artistic, unless they can sell them, and in the rush and bustle of a modern works the artists cannot reasonably be expected to turn out at rapid speed works which would satisfy the æsthetic cravings and ideals of Royal Academicians. The critics of the manufacturers, too, have failed to make allowance for the difficulties by which many firms are beset. Foreign tariffs are high, foreign competition is keen, and a large proportion of the manufacturers are handicapped by the fact that their premises are not up to date in equipment, and are not adequately financed, so that frequently they are compelled to go on in the "same old rut" which is so much complained about, having no other alternative but to either do this or go out of the trade altogether. The best work put forth from the Potteries to-day is being produced at factories which can command adequate capital and are of modern equipment. It would be idle to deny that the art schools have done immense service to the industry in the past, and that they deserve loyal support from the manufacturers is freely admitted. One may be forgiven, however, for doubting whether the South Kensington system enables the schools to realise to the fullest degree their opportunities for service to the trade, and it is a matter worth the careful consideration of the authorities whether it is not possible to effect such changes in the system as will bring the manufacturers and the schools into more intimate touch. In this connection one may be permitted to allude to the very useful and timely speech made by Mr. L. Solon (Messrs. Minton's great pâte-sur-pâte artist) on the subject of "Art Schools, and the Important Place They Occupy in the Scheme of Higher Education" at Newcastle (Staffs.), on Nov. 5. Mr. Solon, than whom there is no greater living authority on art pottery, whether ancient or modern, paid a generous tribute to the influence exerted by the schools of art on English styles of decoration. He contrasted the state of the minor arts in England at the present time with their deplorable condition three-quarters of a century ago, and observed that we might justly be proud to see the modern English style of decoration adopted by the ablest designers of foreign lands, and to find our ornamental patterns imitated in the very places from which we used to borrow our models. He sounded a note of warning against the tendency of a few matter-of-fact economists to question the necessity of maintaining art schools and museums at the public expense, and he pointed out that art schools, besides giving practical training to designers, modellers and others, helped to decide the direction taken by the public taste in its constant evolution. He denied that the cheap must be necessarily inartistic, reminding his hearers that, in the halcyon days of the history of applied art, the modest earthen vessel showed just the same kindred feeling of research as the princely golden vase, and he contended that if art education were properly directed, the day might still come for England, as it once came for ancient Greece, when nothing bad and vulgar could possibly be made. I think everybody will agree that Mr. Solon's words form a very valuable commentary on the present discussion, although his address was delivered before the controversy began.

Before taking leave of the controversy, it is only right that some brief allusion should be made to the letter which Mr. C. L. Burdick, managing director of the Aerograph Co., Ltd., has written in defence of the aerograph, which, as most readers will already know, is an instrument for spraying colour upon ware, largely used in numerous factories in the decorative processes. One of the critics already spoken of had referred in a rather derogatory spirit to the "fatal facilities" for decoration afforded by such mechanical means as the aerograph, and naturally Mr. Burdick took up the gauntlet in a prompt and effective manner, his reply to the critic of the aerograph being both able and convincing. He contests very strongly the argument that because a certain amount of mechanism is required to produce a particular effect, the effect must therefore be also mechanical, pointing out that, with the aerograph, a tint can be laid on to a surface so delicately that, only after repeating it 8 or 10 times, would the tint be visible to the human eye. There is certainly good ground for Mr. Burdick's assertion that no artist could approximate such delicacy with ordinary brush work. The merits of the aerograph have won for it deserved popularity, but Mr. Burdick seems to think that English manufacturers have been slow in finding out all its resources. He mentions that, though the instrument was introduced to the English manufacturers long before it was brought under the notice of Continental firms, the latter were making a greatly superior class of underglaze stencil work with it, while the English manufacturer was still doing nothing more than using it for tinted borders. This, he observed, has no doubt tended to create a diversion in favour of Continental ware, as one can purchase on the Continent a toilet set beautifully stencilled in ten or twelve colours under the glaze, at a price which would be charged for the same in chromo-litho on the top of the glaze in England.

Trade Reports.

The Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

NOTES FROM THE POTTERIES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A MANCHESTER newspaper which enjoys a certain amount of popularity in this part of the country startled some of us, a few days ago, by issuing a placard which boldly inquired of all and sundry: "Is the English potting trade ruined?" Things have been pretty bad for some time past, it is true, but few of us were prepared to see a question like this greeting us from every newspaper shop we passed by. Some of us were unwise enough to invest a copper in the purchase of a paper in order to learn what great disaster it was that had suddenly befallen our historic industry, and we were rewarded for our enterprise by learning that certain foreign countries are using English clay to make their pots with, and that they have also put up tariff walls to keep the products of our North Staffordshire manufactories out of their own markets. News, indeed! What surprising information will the Manchester press serve us up next. We may expect them soon to find out that the great Josiah Wedgwood is deceased, and then we shall have a placard announcing the "Death of a Great English Potter." Readers of THE POTTERY GAZETTE may rest assured that the English potting trade does not stand in any immediate danger of becoming suddenly defunct. Trade, it is true, is far from what we should like it to be, and the tariff walls our contemporary has suddenly discovered the existence of do act as a very considerable drag upon our business relations with foreign countries; but, all the same, there is plenty of life left in the staple industry of North Staffordshire yet.

We are glad to be able to record that, during the past month, there has been a slight upward movement in the condition of the trade. It is not much, but such as it is we are thankful for ite What is, however, even more significant than the fact that business is beginning to move is the more hopeful outlook on the industrial horizon. It is something to know that the great cotton dispute in Lancashire has come to an end; it is something to reflect that the American presidential election is over and done with; it is something to be able to think that the Government, in conjunction with the local governing authorities of the country, have set important public works in motion, and are pushing forward with numerous large contracts, in order to relieve the unemployment which existed and to palliate the distress which had everywhere become prevalent. These things have helped to stem the tide of bad trade, have assisted in making money circulate more freely, and have stimulated somewhat tho Christmas demand. Therefore

we are encouraged to take a more optimistic view of trade prospects than was possible last month, even though the improvement in the actual condition of the markets is so far only slight, and short time is still being worked at a large proportion of the factories of the district. The home trade demand both for china and earthenware is, on the whole, somewhat brisker, but jet and rockingham makers are still unsettled by some of the questions regarding making prices which are still at issue between them and their workpeople, and which will probably have to go to arbitration after all. The export trade is quiet, but the prevailing opinion is that the worst part of the slump is over, and that the spring will see a marked change for the better. The sanitary trade has slightly improved. At one large works where the potters were only on four days at the end of October, they are now working full time, with the prospect of only a very short break at Christmas, while an upward movement is also recorded in some instances by manufacturers of porcelain electrical fittings. The satisfaction which was generally felt by manufacturers here at the return of Mr. Taft at the presidential election in the United States has been somewhat chastened by perusal of the speeches he has made foreshadowing increased tariffs on pottery ware, but it seems now to be understood that any extra tariff will be aimed not so much, if at all, against English ware, but against the German china which has been exported to the United States in recent years in such large quantities. Latest information, indeed, makes it doubtful whether there may not be a reduction in the general tariff, instead of an increase, and this would be welcome, because, even if the tariff on pottery were not lowered, the increased prosperity which other home industries would enjoy consequent on the relief thus afforded them would inevitably have a beneficial effect upon our own industry so far as the home market is concerned.

Some may wonder at the optimistic tone in the trade recorded here in face of the Board of Trade returns for the past month, and, indeed, if there were no other data to go upon than the figures therein displayed, there would, indeed, be a sorry tale to tell. The returns show that during the month of October the value of the British ware exported to the colonies and foreign countries was only £198,321, as compared with £256,257 in the corresponding month of last year, and £224,745 in October of 1906. This is a terrible drop, and reduces the total exports for the year to date almost to the level of those of 1906, the figures for the ten months of the last three years being as follows :—1908, £1,992,742 ; 1907, £2,209,087 ; 1906, £1,953,363. Nobody can contemplate with equanimity a decline in trade of £217,000 in ten months, especially when it is recollected that, during the same period, £669,196 worth of foreign-made ware was placed on the markets of the United Kingdom. During October of this year we sent less ware to the extent of £20,000 to the United States than we did in October of last year, and less to Canada by £11,500. Germany's decline on the month was about £4,000, that of France £2,200, Brazil's £3,000, Australia's over £7,000, New Zealand's £700, and minor countries £10,000. The custom of British South Africa and of the East Indies was slightly more this year than it was in October last year. It is observable that during the year 1908, to the end of October, we had only exported to the United States ware worth £411,623, as compared with £522,653 in the corresponding period of 1907, and £478, 483 in the corresponding period of 1906.

The news of the death of Mr. Thomas Greenwood, principal proprietor of THE POTTERY GAZETTE, was received here with deep regret. His name was so intimately associated with this journal that it had become well known to all manufacturers, who bear testimony with genuine feeling to the value of the work which the deceased gentleman had been able to accomplish in the interests of the potting industry. That he directed the policy of the paper in a far-seeing manner and with a view to making it an organ of real worth to all engaged in the trade is universally recognised. One sees the GAZETTE to-day in practically every pottery in the district, large or small, and it must have been a source of much gratification to Mr. Greenwood in his later years to know that the journal which he helped to found, and which he vigorously conducted, was so much appreciated by those for whose use it was designed. The GAZETTE has become here, as I can affirm from personal knowledge, an indispensable adjunct to the office of almost all the manufactories, and the frequency with which it is consulted is, perhaps, the best index of its true value. The wise and straightforward manner in which Mr. Greenwood supported the manufacturers' case at the critical time of the lead-poisoning controversy a few years ago, when it seemed possible that the interference of a Government Department might do great harm to the industry and to all engaged in it, is now gratefully recalled, as is also his championship of the fair name of the Potteries when, still more recently, it was so unjustly exposed to the contumely of the entire country. The charming and interesting accounts of the potting trade in foreign countries with which Mr. Greenwood presented the readers of the GAZETTE from time to time were widely read by manufacturers and proved often to be of great assistance to them in their business. It was easy to see the stamp of his personality throughout the pages of this journal, and his sorrowing relatives may be assured that the sympathy which is felt with them in North Staffs. in their bereavement is both widespread and sincere.

The coming of age of Mr. Colin Herbert Campbell, eldest son and heir of Mr. John Fitzherbert Campbell, of Woodseat, Rocester, Staffs., was celebrated on Nov. 14. Mr. Campbell's family is, of course, closely associated with the firm of Mintons, at Stoke ; and Woodseat, where the family resides, was purchased by Mr. Colin Minton Campbell more than 50 years ago. Mr. C. H. Campbell is at present at Oxford, so that there was no general festivity in connection with his attainment of his majority, but the bells of the Parish Church at Rocester clashed out merrily for the greater portion of the day, and there was an interesting ceremony at the Hall, when three chosen representatives of the parish attended to hand into Mr. and Mrs. Campbell's keeping, on their son's behalf, a handsome hall clock, which had been subscribed for by the parishioners. Accompanying the gift was a gold matchbox. The members of the Rocester Cricket Club, of which Mr. C. H. Campbell is the captain, have presented him with a gold cigarette case. The festivities in connection with the interesting occasion are expected to take place when Mr. Campbell returns from Oxford.—Messrs. Minton, of Stoke, through Mr. John Campbell, have presented a porcelain "ship" vase, and several specimens of "bat" printing on china to the Stoke Museum.—Congratulations to Mr. Noah Parkes, of Burslem, one of the organisers of the Potters' Union, upon his marriage to Miss M. A. Kinson, of Burslem, which took place quietly at Burslem Parish Church on the morning of Sunday, Nov. 1. Mr. Jabez Booth, the organiser of the jet and rockingham section of the union, officiated as best man.

A strike affecting a score or so of workers has occurred at a sanitary ware manufactory in Burslem, a dispute having arisen concerning the making price of a certain article, which is said to be higher in Hanley than it is in Burslem. The officials of the men's union have been endeavouring to bring about a settlement.—At an inquest held at Burslem on Oct. 30, on the body of Betsy Speakman, aged 45, a glost placer, employed at Macintyre & Co.'s Washington Works, Burslem, a verdict was returned of "Death from apoplexy, accelerated by the deceased working in lead."—Mr. George Reynolds, of Alfred Meakin, Ltd., has been appointed to a responsible position at the Swedish Art Pottery, Gustafsburg.—Mr. Alderman Edwards, the Mayor of Burslem, has received an appropriate souvenir of his mayoralty from Mr. William Burton, M.A., the famous chemist-potter. It is a vase in "Lancastrian Pottery," manufactured by Pilkington's Tile and Pottery Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester, of which Mr. Burton is the art director. On one side a pottery kiln is depicted—the "firing" in progress—and on the other side are the borough arms and motto, with floral embellishments. There is a scroll neatly inscribed, "Thomas Edwards, Mayor, 1908-09," while another inscription on the bottom of the vase reads "To Thomas Edwards, from William Burton, 1908." Mr. Burton's association with it renders it superfluous to say that the vase is a high-class artistic production. It has the superb lustre which is one of the remarkable features of Lancastrian pottery.—A fire occurred on Nov. 1 at the Victoria Pottery, Hanley, owned by Cotton & Boden. The origin is understood to be due to the removal of the clammings from an oven, the heat from which set alight the woodwork in the floor of the mould maker's room over the oven. It was not long before the flames were subdued. The damage, chiefly to moulds and cases, is estimated at £50, and is covered by insurance.

THE POTTERY AND GLASS TRADES IN SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE slight improvement thought by some to be discernible in the retail turn-over for October of the city houses, and regarded as the beginning of the winter trade, has not been confirmed during the course of November so far. The trade of the month has been quite lifeless. This is due, of course, partly to the unfavourable conditions of the weather, but chiefly to the general industrial depression which continues all over the country in even an intensified form. Want of work is more than ever emphasised, and thousands of families are unable to keep the wolf of hunger from the door. Even in the case of those who have money coming in to them in greater volume than is needed for the necessaries of life, the disposition to expend anything beyond these necessaries has lessened markedly, and, of course, all this uncertainty and enforced frugality affects first of all the ordinary lines of the earthenware and

glass retail industries. The indisputably well-to-do, not to say wealthy, are affected in some degree, too, with this increasing unwillingness to part with money for anything beyond what is actually needful. The retail traders are looking forward to the Christmas and New Year trade with the grim certainty that the season 1908–1909 will furnish but the poorest of business in the way of present-making purchases. The last four or five Christmas and New Year seasons have been bad to an increasing degree, and the coming one is already written off as destined to beat the past record entirely.

This conviction on the part of the retail trade is fully borne out by the accounts furnished from the wholesale houses. They tell us that all over the country the crop of orders that has come to them in view of the end of the year celebrations is by a long way the scantiest within ordinary memory, and at the time of writing, near to the close of November, there seems very little chance of the scanty crop being added to in any degree worth reckoning. It cannot be the rise of market prices which took place during the year in white ware, glass, &c., that is the hindrance to freedom in ordering, for the current rates and quotations do not seem to be complained of, whether by the retailers themselves or by the customers still left to them. There is no talk at present of any reductions, but wholesale merchants have been heard to utter speculations in that direction as regards next year. New patterns in glass goods will be on the market before the new year has got far on its course, and if the introduction of these could be accompanied by some easing-off of prices, the much-needed stimulant to more freedom of movement in ordering might prove effective. This, of course, is mere speculation at the present time, but the feeling is growing that a stimulus of some sort must be applied in the interests of makers and of merchants, wholesale and retail.

During the month of November there have been no meetings of associated masters in these trades—at least none of any formal description. Informal discussion of a kind, however, has been taking place, one topic being that of putting the proposed Conciliation Board on a permanent footing. This movement, so far as Scotland is concerned, has made no further specific advance ; but it is by no means shelved, and some definite action may be recorded before very long.

It is known that one agent of English pottery workers has been over the Scottish ground amongst the workmen, and it is believed that his errand is to stir up opposition to the employment, by the masters, of certain women workers, and to bring about a change which would substitute male workers for these. As regards this movement, the masters at present are only onlookers ; but it is understood that they are not in favour of any further change in this direction.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, November 16.

THE happy result of the elections, both in the United States and Canada, has done more than any other one thing could have done to restore confidence in the business world on this continent. There was little apprehension of a change in the Canadian administration ; but W. J. Bryan has gained greatly in popularity in the last few years, and many felt that he had a very good chance of defeating the Roosevelt nominee. His election would have meant less protection for manufacturers and fiscal "reforms" that would have been intolerable at this time—provided he had a strong house at his back. The uncertainty deterred the placing of millions of dollars' worth of contracts until after the elections, and deferred the opening of shops to upwards of 650,000 operatives. Since the elections there has been a steady improvement in trade throughout America, and better trade conditions in the United States means better business conditions in Canada. Reports from the North-West show a decided improvement. No large orders are being given, but every merchant is buying a little, and feels more confident of the future. In a short trip through western Ontario last week, I found this same spreading spirit of optimism. Here, the small merchants are buying more freely, and have been increasing their import orders. And I observed a most gratifying tendency on the part of many retail merchants in the smaller towns and cities to buy more largely of the better class of pottery, and to push sales of the finer lines as they have never done before. This is the result, I was told by one of these merchants, of the mail order business of the large department stores in Toronto, which have been doing a tremendous business throughout Ontario the past year or two. "It opened our eyes," said he, "to the fact that we were not supplying all the needs of our customers. So we decided to find out wherein we failed. In my own case I discovered that finer china than I had been in the habit of handling was in more demand than I had anticipated. Last Christmas I made my beginning and I found it a very profitable change." Others had a similar story to tell, and the indications all point to an immediate restoration of confidence and a considerable improvement in the grade of pottery for older and younger Canada. Local jobber and import houses report improved business month by month for the last three months, payments are satisfactory and business is surely on the mend. Manufacturers who, at the beginning of the year, begin to look for import orders are not likely to be disappointed.

As intimated in my last letter, another wholesale jobbing house will open its doors in Canada at the beginning of the year. The members of the new concern, which is to start under the name of the John Dromgole Co., Ltd., London Canada, are J. Dromgole, A. McLean, B. Collamore, R. S. Todd, and E. Fowler. Mr. Dromgole has been travelling for one firm for nearly thirty years, and is one of the best known crockery men in the Dominion. English potters are making a praiseworthy effort to familiarise themselves, personally, with the Canadian trade. Last month we had W. H. Grindley on a tour of inspection. This month we have Mr. A. Leutner, who comes in the interests of Wingate and Johnston, Ltd., of which he is a director. This was Mr. Leutner's first visit to Canada, and he traversed the Dominion from coast to coast, afterwards visiting some of the larger United States cities. He was greatly impressed with the vastness of the Canadian west and its potentialities, and carried away with him a number of flattering souvenirs in the shape of substantial orders. Another British pottery man who is here is Mr. A. Henry, of Cochrane & Fleming, Glasgow, Scotland. President J. S. McMahon, of the McMahon-Broadfield Co., Toronto, wholesale jobbers, is on his annual tour of the Staffordshire potteries. The Mussett Bros., one of whom has had considerable pottery experience in Staffordshire, have taken the agency in Canada for Mr. William Ault. They expect to add other lines and cut some figure in the Canadian import field.

The British Canadian Stores, Ltd., organised with English capital, has an option on a central site in this city whereon the company proposes to build a twelve-storey department store, four hundred feet square. The purpose is said to be to erect a building to cost $1,000,000, the authorised capital being $3,000,000, and to have the largest department store on the North American continent. Other Canadian department stores have very large departments devoted to china and glass ware, and this would be another important distributor for the manufacture

and the importer. It is all on paper, however, and may not materialise, but the daily papers have had particulars of the company organisation and printed the architects' plan for the building.

The Gazette.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

NOTE.—*When two dates are given in the following announcements, the first is the date of the dissolution. The date in parentheses that of the official advertisement.*

LATIMER D. M. & SONS (Eleanor B. Latimer, Giles Jackson Latimer, Luther Latimer, and David Minto Latimer), Langholm & Lockerbie, china merchants, &c., April 9, by death of said D. M. Latimer, of whom Mrs. Eleanor Brickel or Latimer is the executrix-dative. L. Latimer will carry on business as an ironmonger and china merchant in his own name in the present premises at Lockerbie and will pay and receive the debts in connection with the said business. G. J. Latimer will carry on business as an ironmonger and china merchant in his own name in the present premises at Langholm, and will pay and receive the debts in connection with said business. (Nov. 13.)

SHUFFLEBOTTOM C. & W. (Chas. Shufflebottom, jun., and Wm. Shufflebottom), 27, Lancaster-rd., Preston, china and earthenware dealers. Aug. 28. Debts by C. Shufflebottom, jun., who continues in his own name. (Oct. 23.)

Notices as to Winding-up: Petitions: Orders; and Official and other Notices in connection with Public Companies.

SAXON ENGINEERING CO., LTD., Stoke-on-Trent.—C. E. Bullock, Albion-st., Hanley, C.A., appointed receiver. Oct. 27, 1908.

SUTTON HEATH POTTERY CO., LTD. Resolved Oct. 20, confirmed Nov. 5:—That the company be wound up. R. Davies, liqr.

Application for Debtors' Discharge.

AMISON HERBERT Jun., 40, Wise-st., Dresden, Longton, earthenware merchant. At Town-hall, Stoke-upon-Trent, Dec. 9, at 11.

Notice.

CRICHTON W. G. (Mrs. Barbara Walls or Crichton), 71, Port-st., Stirling, glazier and glass merchant. Business sold to Archibald Walls, 1, Dumbarton-rd., Stirling, manager of said business, who, from Oct. 26, will carry it on in his own name. (Oct. 27.)

Notices of Dividends.

BENNETT HERBERT E., trading as Bennett & Sons, 23, York-place, Brighton, china dealer. First and final, 3s. 2d., at O.R.'s, Brighton.

REYNOLDS WM., 3 and 4, Corn-market, Thame, late 10, Tavistock-st., Bedford, china dealer. First and final, 7s. 7½d., at O.R.'s, Oxford.

Petition Presented for Sequestration.

HELLER IGNATZ, 50, Charles-street, St. Rollox, Glasgow, glass beveller. Nov. 12.

Notices of Intended Dividends.

BROADHURST WALTER, 15, Charles-st., Manchester, glass etcher. Claims to J. G. Gibson, Byrom-st., Manchester.

PEARSON HARRY, trading as H. Pearson & Co., Moor-st., Brierley-hill, and Round Oak, Stafford, glass manufacturer. Claims to E. P. Jobson, Dudley, O.R.

Trust Deed Granted.

TYRE OR THOMSON, Mrs. Colina, trading as Colina Tyre, china and fancy goods merchant, 15, Main-st., Largs. Claims to T. Logan, 4, Bath-st., Glasgow, forthwith. Preferential creditors, £38; liabilities, £331 2s. 5d.; assets (after deducting preferential claims), £139 14s. 3d.; showing 8s. 5d. per £, or thereby.

Extracts from the Registry of Deeds of Arrangement.

The following Deeds of Arrangement with Creditors have been filed at the Bills of Sale Office under the provisions of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887. *Under this Act it is nccessary that private arrangements other than those executed in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act shall be registered within seven clear days after the first execution by the debtor or any creditor.*

** These figures are taken from the Affidavit filed with the registered Deed, but may be subject to variation on realisation. In some cases the estimated assets are not stated.*

(The following lists are taken from the Official Gazette information, and we are not responsible for the mis-spelling of the names of any of the creditors.—EDS. P. G.)

BAKER JAS., trading as Jas. Baker & Sons, Kingsfield Pottery, and residing at 5, Grosvenor-rd., Newcastle-under-Lyme, earthenware manufacturer. Dated Oct. 15. Filed Oct. 22. Liabilities unsecured, £1,852. Property, after deducting secured claims, £279. Tr., A. Wayte, 31, Albion-st., Hanley. Secured creditors, £7,793. The following are creditors:—British Finance Co., Birmingham, £88; A. P. Swann, Burslem, £20; Sneyd Colliery Co., Ltd., Burslem, £30; J. W. Sheppard, Derby, £13; F. Beardmore & Co., Fenton, £111; J. Dean, Greenwich, £300; Patent Saggar Co., Hanley, £280; Harrison & Son, Ltd., Hanley, £50; Hitchings & Son, Hanley, £10; C. Butters, Hanley, £38; Leek Moorland Building Society, Leek, £6,058; Samuels & Co., Manchester, £63; Midland Coal, Coke and Iron Co., Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyme, £29; J. Inskip, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £18; H. E. Moody, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £200; H. Watson, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £252; Newcastle Mutual Benefit Building Society, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £657; E. J. Cooper, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £150; Mr. Davison, Newcastle-under-Lyme, £24; Silverdale Colliery Co., Silverdale, £126; J. B. Scalley, Silverdale, £73; Grose & Stocker, Stoke-on-Trent, £16; Foster & Son, Stoke-on-Trent, £13; Harper & Moores, Stourbridge, £23; J. Hughes, Wynbunbury, £16; bankers' claims, £931.

FULLERTON SAML., 12, Leeds-rd. and 8, Ridgway-st., Dewsbury, glass and china dealer. Dated Oct. 27. Filed Oct. 28. Liabilities unsecured, £134. Property, afer deducting secured claims, £49. Tr., W. Dawson, Bank-chambers, Dewsbury. The following are creditors:—King & Barrett, Burslem, £10; Miss G. A. Fullerton, Dewsbury, £40; Royal Victoria Pottery, Hanley, £12; Dr. Methven & Sons, Kirkcaldy, £13; Johnson Bros., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £12.

LEWIS ARTHUR and JANE SPRAKE LEWIS (his wife), trading as J. S. Lewis, the County Stores, Lydney, storekeepers. Dated Oct. 17. Filed Oct. 21. Liabilities unsecured, £930. Property, after deducting secured claims, £189. Tr., A. W. Mills, 53, New Broad-st., London, E.C. Secured creditors, £100. The following are creditors:—S. Lewis & Co., London, £53; E. Lewis, London, £60; Hoods. Ltd., Birmingham, £12; Bristol Porcelain and Glass Co., Bristol, £10; J. White & Co., Bristol, £27; S. Iles, Bristol, £39; Sterry & Morris, Gloucester, £23; H. Lewis, Lowestoft, £650; Smiths (Newport), Ltd., Newport, £13; Godsell & Son, Stroud, £15.

Circular.

These Lists in some instances refer to Meetings of Creditors called by or on behalf of the Debtor, with a view of laying his affairs before his Creditors, or refer to Statements of Debtors' Affairs, and do not in all cases refer to failures.

BARNETT WILLIAM, Llangefni, Anglesea, china dealer. In connection with the affairs of the above, the following circular has been issued by Messrs. Price, Roberts & Lawrie:—"Mr. William Barnett has instructed us to communicate with you as to his financial affairs, as his creditors are pressing, and he wishes a full statement to be laid before all his creditors. He is the owner of the leasehold premises where he lives and carries on business for an unexpired term of about 60 years at an annual ground rent of £2 5s. 6d. These premises are mortgaged to secure £260, and they are also mortgaged to the Metropolitan Bank, Llangefni, to secure an overdraft. He has two policies, each for £200 with profits, one on his own life, and the other on the lives of himself and his wife. These policies are also mortgaged to his bankers. The office surrender value of these policies is £92. The amount owing to his bankers at present is £155. Mr. Barnett estimates that the value of the equity of the leaseholds and the policies is £75. In addition he values his stock in trade at £90, household furniture at £20, and book debts at £5. His estimated assets are, therefore, £190 or thereabouts. We enclose a list of his creditors, which amounts to £282 6s. 6d. Mr. Barnett is prepared to file his petition, or he is prepared to call a meeting of his creditors, or he will make an offer of a dividend, according as the majority of his creditors seem to think best." The following are creditors:—C. Sozzi & Co., Bangor, £24; Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, £15; Wildblood, Heath & Co., Longton, £12; Hawkesley & Co., Liverpool, £16; Lamb & Son, Buckley, £10; Lloyd Gosslyn & Co., Liverpool, £25; Nixon & Shaw, Liverpool, £20; J. B. Wood & Co., Loughborough, £23; Briggs & Co., Sheffield, £10; Buncross & Sons, Birmingham, £10; W. J. Holme, Birmingham, £15; Newsome & Co., Coventry, £14; Thos. Russell & Son, Liverpool, £13; R. Williams, Ltd., London, £10; Williams & Co., Birmingham, £10; W. Hughes, Llangefni, £10; J. Williams, Arnluch, £15. Fully secured creditors: Bankers, £155.

Bankruptcy Proceedings.

CLARKE ALFRED, 27, Lower High-st., Wednesbury, Staffs., glass and china merchant, &c. The Receiving Order in this case was made on Oct. 19, on the debtor's petition, and according to the accounts filed the gross liabilities amounted to £934 7s. 11d., of which £794 4s. 10d. is unsecured, and the net assets are estimated at £173 6s. 6d., a deficiency being thus disclosed of £620 18s. 4d. The debtor states that prior to January, 1889, he assisted in the management of a business carried on by his two aunts at the above address. In the following December, the survivor of these two ladies died, and by her will she left her estate (with the exception of one or two

special bequests) to the debtor, who was her sole executor. Debtor alleges that the estate, which was then indebted to him for money lent to the extent of over £460, was, as a matter of fact, on the wrong side. He ascribes his failure to bad trade and expenses incurred owing to family illness. The books of account kept consist of cash book and ledger containing creditors' and debtors' accounts, but the books are incomplete. Mrs. Clarke claims a portion of the household furniture. The unsecured liabilities include £185 money borrowed from debtor's wife, £53 bank over-draft, and £262 for rent not distrainable. The first meeting of the creditors was held on Nov. 5, at the Official Receiver's offices, Wolverhampton. Only one creditor attended the meeting, and no resolutions being therefore passed the matter remains with the Official Receiver, who accordingly acts as trustee. The following are creditors :—Bourne & Leigh, Burslem, £25 ; Crowden & Garrod, London, £20 ; Mrs. A. Clarke, Wednesbury, £183 ; Daniel & Arton, Birmingham, £27 ; Ellis & Co., Sheffield, £22 ; Keeling & Co., Burslem, £14 ; Bankers, Wednesbury, £51 ; Moore & Son, Birmingham, £11 ; C. Southern, Wednesbury, £23 ; Windart & Co., London, £20 ; F. W. Allenby, Birmingham, £5 ; Anglo-Belge Glass Association, London, £7 ; Benson & Sons, Birmingham, £6 ; Butler & Co., Sheffield, £8 ; Bates & Son, London, £10 ; Burgess & Leigh, Burslem, £7 ; Green & Co., Church Gresley, £8 ; Hammond, Harrop & Co., Brierley Hill, £4 ; Hughes & Co., Fenton, £6 ; Hill Top Foundry Co., West Bromwich, £6 ; Lee & James, Birmingham, £9 ; Lang & Co., Perth, £3 ; Orme, Evans & Co., Wolverhampton, £5 ; Ryder & Son, Wednesbury, £4 ; Sellineu & Hill, Wolverhampton, £5 ; Stephenson Bros., Bradford, £3. Fully secured creditors, £115. The debtor attended for his public examination on Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the County Court, Walsall, before Mr. Registrar Clarke. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £794 4s. 10d., and assets £173 6s. 6d. Debtor was examined by the Official Receiver (Mr. Sam. Wells Page) and stated whenhe was 17 years of age he went to his two aunts, who carried on business at the above address, and assisted them until 1889, when the last of them died. He had lent them £460 which had come to him by legacies, and on the death of his second aunt it was suggested that he should take over the business in dis charge of his claim. The estate when wound up only showed a balance of about £20, and that was arrived at by all the stock, &c., being taken at full prices, and not at breaking-up prices. For some time the business was fairly successful, but for the last few years it had fallen off, and, being pressed by creditors, he consulted his solicitor, by whom a meeting of creditors was called. It was decided that he should make a declaration of affairs ; but before that could be done his solicitor advised him to file his petition, and he did so. Subsequently the examination was adjourned.

Galey Jno., 10, Egerton-terrace, Ardwick, and 99, Ashton Old-rd., Openshaw, Manchester, glass, china, and hardware dealer R.O., Nov. 20. Adj. Nov. 20..

Holmes William George, late glass and china dealer, 139A,, Chapeltown-rd., late 34, Chapeltown-rd., Leeds. The liabilities herein amount to £325 11s. 4d., against assets £6 1s. 4d. The following are creditors :—A. E. Collett, Leeds, £11 ; Fox & Co., Leeds, £14 ; Hirst & Sons, Leeds, £15 ; Mrs. Smith Holmes, Leeds, £77 ; C. H. Holmes, Leeds, £63 ; Stone Bros., Leeds, £10.

Levee Alf. Waller, now residing c/o the Duke of Bridgwater Hotel, Liverpool-rd., Manchester, and trading at the various local markets, late 6, Broom-lane, Levenshulme, glass and china dealer. R.O., Nov. 19. Adj., Nov. 19.

Mitchell Thos., 18, Oakwell-lane, late 88, Pontefract-rd., Barnsley, toolmaker, late china and earthenware dealer. R.O., Nov. 13. Adj., Nov. 13·.

Shann Fanny Beatrice, 10, Wordsworth-rd., Wallington, Surrey, late 195, Icknield-st., Birmingham, Villa-st., Aston, and Buckington-st., Birmingham, glass manufacturer, &c. The public examination of this debtor was to have been resumed on Nov. 16 at the Court House, Corporation-st., Birmingham, before Mr. Registrar Lowe. The Official Receiver (Mr. A. S. Cully) stated that the debtor had not surrendered, and it had already been necessary to adjourn the examination once. No statement of affairs had been filed. He applied for an adjournment sine die. Mr. Rabnett, a creditor, said that his impression was that if a warrant were issued the debtor would surrender. The examination was adjourned sine die, and a warrant will be issued for the debtor's arrest.

Stirling Chas. Jas. Robt., Cranham-house, near Stroud, pottery manufacturer. Adj., Oct. 24. The liabilities herein amount to £1,342 16s., against assets £1,077 19s. 1d. The following are creditors :—Bedminster, &c., and Parkfield Collieries, Ltd., Bristol, £77 ; A. B. Cryer, Chipping Sodbury, £12 ; O. J. Gullick, Bristol, £18 ; J. C. Kimmins, Stroud, £14 ; T. W. Palmer, King's Lynn, £18 ; H. de B. Randolph, Ontario, £100 ; E. F. Trump, Bristol, about £12. Fully secured creditors :—J. H. Watling, Bristol, £750 ; H. Stroud, Cheltenham, £220 ; J. Brunskill, Cheltenham, £32 ; T. E. Rickerby, Cheltenham, £75. Partly secured creditors : Bankers, £1,360 (security, £295). The first meeting of the creditors was to have been held at the County Court Buildings, Cheltenham, on Nov. 5, but no creditors attended, and Mr. C. Scott (the official Reeeiver) said he would have to adjourn the meeting. The adjourned first meeting of the creditors was held on Nov. 12, at the County Court Buildings, Cheltenham, but a quorum of creditors again did not attend, and the Official Receiver will, therefore, report to the Board of Trade that there was not a quorum of creditors present at either meeting, and that department will, if thought necessary, appoint a trustee. The public examination of the debtor was held on Nov. 10 at the Shirehall, Gloucester, before Mr. Registrar Hartland. In reply to questions the debtor stated that he had carried on business as a pottery manufaeturer, and ultimately sold his interest to a company. He was formerly in the Army, and had also carried on business in Canada. Eventually the examination was ordered o stand adjourned.

New British Patents.

The following list has been compiled expressly for "The Pottery Gazette" by Messrs. G. F. Redfern & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 1, South-street, Finsbury, E.C., and 21, Southampton-buildings, W.C.

Applications for Letters Patent.

Bottles, No. 18,844.—H. P. J. Long, and A. Inskipp. Improvements in and relating to bottles, jars, and other receptacles. Sept. 8, 1908.

Bottles, No. 20,096.—S. Newman. Improvements relating to bottles, flasks, and other liquid receptacles. Sept. 24, 1908.

Ceramic Washing Apparatus, No. 20,961.—R. H. Wainford and J. W. Hartley. New or improved apparatus for washing, scouring, or cleansing ceramic or other articles. Oct. 5, 1908.

China Clay Preparation, No. 21,260.—A. G. Salmon, C. J. Grace and The Exploration Co., Ltd. Improvements in the preparation of china clay. Oct. 8, 1908.

Clay Cleaner, No. 22,038.—H. Barten. Clay cleaner. Oct. 17, 1908.

Colour Recovering Means, No. 22,980.—A. Pidduck and G. Smith. Improved means for recovering colours used in spraying of earthenware and china, applicable for other similar purposes. Oct. 28, 1908.

Drip-Arresting Devices for Bottles, No. 22,966.—C. A. M. Clark. Improvements in drip-arresting devices for bottles. Oct. 28, 1908.

Glass-Bevelling Machines, No. 20,398.—F. Cotterell. Improvements in glass-bevelling machines. Sept. 28, 1908.

Glass Bottle Machines.—J. Murphy. Improvements in and relating to machines for making glass bottles. Sept. 11, 1908.

Glass Bottle Machines, No. 19,615.—T. W. Simpson. Improved machine for manufacturing glass bottles. Sept. 18, 1908.

Glass Bottle Manufacturing Machines, No. 22,080.—T. W. Simpson. Improvements in or relating to machines for manufacturing glass bottles. Oct. 19, 1908.

Glass Bottle Neck Grinding Machine, No. 19,875.—H. J. C. Forrester. (Precision Glass Grinding Co., United States.) Improvements in grinding machine adapted for the grinding of glass bottle-necks and surfaces of other articles. Sept. 22, 1908.

Glass Bottles, No. 21,617.—G. W. Barton and J. G. Douglas. Improvements in glass bottles. Oct. 13, 1908.

Glass Decoration Process, No. 19,049.—C. Kenzler. Process for producing decorations on glass and the like. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act.) Sept. 11, 1907.

Glass Ovens, No. 20,393.—C. Royer. Improvements in glass ovens, Sept. 28, 1908.

Glass Sign-Boards, No. 22,644.—E. Bösinger. Process for the manufacture of glass sign-boards. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, Nov. 22, 1907.)

Globe, No. 20,746.—B. Bronislawski. New or improved condensing globe or lamp-shade. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, Oct. 3, 1907.)

Ink-bottles, No. 23,011.—H. N. Bickerton. Improvements relating to ink and like bottles or receptacles. Oct. 29, 1908.

Ink-well.—A. Hellwig. Improved ink-well. Oct. 5, 1908.

Jug, No. 19,073.—J. Cochran.—Improved jug or vessel for holding liquids. Sept. 11, 1908.

Milk Jugs, No. 19,977.—W. Carter. Improvements in or relatng to milk jugs or the like. Sept. 21, 1908.

Plastic Mouldable Substance, No. 22,680.—A. W. H. Vivian, G. L. Davies, and L. Grote. New or improved plastic or/and mouldable substance or mass or/and method of manufacturing same. Oct. 26, 1908.

Plates, No. 21,858.—K. Abbenz. Improvements in the manufacture of dished or hollow glass plates. Oct. 15, 1908.

Porous Ceramic Objects, No. 22,613.—Grunzweig & Hartmann, G.M.B.H. Improvements in the manufacture of porous ceramic objects. (Date applied for under Section 91 of the Act, May 2, 1908.)

Pottery Shaping Machine, No. 20,940.—F. Hancock. Novel or improved apparatus or machines for use in shaping articles of pottery. Oct. 5, 1908.

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POTTERY WARE MANUFACTURE, No. 20,768.—F. Fuller and F. Riley, trading as The Speedwell Engineering Co. and J. Pepper. Improvements in or connected with the manufacture of pottery ware, Oct. 2, 1908.

SALT BOTTLE, No. 19,335.—A. Wolkenstein, Improvements in bottles or jars for containing salt, sugar, and other pulverulent materials. Sept. 15, 1908.

SANITARY PIPES, No. 20,276.—H. J. Haskins. Improvements in and relating to sanitary pipes and the like. Sept. 26, 1908.

SYPHON BOTTLE, No. 19,626.—T. Spencer. New or improved syphon bottle. Sept. 18, 1908.

TEA CUP DISPLAYING STAND, No. 21,471.—Anglo-Belge Association, Ltd., and J. Sayer. Improvements in and connected with stands for displaying tea cups, saucers and the like. Oct. 10, 1908.

TEAPOTS, No. 21,927.—S. G. G. Ashby. Improvements in teapots and like infusing vessels. Oct. 16, 1908.

TEAPOTS, No. 21,044.—G. T. Gilby. (A. E. Hobson, United States.) Improvements in teapots and certain other vessels. Oct. 6, 1908.

TILE COMPOSITION, No. 19,613.—L. C. Ratcliffe. New composition from waste products suitable for use in making tiles, mouldings, and other articles. Sept. 18, 1908.

TILE PRODUCING, No. 22,126.—H. Reich. Method of producing clay tiles resembling natural sandstone.. Oct. 19, 1908.

WINDOW GLASS MACHINES, No. 19,827.—H. D. Hershey. Improvements in and relating to continuous draw vacuum window glass machines. Sept. 21, 1908.

Specifications Published.

1907.

19,695.—Woolley. Gas-fired potters' ovens or kilns.
23,011.—Wibberley. Apparatus for dipping pottery or other articles in liquid preparations.
28,485.—Forster. Glass-rolling machine.
21,034.—Anglo-Belge Glass Association & Sayer. Support for flowers and the like.
26,157.—Fox. Drinking cups and flasks.
27,051.—Finch & Staley. Water-closet basins and traps.

1908.

10,183.—De Luca, & French Flint Glass Bottle Co. Valves for bottles, jars, and other vessels.
15,669.—Imray. (Window Glass Machine Co.) Apparatus for drawing glass.
3,073.—Dimitry. Non-refillable bottles. (Date applied for under International Convention, March 5, 1907.)
6,779.—Dawson. Bottle necks.
11,117.—Slope. Tea pots.
22,328.—Langdridge. Construction of vegetable dishes, sauce boats, and other receptacles which have a removable cover.
28,383.—Hawkins. Chamber pots and slop pails. Cognate Application, 737-08.
28,717.—Flack (Dobbins). Glass for windows and the like.
9,689.—Severin. Device for withdrawing determinate quantities of glass from glass furnaces.
730.—Trommald, Davis & Carlson. Stoppers for bottles, jars and like vessels.
3,145.—Darke. Inkstands.
3,963.—French Flint Glass Bottle Co. & Warcup. Closing devices for jars, bottles, and the like. (Application for Patent of Addition to No. 4,922-03.)
4,015.—Sherwin. Lavatory basins.
13,114.—Von Michalkowski. Kneading and feeding apparatus for clay and other materials.
13,793.—Haddan. (Rotophot Ges für Photographische Industrie.) Manufacture of composite glass plates.
15,670.—Imray (Window Glass Machine Co.). Apparatus for drawing glass.
6,336.—Engelsing. Bidet apparatus.
6,367.—Schiller. Bottle blowing machines.

Designs.

The following is a list of proprietors of designs entered on the Register in Class 4, which includes "articles composed wholly or chiefly of glass, earthenware, or porcelain, bricks, tiles, or cement."

528,339-40.—W. Maclean, 15, Pitt-st., Glasgow.
528,577.—Schindler & Co., 9, Aldermanbury avenue, E.C.
528,580.—Burtles Tate & Co., Poland-st., Manchester.
528,612.—W. Zepler, Silver-st., Tamworth.
528,857.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
529,040-3.—Worcester Royal Porcelain Co., Ltd., Worcester.
529,138.—E. W. Willcocks, Victor-rd., Copnor, Portsmouth.
529,139.—Burtles Tate & Co., Poland-st., Manchester.
529,157-8.—Burgess & Leigh, Middleport Pottery, Burslem.
529,277.—R. H. & S. L. Plant, Forrister-st., Longton.
529,289.—Asprey & Co., 165-166, New Bond-st., W.
529,335.—Thomas Crapper & Co., Ltd., 120, King's-rd., Chelsea.
526,388.—A. Morrison, 13, Randolph-place, Edinburgh.
526,750.—Harant & Guignard, 11, Rue de la Paix, Paris. Address for Service, c/o Philipp's, Ltd., New Bond-st., W.
527,624.—Hammersley & Co., Longton.
529,215-7.—O. A. Mygatt, 15, East 32nd-st., New York. Address for service, c/o. W. P. Thompson & Co., 322, High Holborn, W.C.
529,362-5.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
529,363-5.—Rylands Glass and Engineering Co., Ltd., Barnsley.
529,366.—M. J. Adams, Red House, Stocksfield-on-Tyne.
529,478.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Railway Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent.
529,563-5.—M. Emanuel & Co., 41-42, Shoe-lane, E.C.
529,617-9.—Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton.
529,622-3.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-st., Burslem.
529,624.—H. F. Bradnum, 1, Copeland-avenue, Peckham, S.E.
529,625.—Adjustable Cover and Boiler Block Co., Ltd., 64, Victoria-st., Westminster, S.W.
528,157.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
529,567.—Weiss & Biheller, 70 and 71, Chiswell-st., E.C.
529,606.—J. C. Grinsell, 39, George-st. Parade, Birmingham.
529,761.—T. H. Hill, The Manor House, Ringwood, Hants.
529,839.—T. H. Hill, The Manor House, Ringwood, Hants.
529,950.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
529,960.—W. N. Hibbert, 111, Knight's-hill, West Norwood.
528,811.—J. H. Tucker & Co., King's-rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham.
529,477.—J. Kent, Old Foley Pottery, Fenton.
529,667.—G. Taylor & Co., 16, Well-st., E.C.
529,817.—D. Hunter, 11, Albert-rd., Eyemouth, Berwick.
529,840-2.—Sylverlyte Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., 11, Poland-st., Oxford-st., London, W.
530,072.—E. F. W. Grimshaw Westmill, Buntingford, Herts.
530,112-3.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
530,228.—Rhodes Tile Co., Ltd., Reginald-st., Burslem.
530,229.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
530,354.—M. J. Adams, Fireclay Works, Stockfield-on-Tyne.
530,227.—A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Prospect-st., Burslem.
530,263-4.—A. Arculus & Co., 295, Broad-st., Birmingham.
530,355.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
530,556.—J. J. Adams, 9, Charterhouse-st., E.C.
530,905.—Schindler & Co., 9, Aldermanbury Avenue, E.C.
527,402.—M. J. Adams, Fireclay Works, Scotswold-on-Tyne.
527,688.—H. Owen, Flint, Flintshire.
530,397.—W. Snow, 20, Exeter-rd., Walthamstow.
530,448.—A. Wilzin, 100, Boulevard Victor Hugo, St. Ouen (Seine), France. Address for service, c/o A. M. & Wm. Clark, 53, Chancery-lane, W.C.
530,529.—Wood & Sons, Trent Pottery, Burslem.
530,542.—H. Curtis, 55, Rutland-rd., Ilford, E.
530,580.—R. T. Grocott, Whitehall Works, Longport.
530,636.—Wiltshaw, Robinson & Son, Stoke-on-Trent.
530,712.—J. F. Steen, 74, Rue Montgolfier, Lyons, France. Address for service, c/o H. Haddan & Co., 31 and 32, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.
530,841.—Grimwades, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
530,843-5.—C. A. Flanagan, 54, Gore-st., Stretford, Lancs.
530,906.—Schindler & Co., 9, Aldermanbury Avenue, E.C.
530,912.—A. Wilkinson, 13, Cologne-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W.
530,957.—H. & R. Johnson, Cobridge.
530,958.—C. A. Flanagan, 54, Gore-st., Stretford, Lancs.
530,969.—Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C.
531,014-5.—Metallic Seamless Tube Co., Ltd., Birmingham.
530,114.—D. Hunter, 11, Albert-rd., Eyemouth, N.B.
530,356.—A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Prospect-st., Burslem.
530,357.—H. T. Robinson, Cannon-st., Hanley.
530,699.—A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Prospect-st., Burslem.
531,147.—H. & R. Johnson, Elder-rd., Cobridge.
531,222.—J. C. Sellars, 68, Bridge-st., Birkenhead.
531,320.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
531,372.—J. J. Adams, 9, Charterhouse-st., E.C.
531,411.—S. Fielding & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.
531,504.—Johnson & Jorgensen, Ltd., 26-27, Farringdon-st., E.C.
531,552.—Doulton & Co., Ltd., Nile-st., Burslem.
523,945.—M. J. Adams, Fireclay Works, Scotswood-on-Tyne.
527,694.—T. S. Cotterell, Welton Lodge, Lyncombe, Bath.
529,829.—E. P. Peyton, Chemical Works, Lister-st., Birmingham.
530,176.—Mrs. M. Gainsborough, c/o Keith, Prowse & Co., Ltd., 162, New Bond-st., W.
530,265-6.—H. O. Knoblauch, 15, Hartmann Strasse, Lobau, Saxony. Address for service, c/o Hunt & Co., 121, West George-st., Glasgow and Glenboig Union Fire Clay Co., Ltd., 48, West Regent-st., Glasgow, N.B.
530,395.—G. Helps, Luons Croft, Ansl, Atherstone.

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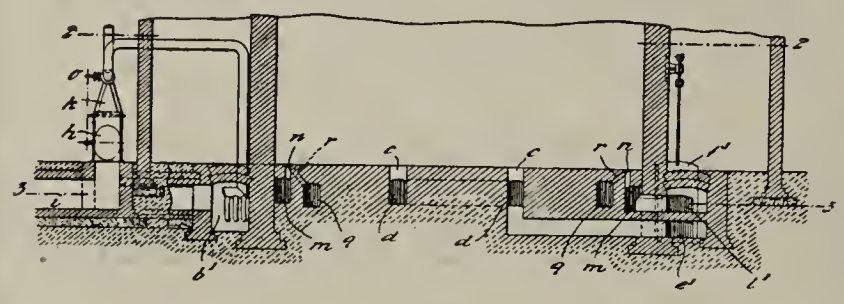
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and then through a separate recuperator chamber containing pipes through which the gas is passing to the oven, while the air is passing to the oven through a second separate recuperator chamber and regenerater previously heated by the



products of combustion. (2) The modification in which the air does not pass through the recuperator chamber, but is admitted directly to the regenerator. (3) The modification in which, in order to avoid dampers controlling the regenerators, the gas and air are admitted alternately to one side and the other of the oven instead of all round the oven.

New Foreign Patents.

United States Patents.

899,811.—D. A. Stewart, Roslyn, New Zealand. Cup and saucer.
900,037.—F. H. Pierpont, Horley, England. Machine for the manufacture of glass bottles and other vessels.
900,281.—W. E. Holmes, Cicero, Ind. Method and apparatus for making glassware.
911,134.—P. Weidl, Dresden, Germany. Hand-bidet.
900,940.—C. Kublewing, Pittsburg, Pa. Apparatus for manufacturing glass articles.
901,199.—H. Severin, Achern, Germany. Apparatus for manufacturing hollow glass articles such as bottles.
900,914.—C. M. Clarke, Pittsburg, Pa. Valve mechanism for glass blowing apparatus.
901,170.—H. D. Hershey, Latrobe, Pa. Continuous-draw vacuum window glass machine.
901,599.—H. Eisenlohr, Karlsruhe, Germany. Method of producing a new ceramic mass and of manufacturing pottery.
901,881.—G. E. Cleveland, Greenfield, Ind. Glass-feeding apparatus for tanks, pots, and similar receptacles.
901,388.—W. C. Schulze, Flushing, N.Y. Glass receptacle.
901,725.—D. J. Murnane, Kirkwood, Mo. Apparatus for forming sheets of glass.
901,800.—E. Fourcault, Lodelinsart, Belgium. Apparatus for the manufacture of glass sheets or plates.

AMERICAN REPORT ON THE BRITISH POTTERY INDUSTRY.

(*Continued from page* 1324.)

THE cost elements of production in the Staffordshire potteries are divided roughly into establishment charges or working expenses, raw material, and labour. The proportion of these elements differs somewhat according to the classes of articles manufactured, the improvements made in the factories by means of labour-saving devices, and some local factors. Since some of the potteries represent an investment dating back a century and a half, it is extremely difficult to arrive at any conclusion regarding the amount of capital which should be counted as representing the value of the plant. In this element goodwill and established reputation of the goods produced would also have to be considered. Notwithstanding the difficulty of arriving at an accurate conclusion, the three factors of establishment charges or working expenses, materials, and labour are usually divided into equal parts of 33⅓ per cent. This is in particular true of the potteries whose output is decorated ware and common china. A few factories count labour as high as 50 per cent.

The chief materials used by the potteries and which have to be assembled for the manufacture of the finished product are china clay, ball clay, flint, dry spar, semidecomposed granite stone, zinc and lead oxides, boracic acid, and cobalt. For one set of potteries which manufacture bone china, calcined bone to the quantity of 5,000 to 6,000 tons is imported annually from Argentina. The china clay is brought from Cornwall, Devonshire, and Dorsetshire but chiefly from Cornwall. Flint is imported from the coast of France and Jersey Isle. Supplies of borax are from the United States, potters' colours from local works and from the Continent and liquid gold from the same source. The Cornwall clay is declared to be the best in the world for all kinds of paste and earthenware and heavy importations of it are made into Staffordshire. In September, 1908, the cost of clay at Cornwall, as quoted in Staffordshire, was 18s. to 28s. ($4·37 to $6·80) per ton, according to quality with discount of 10 per cent. off for cash. The sea freight from the Cornwall coast to the mouth of the canal at Runcorn on the Mersey, was 4s. (97 cents.); the canal freight from Runcorn to the Potteries was 7s. 5d. ($1·80) per ton. Taking the average price of the clay at Cornwall as 23s. ($5·59) per ton, and allowing 10 per cent. off for cash, which would make it 21s. ($5·10) the net cost delivered at the Potteries would be $7·78 per ton. The cost of the raw flint per ton at the Potteries in the same month was quoted at 18s. 3d. ($4·43); slop flint 4½d. (9 cents) per peck of 32 pounds, including 20 pounds of water. This cost covered the transportation from France and the Isle of Jersey. The other raw materials do not figure materially in the general cost price. In 1906 the quantity of potters' material received in the Staffordshire district was 221,326 tons, being 33,952 tons by rail, and 187,374 tons by canal.

The cost of the fuel is considered by manufacturers relatively high, notwithstanding that some of the potteries are at the mouths of the coal pits. The whole district is underlaid with carbon deposits. The coal output of Stafford County in 1906 was 6,215,647 tons. The price of coal at the mine in September, 1908, was as follows:—Slack, 7s. 2d. ($1·74); straight up, 10s. 6d. ($2·55); best, 14s. 6d. ($3·52), with 2½ per cent. off for cash. Much slack is used, yet it is necessary also to use large quantities of the higher grades. To the cost of the mines must be added 6d. (12 cents) per ton for cartage, which is paid by the potters. In a few of the potteries some gas-firing is now done, but there is practically no use of electricity, and in general it must be said that the outlay for power is the outlay for coal.

Wages in the potteries are based entirely on the piece-rate system, and this adds to the difficulty of obtaining an average wage rate, since earnings vary in the different establishments according to the kinds of goods manufactured and also according to the skill of the workmen. A loss of wages is usually noted in connection with the factories running on short time without any decrease in the rates for piecework. Manufacturing potters also complain of a simlar loss on their capital investment, as many of the factories do not run to the full working capacity. Most of the manufacturers count as an element of cost in connection with wages the charge put upon them through the requirements of the Factories Act and also the Employers' Liability Act. They are required to provide insurance against lead poisoning. The wage scale is usually arranged by agreement between the manufacturers and the operatives. Where an agreement is not reached resort is had to the Government Board of Conciliation, which seeks to arbitrate the difference. Strikes are not common. Notwithstanding the piece-work system, the lack of full time at some seasons, and the irregularity of the workmen in the busy seasons who fail to report for work on Monday, a general average of the wages was arrived at in the official investigation made from 1905 to 1907 by the British Board of Trade. This investigation showed the wages per week for pottery manufacture in October, 1905, in the towns of Stoke-on-Trent and Hanley, which have the same scale as the other pottery towns, to be as follows:—Potters, 25s. to 35s. ($6·08 to $8·51); ovenmen, 30s. ($7·29); painters, gilders, and decorators, 30s. to 40s. ($7·29 to $9·72); labourers, 18s. ($4·37). These rates are for the full ordinary week in summer with the Saturday half holiday excluded. This week is taken as representing fifty-four and one-half hours. In winter the hours of work are shorter and the total earnings are less. During the last ten years the average rate for piecework is said by some manufacturers to have advanced about 5 per cent. The wage rate in the potteries compares favourably with that in other trades. In the buildings trade the weekly rate for bricklayers is given as 37s. 11d. ($9·21); masons, 38s. 7d. ($9·37); carpenters and joiners, 36s. 10d. ($8·95); plumbers, 36s. 4d. ($8·83); plasterers, 38s. 7d. to 40s. 10½d. ($9·43 to $9·93); painters, 34s. 1d. ($8·28); labourers, 26s. to 29s. 6d. ($6·32 to $7·17). In the engineering trades the rates average slightly above these figures, some classes of workmen getting 40s. ($9·72) per week. In the printing trade the average weekly rate for compositors is 32s. ($7·78). According to some of the manufacturers there has been an increase in the earnings of the skilled potters from 4s. (97 cents) to 5s. ($1·22) per day during the last few years. It is also said that where machinery has been introduced, such as the power wheel superseding the string wheel, the sum total of the workmen's weekly wages is the same or greater than formerly, but a larger amount of work is required from them in order to obtain it.

(*To be continued.*)

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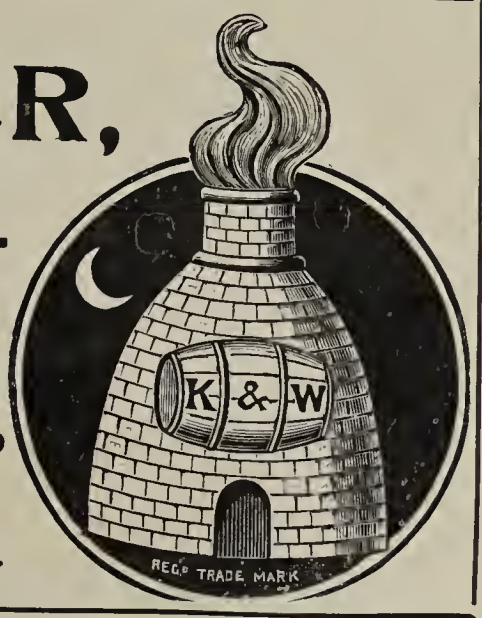
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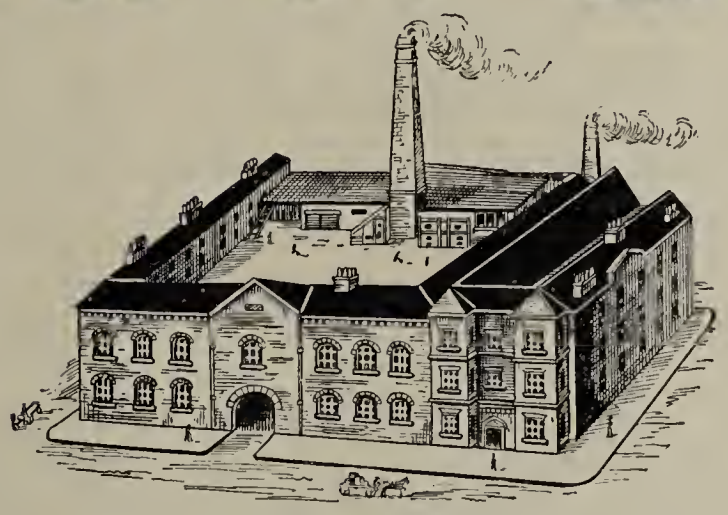
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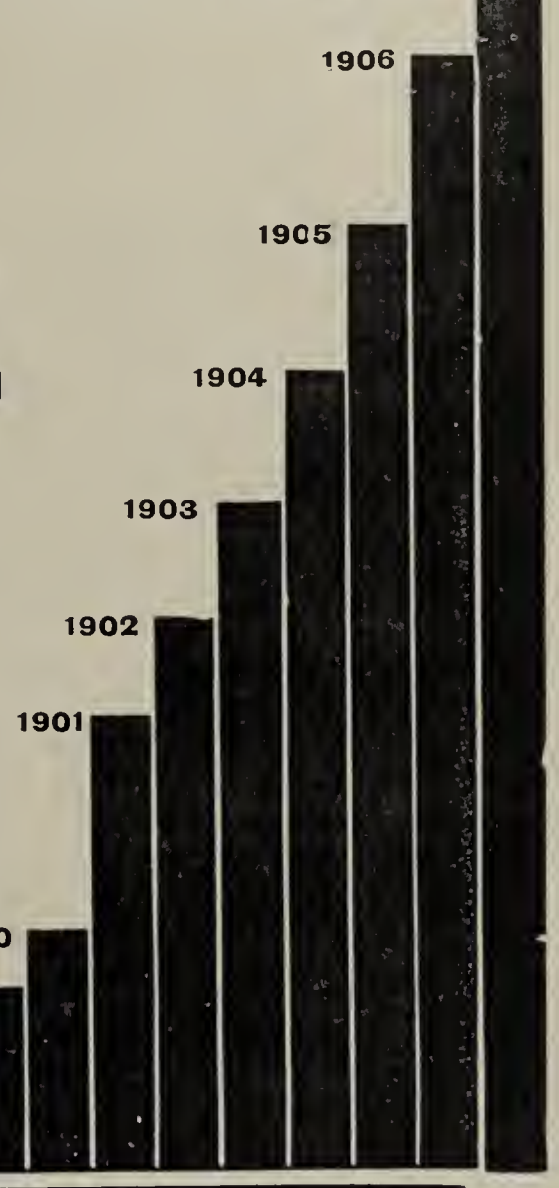
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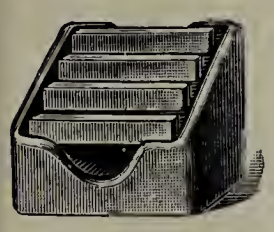
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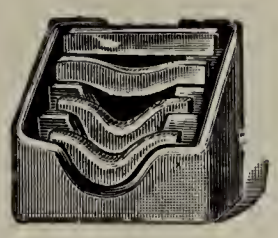
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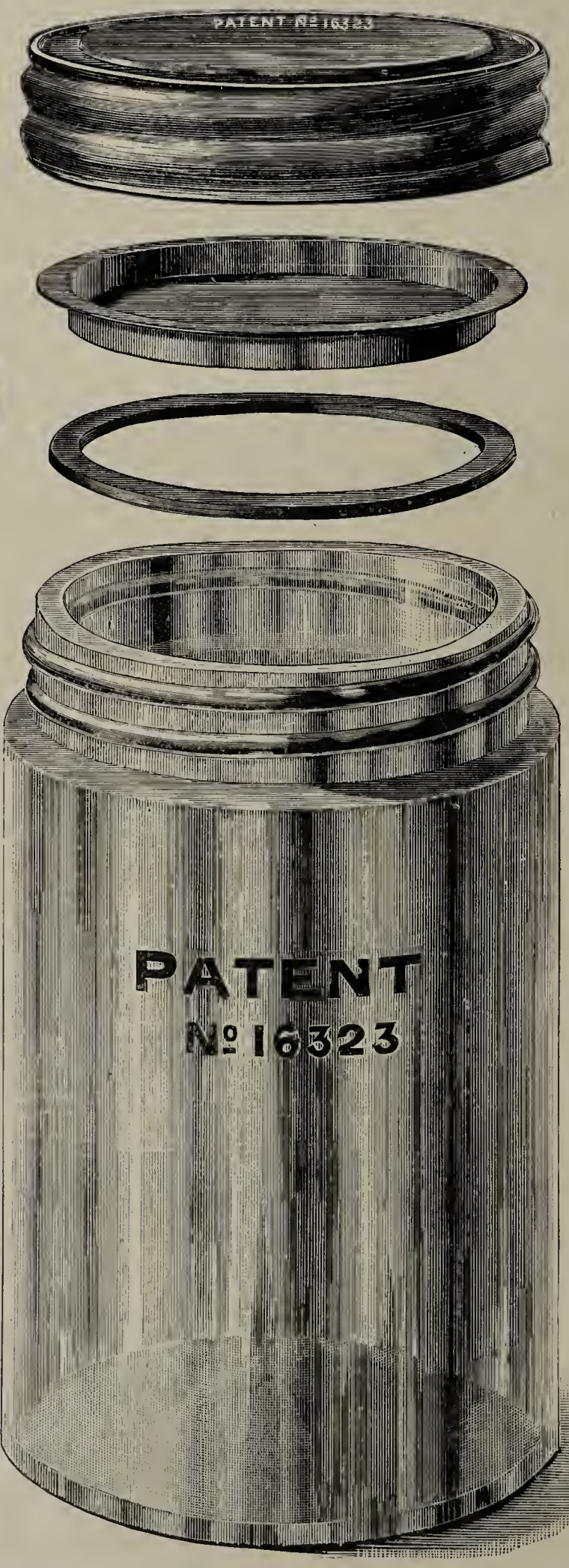
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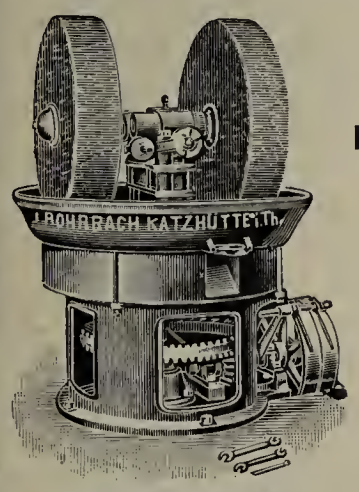
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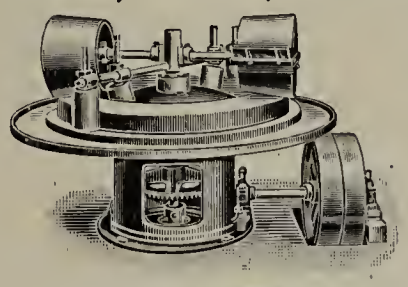
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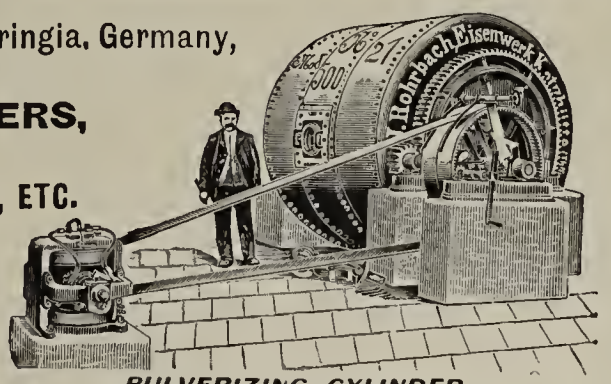
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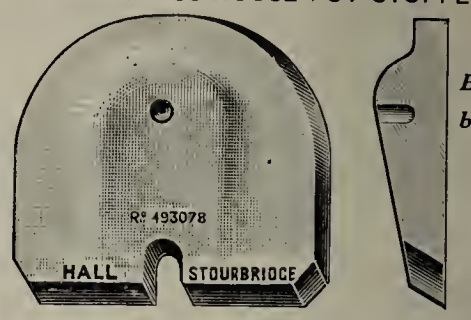
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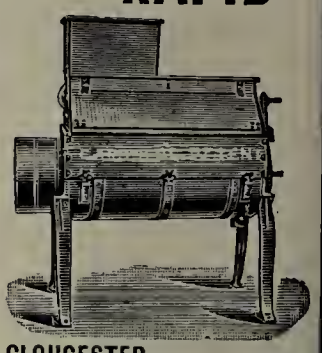
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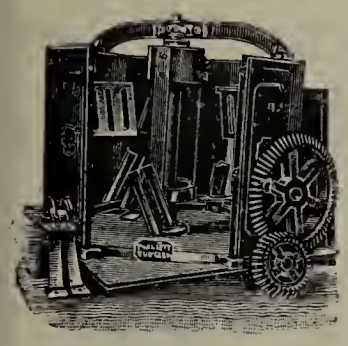
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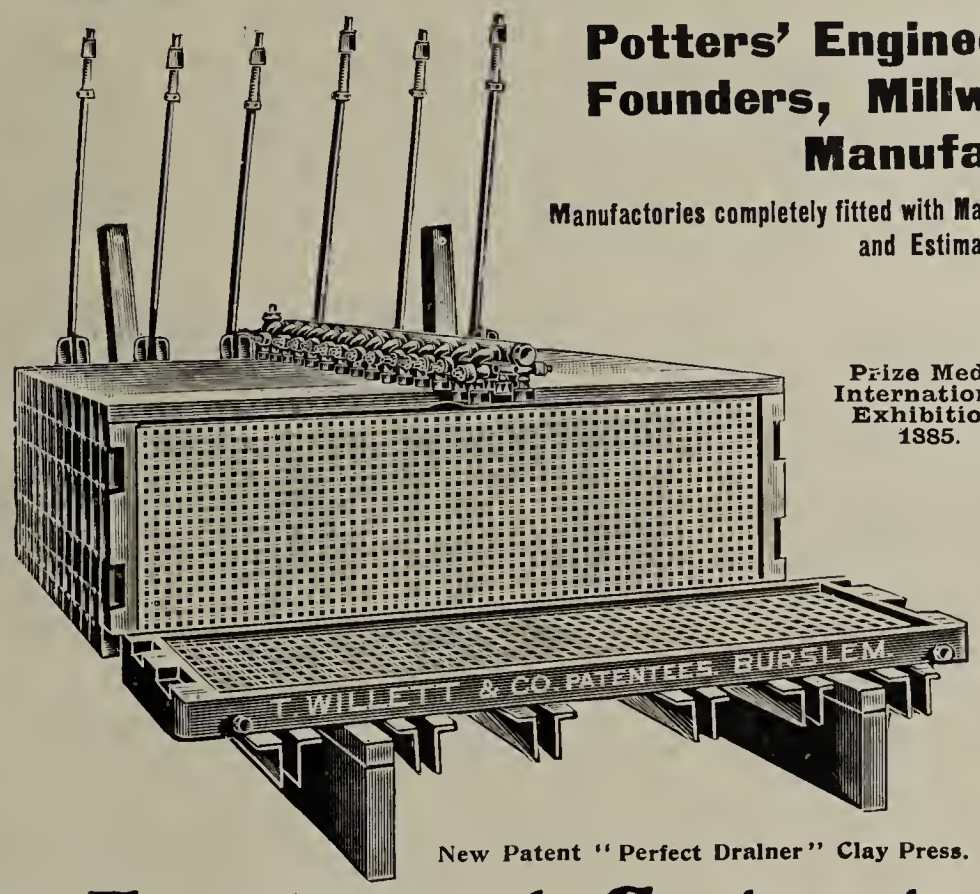
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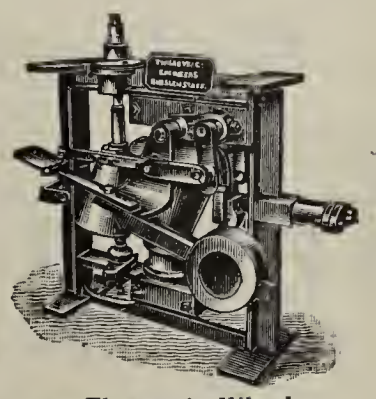


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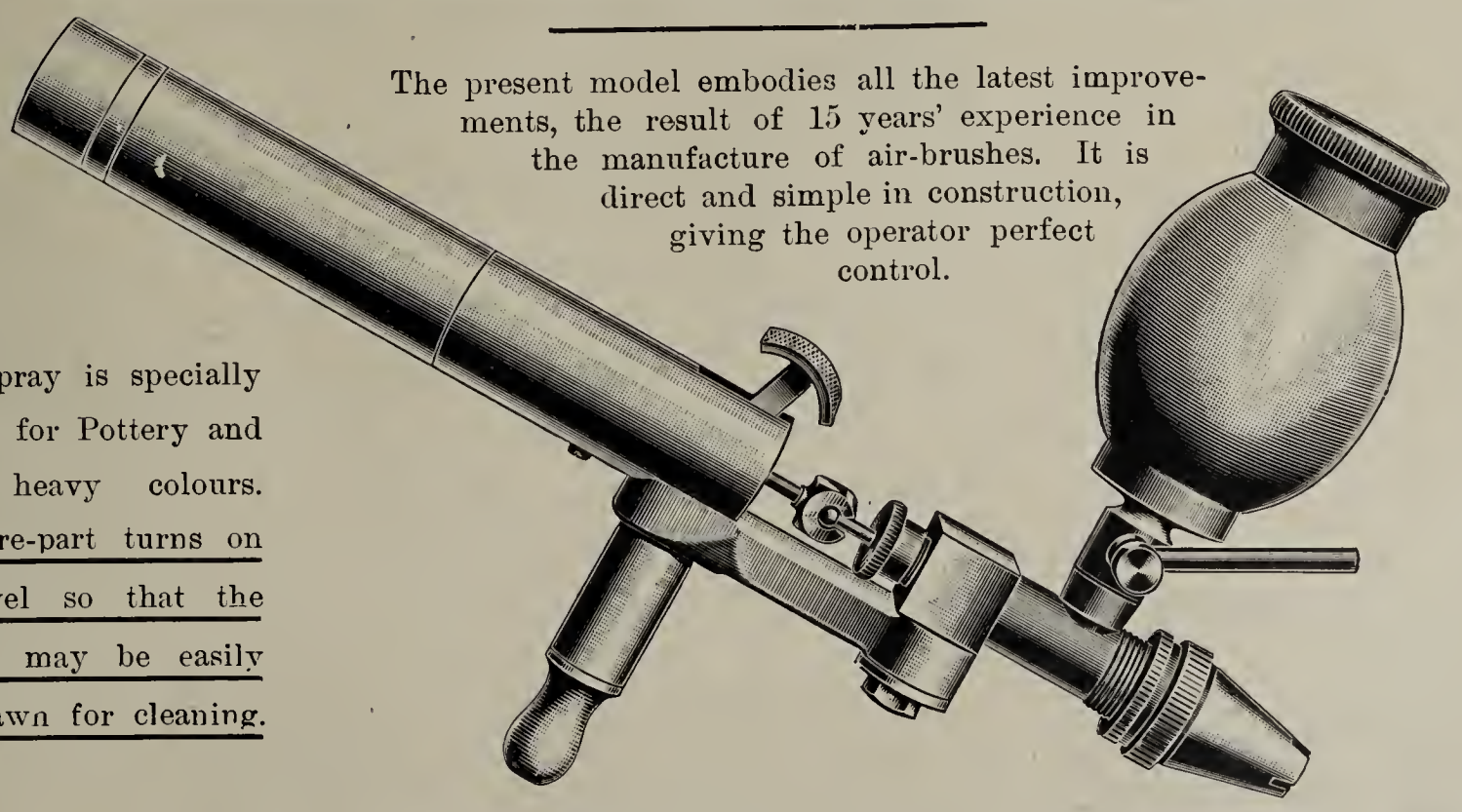
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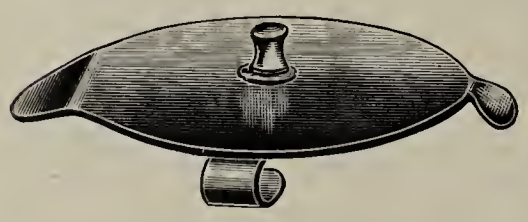
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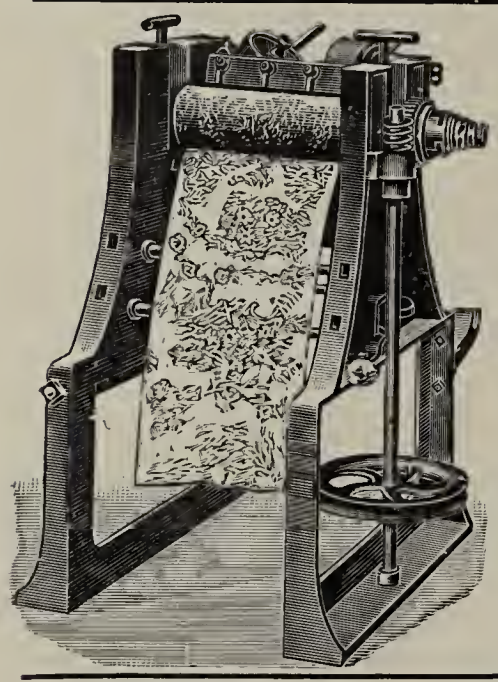


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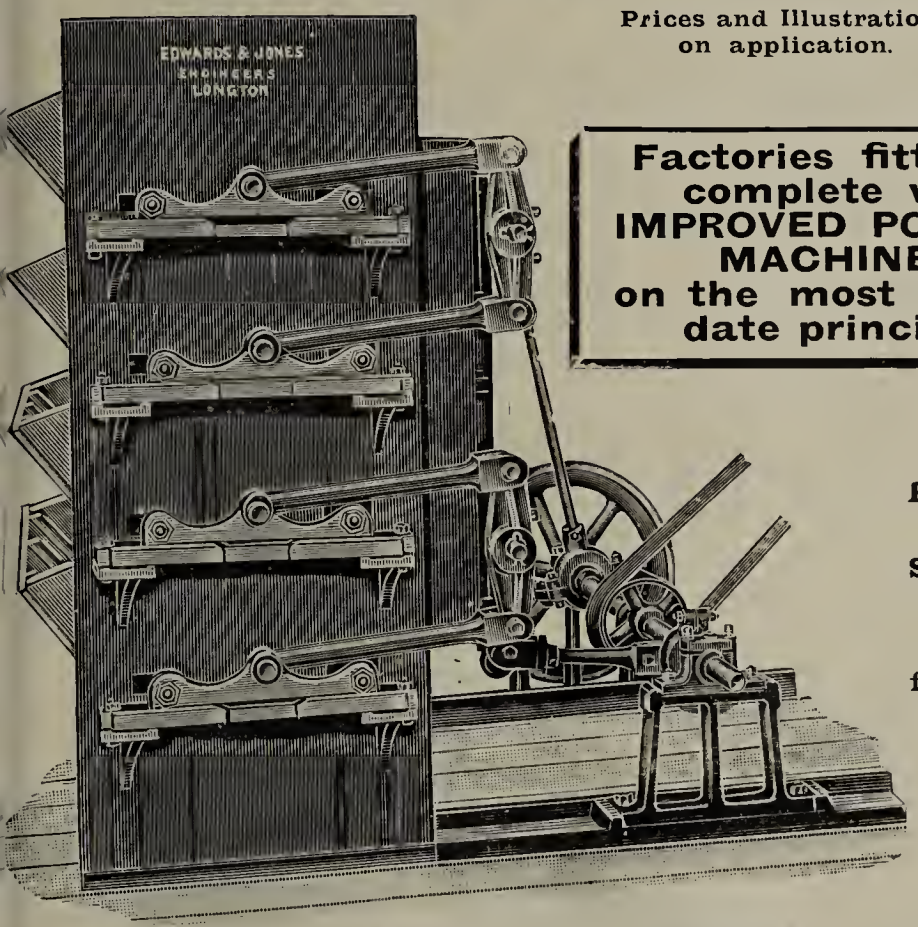
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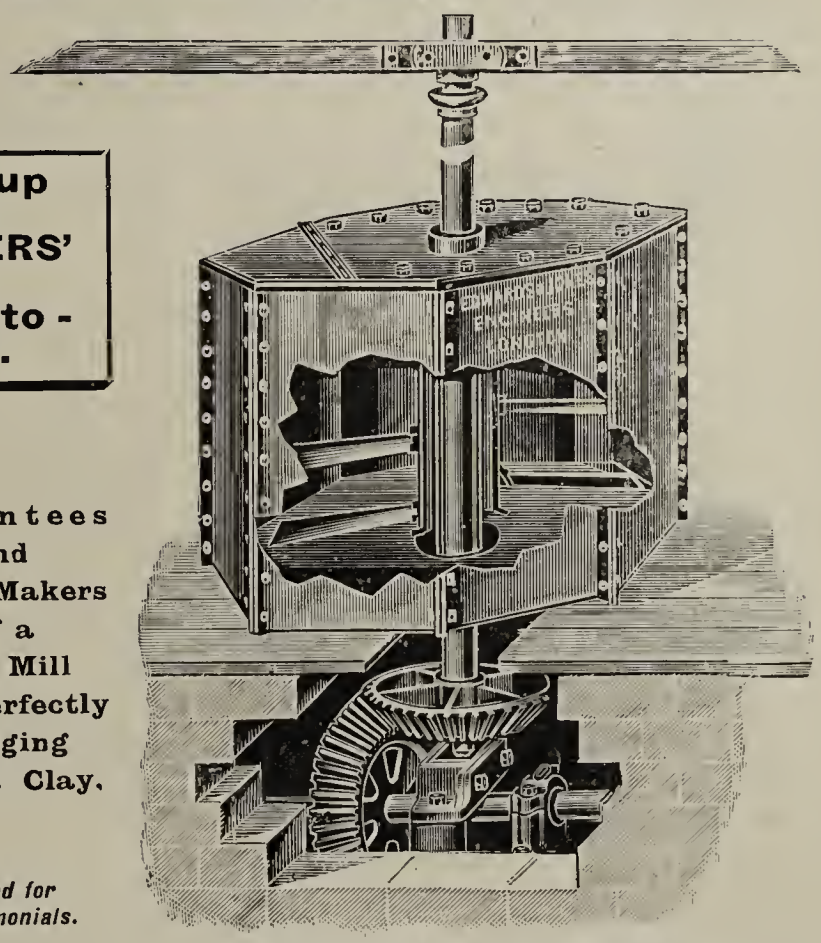


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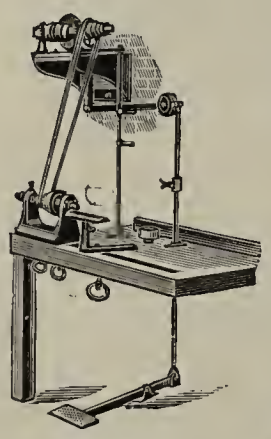
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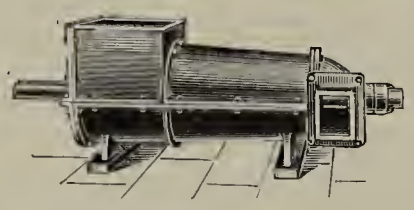


Potter's Lathe.

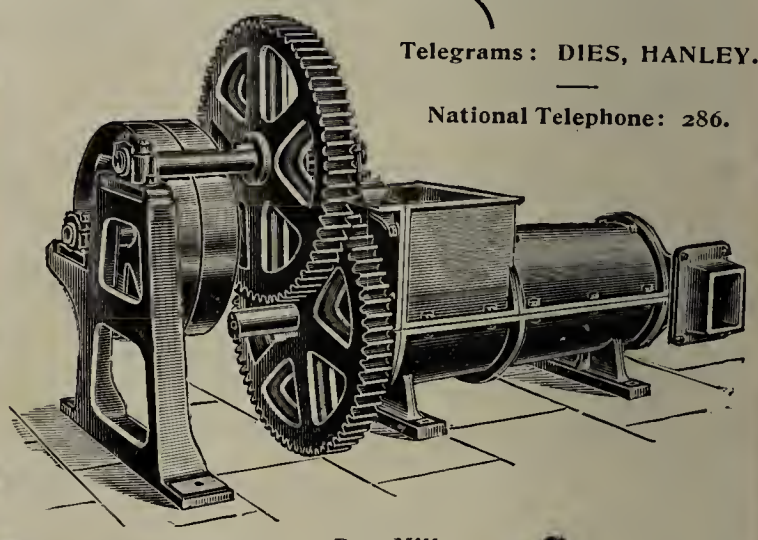
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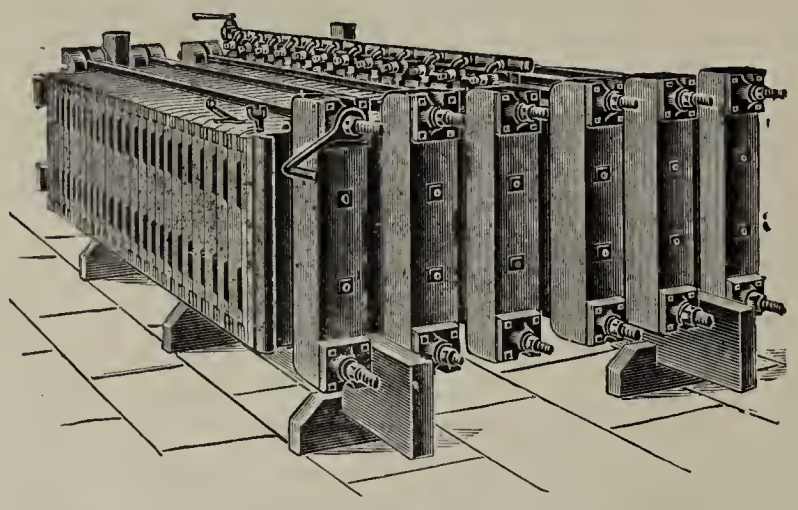
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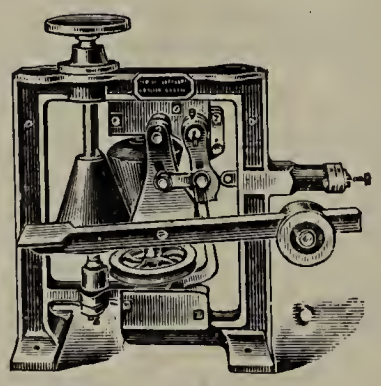
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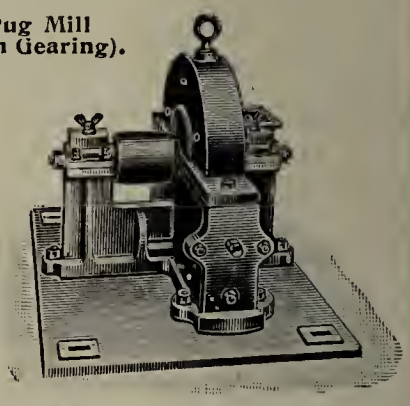
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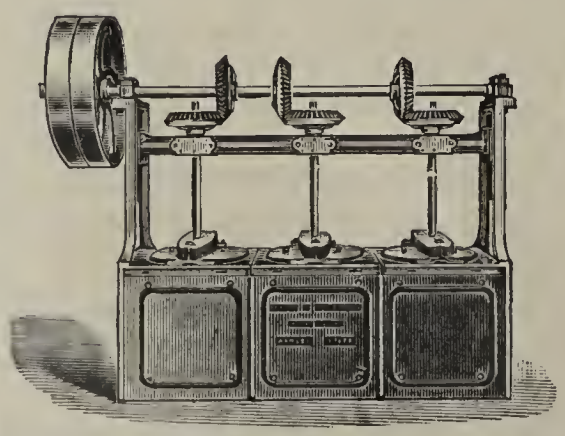
Filter Press.



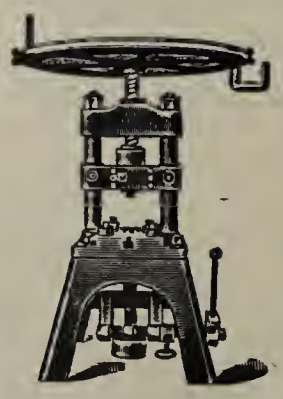
Throwing Wheel.



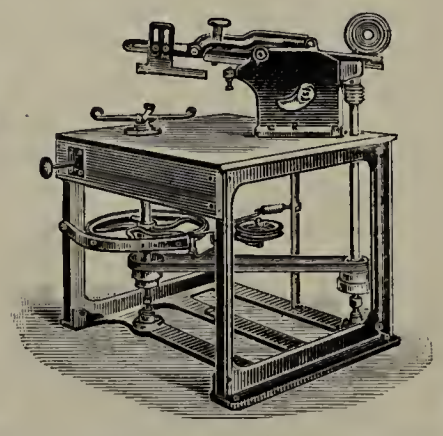
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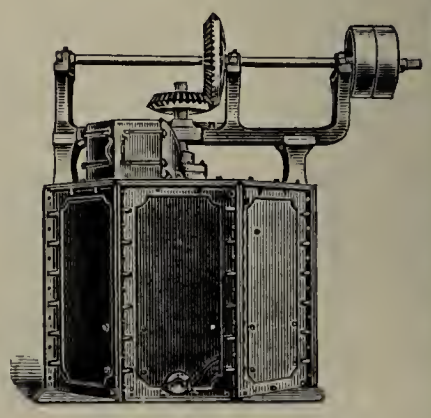
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